



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Zero Waste Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Monday, June 24, 2013
City of Berkeley Corporation Yard - 1326 Allston Way
Ratcliff Building, Willow Room

Chair Halperin called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:08 PM

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Halperin, Twu, Schultze-Allen

Commissioners absent: Wenning (excused), Davis, Kalil

Staff: Ken Etherington – Zero Waste Division Manager, Andy Schneider – Recycling Program Manager

Members of the Public: Daniel Maher of Ecology Center; Sara MacKusick & Jeff Belchamber of Community Conservation Center

2. Approve Agenda:

M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Twu to approve agenda 3/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: Daniel Maher circulated a draft of the residential plastics postcard due to be mailed in early July. Sara MacKusick suggested waiting on the public notification due to the current unstable market situation. Schneider responded that we must move forward, but that staff will meet with CCC to discuss other options for the mixed plastics. Halperin asked how clean the plastics have to be. Belchamber answered that containers should have no food as the overseas markets are getting more particular.

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Twu reported on the Cal Reuse program where a web network connects people who have and want reusable goods.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2013:

M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Twu to approve the May 21, 2013 minutes as written 3/0/0

6. Plastics Program Outreach Plan: Schneider added details of the plastics program outreach plan including COB press release; cart relabeling project; website updates and City Manager Annual Report. There was additional discussion of the Green Fence policy and acceptance details.

7. Rate Structure Consultant Process: Etherington reported that the City received two responses to the Rate Study RFP. They have been reviewed by a panel and a vendor has been selected. City Council will hear the recommendation on July 16th. A plan to develop a sustainable rate structure as a baseline, which future programs can be added to, was described. Every other week rubbish collection and other future considerations will be included in the analysis.

8. Division Update:

BUSD Progress & Partnership: Schneider reported on the School Board approval of the StopWaste Priority Partner Resolution. Green Schools Initiative has been awarded a new grant to allow support for ten more BUSD schools.

Benchmarking Service: Schneider reported on the new Benchmarking Service which will provide diversion information to sector specific generators in the county. Fees will first be applied on July 1, 2013, with an opt-out opportunity in January 2014.

Compost Facility Acceptance: Schneider reported on the possible disconnect between OMRI listed compost processors and the feedstock that most municipal compost programs generate. How plastic coated papers and compostable plastics are handled at the compost facility will be an item of discussion and overall industry review.

9. Future Agenda Items: UC presentation by Lin King is scheduled for September; Mandatory Phase II options; Rate Study

10. Adjourn: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Two to adjourn at 8:40 3/0/0