



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Zero Waste Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Tuesday, November 12, 2013
City of Berkeley Corporation Yard - 1326 Allston Way
Ratcliff Building, Willow Room

Chair Halperin called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:07 PM

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Halperin, Kalil, Davis, Wenning, Schultze-Allen, Twu, Frink

Commissioners absent: McCarter

Staff: Ken Etherington – Zero Waste Division Manager; Andy Schneider – Recycling Program Manager; Andrew Clough – Public Works Department Director; Sydney Oam - Administrative & Fiscal Services Manager; Guest Speaker – Marva Sheehan of HFH Consulting.

Members of the Public: Martin Bourque & Daniel Maher of Ecology Center; Jeff Belchamber & Sara MacKusick of Community Conservation Center; Dan Knapp of Urban Ore; Al Murray of the Energy Commission.

2. Approve Agenda:

M/S/C Kalil/Wenning to approve agenda 7/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: Dan Knapp reported recent work with City Dept of Toxic Substances to better manage toxics that Urban Ore may encounter on their site. Dan reported on a presentation he gave in Kansas City where he explained the benefits of Berkeley's waste management model and a Zero Waste book by Paul Connett where Berkeley is mentioned. Sydney Oam introduced himself as the new Fiscal Services Manager. Daniel Maher & Jeff Belchamber gave a brief update of rigid plastic collection & processing.

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Peter Schultze-Allen announced a Trash Summit event in San Jose. Shannon Davis reported on campus food packaging standards and a plastic resin identifying project. Alfred Twu brought up plastic bag labeling and film recycling. Nashua Kalil asked about Council's questions about Mandatory Recycling Phase II and the proposed HHW fee. Etherington responded that both are moving forward with details provided in the City Council info report.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of Sept. 23, 2013: Nashua Kalil requested that more details be provided on the discussion of the rate study before approving the minutes. Andrew Clough suggested that the Commission provide a report which can then be attached to the minutes.

6. Rate Structure Update: Etherington reported that the rate study had been completed which recommends a rate increase which the City will need to continue our programs. He introduced Marva Sheehan from HF&H Consulting who provided data through a PowerPoint presentation. She showed current revenue shortages and continued reduction in disposed tons. The study corrected misallocations between residential, commercial and the Transfer Station in order to

compare revenues to individual program costs. Additional services like street sweeping and additional revenues like commercial franchise fees were included in the analysis and concluded in a finding of a projected fund deficit of \$3.5 million. The consultant study recommends a rate increase of 24.7% for residential and 2.5% for commercial. The study however continues the current practice of only charging for refuse and commercial food waste. A graph was provided that showed that even with the proposed 24.7% residential increase, our rates would still be less than the local average for 30-35 gallon service. The Commission had questions whether the proposed increase would cover any needed capital improvements or program expansion. Only equipment costs for Mandatory Phase II and labor costs for current plastics processing are included due to 218 requirements.

Kalil departed at 8:45 PM.

M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Davis to extend the meeting 15 minutes 6/0/0

The Commission proposed moving the January ZWC meeting to Monday Jan 6th in order to have review and comment opportunity prior to Council approving the proposed rate structure on Jan 21st.

Chair Halperin stated that the new rate structure did not incentivize diversion.

He then made the following motion: “The (proposed) rate structure maintains status quo and does not adequately support the 2020 zero waste goal”.

M/S/C: Halperin/Schultze-Allen Ayes: Davis, Frink, Halperin, Schultze-Allen, Wenning, Twu; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Kalil, McCarter

7. Commission Notification/Input Requests: Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and NAACP documents were provided to the Commission with input deadlines provided.

8. Future Agenda Items: 2014 Work Plan

9. Adjourn: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Frink to adjourn at 9:00 6/0/0