



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Zero Waste Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Monday, July 28, 2014
City of Berkeley Corporation Yard - 1326 Allston Way
Ratcliff Building, Willow Room

Chair Halperin called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:00 PM

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Halperin, Schultze-Allen, Twu, Davis, Frink, Watson, Cowles, Steen Jensen (substituting for Wenning)

Commissioners absent: Wenning (excused)

Staff: Andy Schneider – Recycling Program Manager

Members of the Public: Daniel Maher of Ecology Center, Carolyn Dean, Al Murray

Oath of Office administered to Beck Cowles. She shared that she worked for Ecology Center for 15 years on environmental education & events, and was a former CEAC Commissioner.

2. Approve Agenda: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Davis to approve agenda 8/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: Caroline Dean asked if anyone has tried to influence packaging manufacturers to use easy to recycle packages. She showed an example of a plastic and metal multi-material beverage container. It was stated that the City has no control over products packaged outside the City and that multi-material packages are usually trash.

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Schultze-Allen reported that he is presenting on Foodware ordinances at the CRRA Conference on August 4-6. Davis reported on communications with Paul Liotsakisthe from Go-Box, on reusable to-go packaging projects in other cities. Frink asked about UC Berkeley interior waste container changes, and Davis stated it was part of an on-going project.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2014: Davis requested that section 4 be changed to “UC Berkeley Plastics Disclosure Project”. **M/S/C to approve the June 23, 2014 minutes as amended Schultze-Allen/Watson 7/0/1 (Cowles abstain).**

6. Sustainable Food Serviceware Ordinance: Twu reported on the various considerations that informed the draft Foodware Ordinance. The City’s existing Recyclable Food Packaging Ordinance, as well as ordinances from neighboring cities were reviewed and considered. Various issues and options were discussed including: encouraging reusables; issues with compostable plastics and coated papers at the compost facility; compostable item labeling; dining room compost separation; outreach and enforcement methods; considering fees to particular single-use items; and considering banning the retail sale of Polystyrene Foam plates and cups. Schultze-Allen explained how foodware washing for events is currently not allowed under state Retail Food Code. He suggested that the Commission propose a resolution to amend the food code to allow ware washing services at the next meeting. Various edits and additions to the Commission

Report and proposed ordinance were discussed and approved. **Amended Commission Report and draft Foodware Ordinance M/S/C Twu/Davis 8/0/0.**

7. **Zero Waste Audit Report:** Discussion was postponed until the Sept 22, 2014 meeting.

8. **Division Update:** Schneider reported on some of the public impacts from the new rate structure, especially in the multi-family sector. Some of the varying interpretations of business coverage under mandatory recycling were discussed.

9. **Future Agenda Items:** Event Ware Washing resolution, ZWD Audit Report review, HF&H presentation on Commercial Franchise study.

10. **Adjourn:** M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Jensen to adjourn at 9:00 7/0/0