



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Zero Waste Division

**MINUTES**  
**ZERO WASTE COMMISSION**  
**Monday, February 23, 2015**  
**City of Berkeley Corporation Yard - 1326 Allston Way**  
**Ratcliff Building, Willow Room**

Chair Halperin called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:01 PM

**1. Roll Call:**

**Commissioners present:** Halperin, Twu, Cowles, Watson, Frink Schultze-Allen; Sherman (7:08)

**Commissioners absent:** Wenning (excused)

**Staff:** Andy Schneider – Recycling Program Manager, Manuel Hector – Senior Management Analyst

**Members of the Public:** Daniel Maher of Ecology Center; Sara MacKusick & Jeff Belchamber of CCC; Dan Knapp & Mary Lou Van Deventer of Urban Ore; Carolyn Dean, Steen Jensen

**2. Approve Agenda: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Watson to approve agenda 6/0/0**

**3. Comments from the Public:** Dan Knapp announced that Mary Lou Van Deventer will be attending a recycling facility funding seminar put on by CRRRA and CalRecycle in Lakewood CA on Feb 25<sup>th</sup>. One focus will be pollution control and Mary Lou agreed to forward any questions and provide a recap to the ZWC.

**4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments:** Watson reported that John Caner and Lance Goree from Downtown Berkeley Association asked her about implementation details of installing some Big Belly Litter cans. They requested that the Commission consider a compost component alongside the recycling and trash for downtown locations. Sherman announced that StopWaste is offering new interior food scrap container grants for non-profits. Sherman also suggested the ZWC plan a tour to the recently modernized El Cerrito Recycling Center.

**5. Approve Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2015: M/S/C to approve the January 26, 2015 minutes Schultze-Allen/Watson 7/0/0**

**6. Commercial Franchise Study – Discussion of Commercial Franchise Study Options and Possible Action on a Recommendation to City Council:** Schneider gave a overview of the City Council Worksession on February 10, 2015. The Consultant’s presentation and the public comments, including that of SEIU 1021, were covered. Schultze-Allen who represented the Commission at the table and read the Commission’s resolution to the City Council, gave an overview of some of the Councilmember’s comments from the Worksession.

The Commission discussed the likely City Council direction and the nuances of options 1 and 1a.

Schultze-Allen made a motion for the Commission to recommend option 1a with limited number of franchised roll-off haulers. There was no second. Additional discussion ensued.

Sherman made a motion that the Commission endorses option 1 or 1a to support the principles of waste diversion; greater local control and documentation; revenue enhancement; and usage of materials for the highest and best use, supported by the adequate allocation of funding for enforcement and public education and outreach. **M/S/C Sherman/Schultze-Allen to approve the Commercial Franchise Recommendation Resolution 7/0/0**

**7. Strategic Plan Subcommittee – Update & Discussion on Subcommittee Progress and agreement with Public Works Director on Next Steps:** Watson reported on the meeting with the Public Works Director and staff on the strategic plan process and the Commission’s role in its creation. She reported that the Director explained the consecutive steps taken to so far to resolve fiscal and service issues; a confirmation that strategic plan study funding is available; and that the current lack of a permanent Zero Waste Division Manager will not hold up the strategic planning process. It was agreed that redefining the zero waste goal would be a priority moving forward. It was proposed that the Strategic Plan Commission Report be revised to an Information Report with no mention of plan funding.

**M/S/C Watson/Sherman to revise the Strategic Plan Commission Report into an Information Report which removes mention of funding and clarifies the Commission’s objectives 7/0/0**

Sherman asked that any planned waste characterization be focused on the value of materials, as the basic percentages of materials remaining in the waste stream have been well documented locally.

**8. Foodware Ordinance – Update on Council Action:** Schneider reported on the how the Foodware recommendation Commission Report and Companion staff report were received by Council. Staff is expected to return to Council with estimates of staffing and implementation costs.

**9. Solid Waste & Recycling Manager - Hiring Update:** Staff reported on the reopening of the Division Manager recruitment and the temporary appointment being proposed in the interim.

**10. Commission Officer Elections:** Nominations and statements were heard for the position of Chair. A secret ballot process was conducted and Cowles received the most votes. Sherman was nominated for Vice-Chair. **M/S/C to approve election of Cowles and Sherman as officers 7/0/0**

**11. Future Agenda Items:** Waste Characterization, Strategic Plan Process

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