



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Zero Waste Division

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

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

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Cowles, Schultze-Allen, Wenning, Twu, Noonan

Commissioners absent: Halperin, Sherman, Watson (all excused)

Staff: Andy Schneider – Recycling Program Manager, Manuel Hector – Acting Zero Waste Division Manager

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

2. Approve Agenda: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Wenning to approve agenda 5/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: Mary Lou Van Deventer plans to present about the recycling facility funding seminar put on by CRRA and CalRecycle on Feb 25th. She also shared a handout regarding the proposal to send additional oil via rail through Berkeley. Dan Knapp congratulated the ZWC on creating an effective EPR resolution which protects local recycling infrastructure.

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Cowles announced that she would like to try a new seating arrangement to allow for better communication. Schultze-Allen reported that StopWaste is offering grants under the Rethink Disposables program for businesses that want to switch from disposable to reusable foodware.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2015: M/S/C to approve the February 23, 2015 Minutes: Cowles/Schultze-Allen 5/0/0

6. Zero Waste Division – Staffing Update: New focus on Process, Roles & Responsibilities: Manuel Hector announced the staffing changes that affect the Division. He is the acting Zero Waste Division Manager; Schneider is now managing the Transfer Station. He described the new focus on policy & process with plans for filling vacant positions. He announced the Zero Waste Division Manager position has been reopened.

7. Meeting Schedule Adjustment Request: The Secretary requested that the ZWC consider a meeting date switch, canceling the July 27 meeting, and instead holding a Special Meeting on August 24.
M/S/C to approve moving the 7/27 meeting to 8/24. Noonan/Schultze-Allen 5/0/0

8. Strategic Plan Subcommittee – Update on Subcommittee Progress: Cowles updated the ZWC on the Subcommittee meetings and process, including meeting with the Public Works Director. A meeting with Public Works Commission Chair was especially helpful to inform public input process. She explained how the Strategic Plan Commission Report is being revised into an Info Report format in order to clarify the Commission's priorities in the creation of the Strategic Plan. Discussions defining the Commission's role in the Strategic Planning process continues.

Schultze-Allen left at 8:00.

9. Northern California Recycling Association – Recycling Update: Schneider gave an overview of the annual Recycling Update Conference held in Berkeley on March 17. A diverse list of topics, of interest to those working towards zero waste, was shared.

10. Future Agenda Items: Facility funding, Define Zero Waste, Big Belly

11. Adjourn: M/S/C Wenning/Twu to adjourn at 9:00 4/0/0