



January 20, 2010

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue

Room 4096

5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Chair: Signe Gilson

Vice Chair: David Ruggiero

Secretary: TBD

In attendance: Signe Gilson, Chair; Laura Feinstein; Todd Johnson; George Kukahiko; Carl Pierce; David Ruggiero; Rita Smith; David Trylor

Absent: Eric Johnson;

Staff: Tim Croll, Vicky Beaumont, Linda Rogers, Deborah Caul, Dick Lilly, Daniel Stoops

Guests: Teri Barclay, King County Public Health; Nicole Laky, Seattle School District

5:00 pm Call to Order

Administration:

Chair Report:

- November 2009 minutes approved
- **Attendance:** Eric Johnson notified Staff Supporter he will be unable to attend due to illness
- **Recruitment:** Welcomed two new members: Laura Feinstein and David Traylor. Mark Gibbs will be joining us later in the Spring.

Monthly Topics:

5. Welcome New Members - Introductions

- **Laura Feinstein** – Laura lives in the Beacon Hill area; works at Puget Sound Energy in the Energy Services group. She is active in local politics and volunteered with BikeWorks. She has a long-standing interest in conservation, particularly the impact that small, personal decisions can have on our resources
- **David Traylor** – David lives in the Phinney/Greenwood area, earns a living as a landscape architect. His current and past volunteer involvement includes leadership work at the Phinney Neighborhood Association, Fremont Abbey Art Center, Operation Nightwatch, Libraries for All, and the Seward Park Art Center. David has a strong professional interest in conservation, and sees the committee as an opportunity to give back to the community.

6. Solid Waste Strategic Outlook – Briefing

Tim Croll reviewed highlights from the updated 3, 6, and 20 year outlook on the work of the solid waste line of business at SPU He also identified his top seven (7) SPU/SWAC items for 2010:

1. New SRDS+ especially new NRDS
2. Every-other week garbage pick-up in 2011? Elected officials will decide; if approved, contract notice must be given by 7/1/2010, with start date of 4/1/2011.
3. Review of 2009 Recycling Report – expect growth in recycling from 2008
4. Serve-ware ban + especially ordinance to require composting/recycling in Quick Serve. Compostable or recyclable in place by July 1st.
5. Product stewardship legislation
6. 2011 Solid Waste rate increase (including heavy rates?) Review rate strategy first half of 2010.
7. Comp plan

7. Solid Waste Rates Increase and Budget - Briefing

- Tim discussed 2010 rates increase and impact on customers.
- Revenues continue to decline; transfer stations at approximately 10% less than before economic downturn

8. “Heavy” Garbage Rate – Briefing and Comments

Deborah Caul reviewed highlights of staff paper on the feasibility of creating a higher collection fee for garbage that is heavier than average as an incentive for commercial customers to increase organics diversion.

- Waste diversion = cost shift
- Greater than 50% as organics = heavy
- Recycle discourages waste prevention
- Study shows 40% with compost use less when compost put in cans
- Next steps
 - Further input from SWAC,
 - Include as issue paper for 2012 rate study

9. Rate Study for 2011 – Briefing and comments

Deborah Caul reviewed study topics and timelines for the next solid waste rates study.

- Analysis period is now; feedback requested from SWAC through March
- Proposals go to City Council in May
- City Council votes September or October
- SWAC to determine how wish to participate in this rate study.

10. Product Stewardship Legislation 2010– Briefing

Dick Lilly reviewed highlights of the products stewardship legislation that may be proposed at the next session of the legislature. Highlights included:

- Producer should pay for material placed into stream, such as electronics (mercury containing lighting (CFLS) – new player; computers, monitors, TVs, laptops
- Secure medicine return, such as is currently being done at Bartell Drugs, Group Health. This keeps these items out of toilets and landfills
- Eventually write letter of support for upcoming bills:
 - Mercury – emphasis on safe handling
 - Medicines – secure to be emphasis
 - Collection data for over-medicated to share with prescribers
 - Dick will draft letter, share with SWAC; SWAC edit and return for distribution

11. Committee Operations 2010 – Discussion

Signe Gilson reviewed items for members to keep in mind for SWAC effectiveness:

- 8-10 hours per month, including meetings, between meetings, review advance materials, etc.
- Regular attendance
- In email subject line, add “action required by [date]”
- Review SWAC By-Laws – not currently in compliance with Charter. Rita will review and bring back to SWAC
 - Future timelines and issues from Vicky
- The SWAC will work in topic driven sub-committees in 2010
 - By-Laws and Charter Review: Rita
 - Rate Study: David T., Carl, Laura, Signe
 - Product stewardship – legislative: Laura, David R.
 - Comp Plan: Sub-committee will be identified later
 - Every-other week garbage pickup :Signe, Laura, Carl, David T, George

Wrap Up

Recommendations:

- Discuss incentives with rates increase effects
- Recommendations for future meetings:
 - Bring in representative from Allied to speak to how they are handling additional materials from last contract; recycling in general NTS have not met in two months; will advise at February meeting where this is – ask Jeff Neuner to report on progress

Action Items:

- Meeting with newly elected Administration
- Rates Study: Deborah Caul furnish short write-ups of the issues of particular interest; sub-committee arrange to meet with Deborah to discuss the issues.
- Dick get back to the product stewardship support letters committee (Laura and David R.), provide draft letters with the time is right
- Vicky email most current by-laws and charter to Rita for her review for possible updates

Preliminary Agenda for Next Meeting – January 20, 2010

- Approve meeting minutes for January, 2010
- Elect SWAC secretary (held over from November, 2009)

7:18 PM Meeting adjourned.