



June 16th, 2010

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue

Room 4096

5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Chair: Signe Gilson

Vice Chair: David Ruggiero

Secretary: Laura Feinstein

In attendance: Signe Gilson, Chair; Laura Feinstein; Mark Gibbs; Todd Johnson; Carl Pierce; David Ruggiero; Rita Smith; David Traylor

Absent: George Kukahiko

Staff: Vicky Beaumont; Linda Rogers, Nancy Ahern, Dick Lilly, George Sidles, Pat Kaufman

Guests: Bill Lasby, Seattle King County Health

5:04 pm Call to Order

Administration:

Chair Report:

- May 2010 minutes approved
- **May action items:**
 - SWAC developed feedback on Mandatory Multi-Family Organics Subscription, and sent to Hans Van Dusen
 - Vicky Beaumont provided Clear Alleys study

Monthly Topics:

4. Clear Alleys Program (CAP) Evaluation - Briefing

- George Sidles presented CAP evaluation of the program to date. Started with background review:
 - Alley-based solid waste custodial services were initiated as an entrepreneurial response to Pioneer Square interests in 1997
 - The CAP which started with the new collection contracts April, 2009 included a prohibition of permanent storage of dumpsters in the alleys
 - City Council directed SPU to evaluate the program
- Overview of survey results
 - Survey results indicate that two-thirds of businesses and residents who responded indicated that CAP alleys are somewhat better or much better (cleanliness, access, reduced odors, improved safety)
 - Seattle Police Department reports improved lines of sight and reduced activity
 - Residential customers identified the value of the benefits received significantly outweigh the costs
 - Some businesses, however, see cost as a significant burden
- Conclusions: If the Mayor and Council elect to maintain the CAP, stakeholders recommend a variety of refinements, including:
 - Adding a rate for a 45-gallon bag consistent with janitorial service standards
 - Use totes instead of bags for foodwaste collection (implementation currently underway)
 - Improved communication about collection times, service requirements and customer needs

- Increased attention to illegal dumping and inappropriate use of non-prepaid bags

5. Quick-Serve Restaurant Composting and Recycling - Briefing

Dick Lilly and Pat Kaufman briefed the SWAC on the activities leading up to the July 1st deadline for all Seattle quick-serve restaurants to convert to recyclable or compostable serve-ware

- Quick-serve restaurants must have bins for customers; what's collected must go to composting or recycle
- Significant landlord issues; need requirement for landlords to respond to restaurant identified needs
- Have identified who is irresponsible for food courts – owner/operator of commercial space
- Reviewed Director's Rule # DR-2010-006, and ordinance 123307, which takes effect June 19, 2010, permits Seattle Public Utilities to issue director's rules for temporary waivers to the food service ware and packaging requirements set out two years ago in Ordinance 122751.
- For a period of one year, the requirement that all single-use food service ware be either compostable or recyclable shall not apply to:
 - Cutlery/utensils
 - Drinking Straws; cocktail straws; cocktail picks
 - Metal foil-faced papers and engineered composite papers used to wrap hot food such as hamburgers and burritos

6. Annual Recycling Report - Discussion

- Vicky Beaumont reported the sub-committee reviewed draft report; review period ended June 10, 2010
- Now need cover letter from SWAC to submit with the report
- Lively discussion ensued regarding letter content
 - **Action:** Laura Feinstein will draft letter incorporating recommendations and submit to SWAC members for review. Final to be sent to Vicky Beaumont by June 23, 2010

7. SWAC 2009 Work Plan - Review

- Vicky Beaumont and Signe Gilson led the mid-year review of SWAC's work plan. Recommendations from this review included:
 - Explore possibility of touring various facilities, including anaerobic digester facility in Snohomish County. Facility recommendations:
 - Cedar Grove
 - Total Reclaim
 - Seattle Steel
 - Recovery One
 - Invite Mayor to visit SWAC to address his high level goals; how his administrative priorities pertain to solid waste
 - **Action:** SWAC to work with Sheryl Shapiro to facilitate this invitation

8. Wrap Up

Recommendations :

- No new recommendations from this meeting – refer to April meeting

Action Items:

- Laura Feinstein to prepare SWAC letter to accompany the 2009 Annual Recycling Report; due to Vicky Beaumont by June 23rd
- SWAC will work with Sheryl Shapiro to invite Mayor McGinn to a future SWAC meeting

Preliminary Agenda for Next Meeting – July 21, 2010

- Approve meeting minutes for June, 2010
- Web page testing for SWAC review

- Further discussions regarding possible tours

Future meeting items:

- **August** – Jeffery Morris to present environmental life cycle analysis
- **September** – solid waste incineration vendor
- **Future** – invite expert on modern landfills

7:00 PM Meeting adjourned.