



Chair: Julie Pond

Co-Vice Chairs: Katie Kennedy, Wendy Walker

Secretary: Katherine Salinas

Present: Dan Corum, Signe Gilson, Katie Kennedy, Carl Pierce, Julie Pond, Rob Stephenson

Absent: Katherine Salinas, Wendy Walker

Staff: Tim Croll, Vicky Beaumont, Craig Omoto, Marcia Rhutan, Brett Stav, Jennifer Woods

Guests: Bill Lasby, SKCHD

5:06 pm Call to Order

1. Regular Business, Julie Pond, Chair

- a. Meeting notes approved – September 5, 2012
- b. Chair report

2. Solid Waste Finances Tim Croll, Solid Waste Division Director and Craig Omoto, Rates Supervisor

a. Long term funding strategy (rates)

Discuss the SWAC's questions about near and long term impacts. If waste reduction and recycling are successful, what SPU is doing to gear up for that eventuality?

b. Rates/Budget 2013-14

Our city council committee's placeholder decisions re rates proposal, including expenditure decisions, and the Mayor's proposed budget regarding Solid Waste.

Existing conditions show there is reduced volume at transfer stations and reduced number of customers, partly due to an increase in recycling. The reductions have been gradual, except during the downturn of the economy. Most tonnage reductions are due to the current state of the economy. Capital projects may also draw funding from the budget, but when the project, like a transfer station, treatment facility and landfill, is completed, available funding will increase.

Rates tend to increase due to capital projects. Additionally, organics are a pay stream. The proposed rates for solid waste have been through three Libraries, Utilities and Seattle Center (LUC) Committee meetings and so far the proposal has been amended to not include an inflation surcharge, but instead review the rate of inflation to evaluate and set the rates based on current inflation. Additionally, if inflation is less or projected revenue is more than expected, the difference will be directed into a rainy day fund. The One Less Truck pilot program is planned to be fully implemented in 2015. Council has also made

recommendations for formation of a SPU-wide strategic plan and the expansion of Low Income Rate Assistance and Clear Alley programs, to name a few. Prices for services will increase more so in the first year and the deficit will be reduced to mitigate the increase. The rates are expected to go to City Council by November.

3. Outreach – How can the SWAC lend support? Brett Stav, Solid Waste Educator

One way to lend support to the organization is to attend media events and provide the media with knowledgeable third party op-ed pieces. In addition, there is the need to educate the public at community events about the different programs. SWAC can also assist in outreach by providing information to the public about the Committee through newsletters, SPU's blog and E-newsletter.

4. Multi-Family Organics, Marcia Rutan, Solid Waste Contracts

The program is focusing on participation in high-rise and senior multi-family buildings. Properties that subscribe to the Friends of Recycling and Composting (FORC) program receive credits on their bill and free equipment at available trainings. FORC also worked with youth, underserved populations and refugees to educate these customers on waste handling practices. The greatest drivers in success of the program included having a "champion" of the program on the property. Property owners that qualify for the program can apply online or submit a paper application. Applicants must demonstrate adherence to the program pledge, including posting public education materials and posters, in order to receive program credits.

There are plans to survey customers in the FORC program, in addition to a statewide survey of property management businesses. There are also plans for a lid lifting survey, using qualitative data collected to determine whether any corrective education is needed, for instance plastic bags being placed in composting containers or malfunctioning compostable liners.

5. One Less Truck, Julie Pond, Chair

Since there was no subcommittee meeting last month, Julie will report on next month's meeting at the next SWAC meeting.

6. Disposed Tons Report, Vicky Beaumont, Policy Liaison

Vicky answered member questions from last month's SWAC meeting. Disposed tons are going down since last year. Recycling and disposed tons are reported differently, because of how we get data and who we get it from.

7. Tours, Katie Salinas, Secretary

Postponed until next meeting.

Wrap Up:

8. Review: Julie Pond, Chair

a) Recommendations

b) Action Items:

- Finalizing the Joint comment letter for the Medicine Return Policy (KCBH); public hearing at the end of October.

9. Preliminary agenda for next meeting

- Work planning
- Officer Elections

10. Possible future agenda items

- Community Engagement and Outreach
- Update on Organics Contract.

6:49 PM - Meeting adjourned