



SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

February 5, 2014

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue

Room 5965

5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Co-Chairs: Joseph Ringold & Wendy Walker

Vice Chair: Katie Kennedy

Secretary: Katherine Salinas

Present: Joseph Ringold, Dan Corum, Katie Kennedy, Aaron Lawhead

Absent: Wendy Walker, Katie Salinas, Stephanie Schwenger, Erika Melroy

Guests: Heather Levy, Stacie Singleton, David Della, Chris Toman

Staff: Tim Croll, Dick Lilly, Vicky Beaumont, Teresa Rayburn

5:00 pm Call to Order

1. Regular Business –Joseph Ringold, Co-Chair

- Meeting notes approved – January 8, 2014
- Report on outstanding items from January – none
- Chair report – none

2. All compostable food ware in quick-serve restaurants ordinance – Dick Lilly, SPU

- See PowerPoint
- SPU cannot achieve zero waste until we divert all food and packaging from restaurants into the composting stream
- The original ordinance was written in 2007, when only 70 products were available, so we said packaging could be compostable or recyclable
- There is still a lot of plastic being used which results in cross contamination (both ways) between recycling and composting
- The proposed ordinance will state that all dine-in service must be compostable; food courts are considered dine-in
- Ordinance will go up to council sometime in second quarter
- SPU will do direct mailings, stakeholder meetings and additional outreach
- In grocery stores, this regulation will only apply to things packaged within the grocery store; pre-packaged items are not regulated
- SPU is working to make compostable and recyclable easily identifiable to reduce cross-contamination
- Plastic bag ban will not be extended to produce bags because there is not an alternative at this time

3. Compostable Food Ware Logo – Dick Lilly, SPU

- SPU is working on a logo to identify compostable products; this logo will be free to use and anyone can use it once their product passes testing
- To use the SPU label, the product must be tested at Cedar Grove and match Cedar Grove's standards
- Cedar Grove currently has a logo, but they charge a royalty fee to use it
- A recognizable logo is important when you are about to dump your food tray and also so people at the tipping floor can identify them as well

4. Director's Update – Tim Croll, Solid Waste Division Director

- Highlights for 2014:
 - New south transfer done
 - Old south transfer – looking at options to use once north transfer is done
 - Construction starting at north transfer within weeks
 - North transfer done in first quarter of 2016
 - A portion of the old Kent Highlands landfill site is sold and closes in April
 - Looking at billing outsourcing – will there be cost savings?
 - Rate path and spending plan comparisons – SW rate increase is close to inflation
 - Outreach meetings are taking place to discuss this with the public and get their feedback
- 2014 Workplan is posted on the website and is located at:
http://www.seattle.gov/util/groups/public/@spu/@diroff/documents/webcontent/01_028918.pdf

5. Team Building – Vicky Beaumont, Policy Liaison

6. Announcements – Vicky Beaumont, Policy Liaison

- Starting in March the meetings will start at 5:30pm
- Training announcement regarding sustainable packaging
- February 26 is the first special meeting on Climate Change from 5:15 to 7:30pm

Wrap Up:

7. Review: Joseph Ringold, Co-Chair

a) Recommendations:

b) Action Items:

- Schedule officer vote for April 2014

c) Next meeting: March 5, 2014 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm

6:59 PM - Meeting adjourned