



SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

February 3, 2016 Meeting Notes
Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue

Room 4901

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Chair: Heather Levy

Vice-Chair: David Della

Committee Members & CAC Staff	Present?	SPU Staff & Guests	Role
Quinn Apuzzo	Y	Tim Croll	Solid Waste Planning and Program Division Director
David Della	N	Veronica Fincher	Waste Prevention & Recycling Program Manager
Anna Dyer	Y	Sally Hulsman	Solid Waste Compliance Director
Ben Grace	Y	Scott DeWees	Guest
Holly Griffith	Y	Emily Newcomer	Guest
Katie Kennedy	N		
Jamie Lee	N		
Heather Levy	Y		
Rodney Proctor	N		
Joseph Ringold	Y		
Chris Toman	Y		
Heidi Fischer, CAC Program Support	Y		
Sego Jackson, Policy Liaison	Y		
Sheryl Shapiro, Program Manager	N		

ACTION ITEMS FROM FEBRUARY SWAC MEETING:

- ✓ New SWAC Secretary Holly Griffith will draft a letter to the Department of Ecology commenting on SPU's Solid Waste Plan.
 - Veronica will identify the contact at Ecology and send it to Sego.
 - Chris will work with Holly on the letter.
- ✓ Members may want to review Veronica's handout about the Solid Waste Plan, especially the items with a revised schedule or that are on hold, to see if there are items to add to the SWAC Workplan.
 - Members can still send suggestions for additions to Heather.

- The future Chair will send the work plan to the Members when it's completed.
- ✓ The new SWAC Officers will communicate with Segó and Sheryl to arrange a time for their standing monthly planning meeting.
- ✓ Heather asked Sheryl, the Program Manager to include some kind of condensed Solid Waste Plan information in Member orientation materials.
- ✓ Heather will add the outreach information to the Google document that lists outreach connections, and will send it to Segó, Sheryl, and the new SWAC Officers.

Regular Business

- Committee members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.
- Meeting notes from December and January are approved, with one Member abstaining from the vote.

Solid Waste Plan Update, Veronica Fincher, Waste Prevention & Recycling Program Manager

- Veronica referred to SPU's Solid Waste Plan and a handout regarding the Plan's 5 year review.
 - Statute (70.95.110 RCW) requires every Ecology approved plan to be reviewed every five years. The review ensures the current status of the solid waste system is adequately outlined in the plan.
 - The handout regarding the Plan's 5 year review lists SPU's solid waste programs, current recommendations, and planning status. The planning status column is color coded:
 - Green is on track or done
 - Yellow is behind schedule or revised strategy – work is proceeding but modified from the Plan
 - Orange is on hold – no current activity in SPU, but efforts may be renewed in the future
 - Red is cancelled
 - Veronica discussed the handout with SWAC, asking for their recommendations on further actions, focusing on the items coded yellow, orange, and red.
 - Yellow Items (Behind Schedule or Revised Strategy)
 - Launch new education programs in 2013 to small business about free recycle carts and audits of top self-haulers – behind schedule – 2016
 - Implement clean wood landfill disposal ban in 2014 at city transfer stations and in commercial garbage containers – behind schedule for city transfer stations
 - Implement a plastic film landfill disposal ban 2014 at city transfer stations and in commercial garbage containers – behind schedule for city transfer stations (TBD) and for construction jobsites (tentatively 2017)
 - Implement a product stewardship program for architectural paint in 2015 - Behind Schedule – bill running in 2016

- Enhance diversion of reusables from self-haul loads in 2015 - Behind Schedule – 2016 or 2017
- Revise city’s recycling goals to 60% by 2015 and 70% by 2022 - Behind Schedule –assessing 2015 recycling rate; may not have reached 60% (2014 rate was 57.1%)
- Implement landfill disposal bans for certain materials by 2013 at construction jobsites and private transfer stations: plastic film wrap, carpet - Behind Schedule – plastic film wrap and carpet (tentatively 2017)
- Rebuild the north transfer station - Behind Schedule – (to be completed in 2016)
- Work to secure state product stewardship legislation for paint - Behind Schedule – paint bill running in 2016
- Continue programs for commercial onsite organics management: promote restaurant and retail donations to food banks and feeding programs; work with food banks to minimize their disposal costs by diverting more food waste to composting; promoting food purchasing and preparation efficiency as a complement to programs designed to increase commercial food waste composting - Revised Strategy – assessing best opportunities for interventions
- Offer consulting services to help restaurants and institutional kitchens buy and serve food with less waste, if funds available - Revised Strategy – assessing best opportunities for interventions
- Continue to use and monitor the online junk and catalog opt-out service established in 2011 - Revised Strategy – not renewing contract with Catalog Choice; shifting focus to education only

▪ Orange Items (On Hold)

- Implement carpet take back program in 2012 - politically unviable at this time
 - SPU does not have much control over product stewardship programs and legislation, but we are making some effort to move some of these programs forward.
- Implement asphalt roofing shingles landfill disposal ban in 2014 at city transfer stations - lack of local processing facilities
- Develop training programs for hybrid deconstruction techniques for residential and small commercial structures – work reprioritized
- Implement landfill disposal ban for certain materials in 2014 at construction jobsites and private transfer stations: tear off asphalt shingles – lack of local processing facilities

- Work to secure state product stewardship legislation for unwanted medicines – politically unviable at this time.
- Continue involvement and support for industrial commodity exchange programs, focusing on market development for recycled commodities as needed – work reprioritized.
- Support new and expanded C&D prevention and recycling initiatives: grading standards for salvaged structural (dimension) lumber to expand the market; house moving promotion – work reprioritized
- Continue support for proposed state legislation regarding return of unwanted, leftover pharmaceuticals, medical sharps, and carpet – politically unviable at this time
 - We did pass a local medicine return program which will launch in King County this year.
- Emphasize job creational potential of product stewardship programs – work reprioritized
- Push city departments toward additional green purchasing decisions in facilities construction– work reprioritized
- Work for guidelines requiring more recycling and recycled content in “standard” specifications for work in public right of way– work reprioritized
- Seek packaging waste reduction and more controls on chemicals purchasing to reduce toxics exposures for staff and other city facility users– work reprioritized
- Contribute to standards setting for “ecolabels” and suppliers – from green office supplies to green fleets– work reprioritized
 - SPU’s Shirley Axelrod worked in this area for years, but we have decided to reduce our efforts in waste prevention to help keep our rates in line with the combined yearly average increase of 4.6%. So when Shirley retired, SPU did not replace her. But we do have partnerships with King County and other organizations who are working on green purchasing.
- Incorporate end-of-life management and product stewardship into purchasing– work reprioritized
- Continue community grants, with near term focus on schools organics reduction– work reprioritized

▪ Red Items (Cancelled)

- Consider changing single family garbage collection to every other week after evaluating 2012 pilot project – cancelled – evaluated pilot and chose not to proceed

- Anti-graffiti: amend the Seattle Municipal Code to include stickers in the list of prohibited materials – cancelled – Seattle City Council chose not to proceed.
- Given a favorable decision in the Yellow Pages publishers’ lawsuit seeking to block the Phone Books Opt-Out Registry, strongly promote the opt-out service to reduce paper use – Cancelled – court ruled in favor of Yellow Pages’ publishers.

- Tim Croll, Solid Waste Planning and Program Division Director, noted that in a sense the Solid Waste Plan is why SWAC exists.
 - According to state law, cities and counties must seek the review and advice of a SWAC before submitting a solid waste plan.
- Right now, SWAC is being asked to weigh in on what changes to make to the latest plan, if any.
- The handout provides an overview of the current status of Seattle’s solid waste system to help SPU and SWAC conduct a 2016 Plan Review and recommend one of the following actions to Ecology:
 1. **No Action:** No changes to the plan.
 - Criteria: Applies if the plan is reflective of the current state of the local solid waste system AND the plan could make it through the Ecology approval process today with little or no changes.
 2. **Amendment: Minor changes to the plan. (Preferred by SPU)**
 - Criteria: An amendment usually consists of, but is not limited to:
 - Changing the designated recyclables list (only if separate process not defined in the plan)
 - Adjusting implementation schedules
 - Changing the priority of alternative strategies and/or projects
 - Making changes to levels of service that do not significantly affect the cost to collect and dispose solid waste
 - Process: Local governments are free to develop their own process for developing and adopting an amendment to the plan internally. All amendments must be submitted to Ecology within 45 days of adoption.
 - Level of Effort: Minimal effort. Staff time only.
 3. **Revision: Significant changes to the plan.**
 - Criteria: Required when there are major changes to the plan, such as disposal facility construction or changes in disposal methods.
 - Process: Must follow the detailed process outlined by Ecology.
 - Level of Effort: High level of effort. 2011 Plan Revision cost SPU approximately \$500,000.
- SPU is recommending an amendment.

- Overall, SPU continues to remain on track with the majority of recommendations proposed in the 2011 Solid Waste Plan Revision. Some work has been accelerated, such as the organics landfill disposal ban for commercial and multifamily properties. Some work is behind schedule, but is otherwise continuing as planned.
 - A few activities have been canceled for political and legal reasons. Work on these activities is not likely to be renewed.
 - Some work has been put on hold for the time being, many in the categories of product stewardship, green purchasing, and market development.
 - **Product Stewardship:** Progress on statewide product stewardship efforts is heavily dependent on political conditions and multiple stakeholders. Some efforts—carpet, unwanted medicines, medical sharps—have been put on hold for now, but they may be renewed in the future with changes in the legislature and better progress with industry.
 - **Green Purchasing & Market Development:** SPU recently implemented a six-year Strategic Business Plan (SBP) that identifies ways to reduce costs through efficiencies and prioritization. For solid waste, the SBP identifies programmatic reductions in waste prevention as an efficiency. As a result, many green purchasing and market development activities are now on hold or reallocated to other departments as SPU focuses resources on higher priority efforts. Some efforts may be renewed in the future as other work is completed.
- Veronica explained that whatever changes are made to SPU’s Plan must be completed by the end of this year.
 - SPU needs to submit their proposed review plan to Ecology soon enough to allow the significant amount of time needed to prepare a Revision if so directed by Ecology.
- Veronica asked SWAC to write a letter to the Washington State Department of Ecology expressing their support if they agreed with SPU’s recommendations for the Plan’s 5 year review.
 - If SWAC chooses to write such a letter, it can be transmitted to Ecology along with SPU’s Plan.
 - If SWAC chooses to write a letter, they should do so within the next month.
- Veronica asked if SWAC Members had questions or comments.
 - One Member noted that she liked the handout’s color coded layout.
 - Another Member asked whether a supportive letter from SWAC would be of an overall amendment to the Plan in general or of several specific amendments.
 - Veronica responded that it would be of an overall amendment to the Plan in general. SPU will be proposing an amendment to the plan and

will explain to Ecology why we think that's the best approach now. Ecology will then tell us whether they agree, or if we need to make bigger changes to the Plan requiring a revision.

- Another Member asked, since the review cycle is five years, if Ecology agrees with the amendment to the Plan, if we would then not discuss changes for another five years.
 - Veronica answered that further changes are not required for five years, but we do have the option to discuss and further amend the Plan during those five years if needed.
 - One Member noted that SWAC would be commenting on what to do with the Plan rather than on the specific items in the Plan.
 - Another Member said that the changes are not big surprises, and he saw no reason not to support the proposed amendment to the Plan.
 - Two other Members agreed.
 - The Chair asked whether any Members were not in support of SWAC sending a letter to Ecology to support SPU's amendment to the Plan.
 - No Members expressed nonsupport.
 - SWAC will go forward with a letter to Ecology.
 - ✓ **New SWAC Secretary Holly Griffith will draft a letter to the Department of Ecology commenting on SPU's Solid Waste Plan.**
 - ✓ **Veronica will identify the contact at Ecology and send it to Segoe.**
 - ✓ **Chris will work with Holly on the letter.**
- Veronica briefly went through the items on the last page of the handout.
- There have been no significant changes to SPU solid waste facilities:
 - The two Moderate Risk Waste facilities are still operational.
 - The rebuild of the South Transfer Station has been completed.
 - The North Transfer Station rebuild is two years behind the schedule originally noted in the Plan, but will be completed in 2016.
 - The plan has been approved for redeveloping the property where the old South Transfer Station was located. Work will begin in 2017.
 - There have been no significant changes to SPU's processing and disposal of solid waste:
 - SPU continues to contract out for landfill disposal and the collection and processing of recyclables and organics.
 - SPU continues allowing open-market processing services for privately collected recyclables and organics in the commercial sector.
 - SPU is adding used cooking oil and rigid household plastics to the recyclables list in 2016, but otherwise materials remain consistent.

- She noted that SPU also needs to review regulations and ordinances for possible changes, though we believe they are not likely to affect the Plan.
- The Chair noted that the newer SWAC Members may be interested to know that SPU's Solid Waste Plan is available online but it is a very large document.
 - ✓ She has asked Sheryl, the Program Manager to include some kind of condensed information in Member orientation materials.
 - Physical copies of the Plan are also available to borrow.
 - Members should contact Segó if they would like to do that.
- Another Member asked whether SWAC is mandated to undertake specific tasks or just provide general advice.
 - The Chair responded that the CAC Charter, which is currently being revised, will better specify SWAC's direction and tasks.
 - Segó Jackson, the Policy Liaison, noted that SWAC is mandated by RCW 70.95.165(3)

Discussion re: SPU Director's Response to SWAC Letter Concerning Fines for Compostable Material in the Garbage, Segó Jackson, SPU Policy Liaison

- Segó started by summarizing the letter from the SPU Director.
 - The letter thanked SWAC for their thoughtful comments and recommendation that SPU move forward with implementing fines. The letter explained that SPU had carefully considered SWAC's recommendation, but has decided not to implement the fines at this time because multi-family homes still do not have the tools necessary to comply with the compost requirement. SPU will focus on developing compliance strategies for multi-family properties in the coming months.
- Segó noted that SPU is grateful for SWAC's input and wants to make sure SWAC knows that we take their recommendations seriously.
- One Member noted that she was encouraged to hear that the reason for not implementing the fines now was multi-family properties' barriers to compliance. SWAC had agreed that those barriers are significant. She added that SWAC had discussed some ways of addressing those barriers, and that she would like to hear more about that.
 - Another Member agreed, and asked what the environment would need to look like in order to go forward with the fines.
 - Tim Croll, Solid Waste Planning and Program Division Director, responded that it would have to be nearly as easy to compost in multi-family homes as in single family homes. All available steps must have been taken to make composting as easy as recycling and garbage. In a recent survey, only 34% of multi-family property residents reported that they put no food waste in their garbage. We want that number to be closer to the number of single family residents that reported putting no food waste in their garbage (63%).
- Another Member asked whether the fines were still on the table for possible later implementation.

- Tim responded that SPU is not calling for changes to the Municipal Code. The Code calling for the fines is still on the books, but is latent at this time.
- Another Member asked what the timeframe was for addressing the multi-family barriers and reassessing the fines.
 - Tim answered that SPU hasn't explicitly discussed that, but we expect it will be at least one year and probably two.
- Sego added that SPU is doing a tremendous amount of work in the multi-family sector this year.

Olympia Legislative Update, Sego Jackson, SPU Policy Liaison

Sego referred to a powerpoint presentation that discussed the following bills of note:

- HB 1571 – Establishes Paint Stewardship Program
 - This bill passed the House last session. It has to go back for a revote in the current session. It is expected to pass again in the House. However, it may not be given a hearing in the Senate. February 17th is the last day to pass bills in their house of origin.
 - Economic development opportunities may help to get the bill passed. A paint processing plant will be needed within the state and will create jobs.
- HB 2346 – Solar/renewable incentive program extended. Establishes solar module stewardship program for recycling solar modules.
 - One of the bill's co-sponsors is requiring the product stewardship portion to be part of the bill in order to maintain her support.
 - This bill will probably pass out of Committee tomorrow, and will probably pass the House.
- SB 5800/HB 1525 – The restriction on pull-tabs would not pertain to beer or other malt beverages.
 - Sego showed some slides of a beer can design with a round lid that completely detaches, called the 360° can.
 - This would create more waste, since the lids are too small to be recycled. (Lids that are less than 3 inches wide will drop through the screens of recycling equipment at Material Recovery Facilities, and cannot make it through the system.)
 - Makers of the can are putting significant effort into passing this bill.
 - One Member noted that the restriction on pull tabs was put into place to reduce litter, and to protect children and pets from the dangerous small and sharp metal objects.
 - Sego noted there will be increased litter. Those who pick up litter will have two pieces of litter to pick up for every can littered, as the lid will no longer be attached.
- SB 5432 – Requires compostable, recyclable paper or reusable bags. Would preempt Seattle bag ordinance.
- SB 6605 – Washington State Dept. of Agriculture (WSDA) to review solid waste management plans of jurisdictions that prohibit the disposal of food waste and compostable paper as garbage. Solid waste facility siting criteria would include status under quarantine and WSDA would review facility permits.
- SB 6570 – Cuts \$33 million from Local Toxics Control Account. This doesn't impact CPG but PPG is cut.

- Many local organizations have projects funded by PPG grants which would be eliminated. Segó read a list of local organizations, including the Duwamish River Coalition.
- The regular legislative session varies in length every other year.
 - Odd numbered years are “long sessions” (105 days) and even numbered years are “short sessions” (60 days).
 - The Legislative Cycle is two years and starts with a long session.
- Bills that do not get passed during the long session may be carried over and worked on during the following short session. Bills from a short session do not carry over to the next long session.
- According to the Legislative Information Center, in 2015, a long session, 2365 bills were introduced, and 298 were passed. A short session is about half of that.
- 2016 is a short session.
- Segó’s powerpoint also identified some helpful links with regard to Washington State legislation:
 - Legislature Home Page
<http://leg.wa.gov/>
 - Bill Information (look-up) Page
<http://app.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/>
 - Bill Info Page for Specific Bill
<http://app.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=1525&year=2015>
 - This link shows a bill’s sponsors and status.
 - Committee materials show amendments made to the bill.
 - Comments made using the “Comment on this Bill” link will go to your two House Members and your Senator.

Finalize Workplan, Heather Levy, SWAC Chair

Heather has updated the SWAC Workplan for 2016 and will send it to the future Chair.

- ✓ Members may want to review Veronica’s handout about the Solid Waste Plan, especially the items with a revised schedule or that are on hold, to see if there are items to add to the SWAC Workplan.
- ✓ Members can still send suggestions for additions to Heather.
- ✓ The future Chair will send the work plan to the Members when it’s completed.

Officer Elections, Segó Jackson

- Before proceeding with the elections, Ben noted that he is excited to be nominated for Vice-Chair, and that, starting in March, he will be present for only the first half of SWAC meetings due to an important personal commitment.
- SWAC Members agreed that votes would be counted only from Members who were present or who had already sent their votes to Segó.
- Paper ballots with the list of nominees were distributed and executed.
- Segó counted the votes. All three nominees were elected as follows:
 - Chair: Chris Toman

- Vice-Chair: Ben Grace
- Secretary: Holly Griffith
- ✓ Chris, the former Secretary and new Chair, will communicate with Holly, the new Secretary, about the SWAC letter regarding SPU's Solid Waste Plan.
- ✓ The new SWAC Officers will communicate with Segó and Sheryl to arrange a time for their standing monthly planning meeting.

Public Engagement & Outreach, Heather Levy

- Heather noted that SWAC has been discussing their approach to outreach along with the 2016 Workplan.
- She further noted that Sheryl, the Program Manager, would like Members to make a commitment to attend one outreach event quarterly.
 - Heidi explained that after further consideration, Sheryl was moving towards a total yearly commitment of four events.
- Sheryl will be providing a list of outreach events at each meeting.
- Heather noted that SWAC had also previously discussed asking Members to identify two events or groups in which they are already involved to whom they might introduce SWAC topics or from whom they might gather solid waste related feedback.
- One Member said that attending one event each quarter gave her pause. While she interacts with a lot of people regarding solid waste as part of her regular job, she was unclear about how best to share this information with SWAC.
- Another Member noted that the Program Manager (who was not present at the meeting) might suggest that Members agreed to the once per quarter (or four per year) outreach event requirement when they joined SWAC, and that attendance at these events can also be just as a SWAC observer.
 - Heather explained that while SWAC had agreed that the once per quarter requirement was reasonable, it wasn't always practiced in reality, and perhaps two events a year was a more achievable goal.
 - She also agreed that the Program Manager had explained that the CAC Member commitment included a total of 8-9 hours per month.
- Heather further explained that Members have a standing invitation to bring information/feedback about solid waste to the Committee during the Outreach and Around the Table times on the agenda. We can discuss events, but also what Members' experience has been, on-the-job anecdotes about related issues. That type of contribution is always welcome.
- Heather asked Members to identify two events and/or groups in which they are already involved and to write them on a piece of paper.
 - Members did so and submitted their papers to Heather.
- ✓ Heather will add the outreach information to the Google document that lists outreach connections, and will send it to Segó, Sheryl, and the new SWAC Officers.
- Segó then went over the list of outreach events for the coming months:

- FEB 26 - SWANA event at King Co offices on Feb 26th.
 - Here is the link: <http://files.ctctcdn.com/Ocb71d34401/dc615d29-518e-4dce-bb39-1cd6b2bb5f35.pdf>
 - This is an event for the solid waste managers community for sharing BMP's and such.
 - Segó noted that there is a charge for this event. The CAC Program may be able to sponsor some Members to attend if their employers cannot pay for them. Contact Sheryl if you are interested in possible sponsorship.
- FEB 26 - And on the same day – Feb 26th – is a Sustainability Fair that Pat Kaufman will be tabling at.
 - This is an event put on by suppliers, distributors and service providers. Primarily food service industry, but really all facilities and operations from across the city could benefit from attending. So this is a business community event. This will be a mix of sharing BMP's and vendors selling product and services.
 - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/designing-sustainability-programs-that-profit-your-business-and-the-environment-tickets-20869442063?aff=ebrowse>
- MAR 24 - the WSRA has a series of events each year called WRED – Washington Recycles EveryDay. Here is a blurb on the draft list of WRED events coming up:
 - Confirmed Events:
 - March 24-Carpet and Mattresses WRED
 - Segó noted that this will be a great event addressing challenging materials.
 - October? (Date TBD)- Innovation/Education WRED
 - October 26-27-Nancy Lee, Social Marketing Training
 - Tentative/Brainstormed:
 - Potential for June: Centurylink/Safeco w/ Mariners game GSA WRED
 - Potential for August/September: Amazon Dupont/Packaging WRED
 - Pushing to 2017:
 - Boeing/Metals
 - Med Waste Part 2/Pharmaceuticals.
- YPN Young Professional Network – Wed Feb 24 – evening
 - A Chamber event targeting YP's. Our mode at this event is to socially engage with participants to encourage the at work composting and other SPU programs.
 - <http://www.seattlechamber.com/home/events/events-detail/2016/02/25/default-calendar/young-professionals-network-at-pike-brewing-company>
- NW Food Show – Sun/Mon March 20-21
 - This is a big deal for Food+ and commercial composting. We have a booth. It falls on a Sunday and a Monday. Green Business Program staff may also be available to help me staff the booth on Sunday.

- <http://nwfoodserviceshow.com/>
 - Feel free to click on Register in case you think you might take time to drop in to see the show on Monday the 21st. Enter Seattle Public Utilities as business name.
- Go Green – Wed March 30
 - A regional draw of enviro professionals. King County is a major sponsor. We are a minor sponsor this year, we will invite some of the larger businesses in Seattle that would benefit from attending.
 - <http://seattle.gogreenconference.net/>
 - Pat Kaufman has a registration code if you are interested in attending. You may attend for the workshops and sessions and/or join us in the booth to help with the outreach.

Around the Table

- SWAC Members shared information about upcoming events and solid waste related issues.
 - Quinn reported that Recology Cleanscapes will be offering a public tour of their materials recovery facility (MRF) from 11am – 1pm on the third Thursday of the month. Contact them ahead of time if you plan to attend.
 - Quinn also reported that Recology Cleanscapes' Education Center is progressing. SWAC will get a tour when it's completed.
 - Anna reported that Seattle Housing Authority (SHA), where she works, manages 300 multi-family properties. They get solid waste services from SHA and from SPU. She attended a meeting with the property managers, who reported that they love the SPU lookup tool on the SPU website (that tells customers whether an item is recycling, compost, or garbage), found here:
 - <http://www.seattle.gov/util/MyServices/LookItUpWhatsAccepted/index.htm>
 - Anna reported that the property managers prefer SHA recycling bins because they have a hole cut in the back so that people using wheelchairs can more easily access them.
 - Sego responded this issue is often raised because children also have difficulty accessing the bins and dumpsters due to of their height.
 - Anna added that seniors sometimes find it difficult to hold open the lid while emptying their recycling.
 - Holly reported that she had read an article about sustainable textile recycling, and how the textile industry is moving toward using organic dyes. Advances of interest include working to development a method of separating organic threads from synthetic, creating a line of denim clothes from recycled material, and recycling very low level textiles.
 - Sego reported that he is taking a tour of Strategic Materials on February 17th, at 1 or 1:30pm. He can probably bring a couple of SWAC Members along. Members should email him by tomorrow if they are interested.
 - Strategic Materials is one of the most sophisticated glass recycling plants in the country. They use 17 optical sorters that sort by color. They can separate metal

lids from glass. They had a market for the metal lids, but lost it because of so many needles coming through.

7:07 meeting adjourned.