



February 1, 2011

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue

Room 5965

5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Chair: Julie Pond

Co-Vice Chairs: Katie Kennedy, Wendy Walker

Secretary: Katherine Salinas

In attendance: Julie Pond, Chair; Dan Corum; Carl Pierce; Katie Kennedy, Katie Salinas; Rob Stephenson

Absent: Wendy Walker

Staff: Vicky Beaumont; Linda Rogers; Sheryl Shapiro, Deborah Caul

Guests:

5:10 pm Call to Order

Administration:

Chair Report:

- Chair report
 - Meeting with Councilwoman Godden – Chair Julie Pond met with Councilwoman Godden. At this meeting, she:
 - Talked about Councilwoman Godden’s primary issue concerns and where Solid Waste issues are in her list of priorities
 - Talked about the Path to Zero Waste, Every Other Week Garbage, upcoming rates issues
 - Offered SWAC as a citizen resource on Solid Waste issues
 - Talked with King County SWAC – Chair is Joe Casalini of Allied Waste
 - Discussed summary of 2012 issues
 - Joe is interested in sitting in on a Seattle SWAC meeting and discussing Every Other Week Garbage Collection
 - Extended invitation for Seattle SWAC members to visit their next meeting – Feb 17.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Vice-Chair Katie Kennedy will attend the February 17th King County SWAC meeting.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Send all Seattle SWAC Agendas to King County SWAC c/o Joe Casalini
 - HB 2005 – upcoming legislation
 - Desire to establish way of having regular updates on upcoming legislation
 - This specific issue is more a Spokane issue involving waste to energy tax credits
 - Questions arose:
 - Have hearings already been held on this?
 - Are there to be more hearings? How far along is this process? Is there interest on the SWAC in Waste-to-Energy? Yes. Added to the Work Plan for 2012.
- Jan 2012 minutes approved as amended
- **Jan action items:**
 - 2012 Work Plan edits/additions were to be submitted to Vicky Beaumont by Jan 18
 - Housekeeping: Members provided preferred contact information

Monthly Topics:

5. 2013-14 Rates Sub-Committee – Briefing and Discussion

Deborah Caul provided a briefing of January 17th meeting with the Rates Sub-Committee.

Primary issues discussed included:

- Residential Organics Subsidy:
- Container Delivery Fee
- Reviewed draft letter with rates recommendations
 - Discussion regarding un-subsidized rates reflected on customer bills – SWAC wants to move cautiously so as to not send wrong message
- Questions raised and discussed included:
 - Why not go forward with showing actual costs?
 - What choices do residents have for impacting their bills?
 - How to create rates for cost recovery
 - Will a large number in garbage incent behavior to reduce garbage?
 - How can the public be educated on what the garbage bill really pays for?
 - Is SPU concerned about how costs are reflected?
 - Discussed short-term vs long-term goals: long term goal is for public to have good understanding of costs, importance of waste reduction; no recommendation for long term at this time due to no clear path to incenting waste reduction as well as recycling via changes in subsidies.
- Other significant items
 - Develop container replacement fee – currently SPU has legislative authority to charge residential customers for delivery of a new cart, but have not yet implemented this charge
 - Intent is to reduce number of replacements of not really needed
 - Suggestion: Replacement for damage or theft, not for subscription level changes
 - In 2011, approximately \$4M expended for replacements in all customer areas
 - Questions asked:
 - Do other cities charge replacement container fees?
 - How much?
 - Is there a repeat offender rate?
 - Staff are doing more research on issue to give feedback to the SPU director
 - Recommendation: more discussion; send letter of proposals/recommendations by first part of March
 - Katie Salinas will revise draft letter for SWAC to consider

6. On-Going SWAC Recruitment

Chair Julie Pond led discussion of recruitment goals for SWAC. These included:

- SWAC members reach out to network of those really interested
- Look at issues coming up and have citizen representation and expertise to advise the Utility and elected officials.
 - Commercial and organics – 2 major areas needing representation
 - Processing & recyclers contacts – suggestion and agreement from members that it would be beneficial to have someone from this area on the SWAC.
- SWAC currently has 7 members; can go as high as 12
 - Email Sheryl Shapiro with contact areas and names
 - Multi-family residential?
 - Educational world?
 - Also looking for geographic and racial diversity
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Julie Pond and Katie Kennedy will follow-up regarding Neal Perry.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** To assist in recruiting, SWAC members may send a short paragraph to Sheryl about:
 - 1) the benefits of being on the SWAC
 - 2) what they feel they contribute

7. SWAC Engagement

Chair Julie Pond led discussion of SWAC engagement based on document from Department of Ecology. Key areas included:

- How SWAC actively seeks public input
- Discuss further how to develop and maintain relationships with other SWACs, such as King County, and across SPU lines of business
- SWAC members become as knowledgeable as possible on waste management issues.
- Educate the public on the committees work. Discussion of the SWAC website and options for more information or education there. Possibly develop a Solid Waste Forum for public educational purposes
- Work closely with elected officials

8. Every Other Week Pilot Subcommittee Feedback

- EOW collection pilot to be run July through December 2012
- Subcommittee met with Carl and Hans for overview, and general plans
- Discussed level of funding, number of participants; the positions of elected officials and the Utility, and the Program Managers that will be running and overseeing the Pilot. ?
- SWAC would like a representative from the Utility's Race and Social Justice team or Carl or Hans to attend March meeting to brief SWAC on:
 - How area and participants were selected
 - Is representation sufficient for a successful pilot for EOW

9. SWAC 2012 Work Plan

Chair Julie Pond led discussion of items added for SWAC consideration. These included:

- Product stewardship – how can SWAC members play a role in encouraging NW businesses in the direction of product stewardship?
- Council protocol – SWAC to create a protocol for keeping city council members in loop and involved with SWAC's activities and hot issues (Ask Bob Hennessey to attend meeting to discuss this)
- Outreach protocol – Explore potential protocol of SWAC members and officers in educating the public about the committee's work and actively seeking public input. – Invite Brett to discuss
- Waste prevention – SPU staff provide overview of current and planned waste prevention activities.
- **ACTION ITEM:** SWAC to review items to determine which are policy issues, and what is information; reminded SWAC their official role is to provide policy advice. Review the "SWAC Role" column in the 2012 Work Plan spreadsheet and provide better detail on these items.

10. Wrap Up

Action Items:

- Each month will have the following on the agenda:
 - Sub-committee updates: Rates, Climate Action Plan, Every Other Week Garbage
 - EOW - Carl
- Every month send Seattle SWAC Agendas to King County SWAC c/o Joe Casalini
 - Vice-Chair Katie Kennedy will attend the February 17th King County SWAC meeting.
- Review the "SWAC Role" column in the 2012 Work Plan spreadsheet and provide better detail on these items.
- Julie Pond and Katie Kennedy will follow-up regarding recruitment of Neal Perry, an interested guest to Seattle SWAC.

- All SWAC members will help with recruitment efforts and reach out to potential SWAC members
 - To assist SPU with recruiting, SWAC members may send a short paragraph to Sheryl about:
 - 1) the benefits of being on the SWAC
 - 2) what they feel they contribute

Recommendations

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Preliminary Agenda for Next Meeting – Mar 7, 2012, Room SMT 5965

- Approve Feb 2012 minutes
- Sub-committees updates – Rates and Every Other Week Garbage
- Every-Other Week Garbage participant selection process review
- Annual work plan

7:00 PM - Meeting adjourned