



Chair: Signe Gilson

Vice Chair: Julie Pond

Secretary: Laura Feinstein

In attendance: Signe Gilson, Chair; Dan Corum, Laura Feinstein; Carl Pierce; Julie Pond, David Ruggiero; Rob Stephenson

Absent: Rita Smith, Wendy Walker

Staff: Vicky Beaumont; Carl Woestwin, Marcia Rutan

Guests:

5:05 pm Call to Order

Administration:

Chair Report:

- February 2011 minutes approved
- **February action items:**
 - Carpet product stewardship legislation letter of support to state legislators
 - Draft letter to SPU recommending smallest garbage cans available to small businesses

Monthly Topics:

4. Every Other Week (EOW) Pilot Design – Briefing & Discussion

Carl Woestwin, SPU's project manager for this project, presented current status of pilot's development.

- Legislation for the test rates is not back from council yet.
- Routes have been identified.
- Garbage from the pilot areas will be weighed separately to see how generation is affected.
- Other benefits include green house gas (GHG) reduction. Less organic material in the landfill means less methane created, and carbon is sequestered in composting.
 - **SWAC Recommendation:** Survey participants as to whether they backyard compost more as a result of the pilot.

5. Multi-Family Mandatory Organics Service Implementation – Briefing and Discussion

Marcia Rutan, SPU's project manager for this project, presented current status of implementation which is to start, per the ordinance, September 2011.

- Background: test projects 2007-2009. Reports from those projects were shared with the SWAC.
- Goals for 2011
 - Notify properties of ordinance
 - Provide excellent customer support for sign-up via Call Center, website, educational materials, 46th floor telephone menu
 - Provide excellent support for properties for educating residents: website, educational materials, Tilth Hotline, Friends of Recycling and Composting (FORC) program

- Provide targeted outreach to underserved or special needs communities (multi-cultural, high rises.)
- Compliance progress, with full compliance by first quarter 2012 (still under discussion)
- Current Plan
 - Phase I: Now – July 31
 - Notification: Calendar mailing Feb Curb Waste spring. Mailing late spring to non-subscribers.
 - Sign-ups: Continue to sign up voluntary buildings. Tenants will be asked to work with account holder to get service.
 - Technical assistance and outreach to 300 largest properties. Multi-cultural outreach.
 - FORC rebate continues
 - Phase II: Aug 1 – Dec 31
 - Notification: Mailing to non-subscribers. Curb Waste & Conserve – tenants.
 - Signups: Continue to sign up buildings via call-ins, tech outreach. Respond to tenants who call in from non-subscribing properties – we'll work with property to sign up within a month. Account holder notified – 3 weeks to choose service level or will be delivered minimum default cart (on-site for commercial recycle; curbside/alley for curbside/alley recycle).
 - FORC rebates, trainings, bucket distribution to FORC properties
 - Phase III: Jan – March 2012
 - All properties notified of default service unless they contact SPU. SPU delivers default or desired services to all remaining buildings.
 - FORC program, tech outreach levels TBD.
 - Persons involved in planning
 - Project team meets monthly, including one each staff representing the call center, inspectors, the line of business specifier, communications, the Customer Programs and Contract Management interim director, and the project manager.
 - The Solid Waste Information Meeting (SWIM) also meets as needed for educational materials review: SPU communications, collection service providers, SPU call center, and other SPU staff.
- Current status
 - Calendar “first alert” mailed in Feb. website updated, call center staff trained, FORC folder and info packet materials all ready by April, technical outreach contract amendment started, call system revisions started, Outreach contract starts March, buckets purchase June, 13 gal carts and initial bag liners for high rises arrive March, spring mailing starting soon with potential photo/media op.
- Potential problems
 - Possible resistance or concerns from organizations representing numerous properties
 - Language barriers with tenants
 - Cost concerns by properties
 - Contamination

SWAC's response included questions, comments, and recommendations:

- What about the properties that comply in name only?
- How many properties will have FORCs?
 - They watch for contamination
- Put some bags in FORC folders

- Some properties one SWAC member works with have estimated about \$550 or more per month for extra labor, in mid-rise buildings, to service the program. The issue for them isn't so much the cost of subscription, but other costs to comply.
- Is success measured in signups?
 - Sign-ups will be the near-term focus
- Will SPU measure diversion rates?
 - Yes – in the annual recycling rate report by sector.
- How will it be figured out when contamination is an issue?
 - Ask service providers – so far are saying contamination is not a problem.

6. Making Smallest Cans Available to Small Business – Briefing and Discussion

Vicky Beaumont shared some information from SPU on this topic:

- SPU does have a 20 gallon price in our rates but have not implemented and were not aware of interest. We can see about adding it to our service options.
- Businesses do have the option (which residents do not) of going to less frequent collection, saving more money and truck impacts than having a smaller can. We do have businesses on every other week and monthly 32 gallon can services.

The committee discussed the draft done by Julie Pond:

- Will there be a revenue hit to SPU? It would be quite small.
- Who are the target businesses? Those with zero waste goals; already at every other week garbage collection. Offices, non-profits, restaurants. Mostly paper and food.
- What about unavoidable garbage like bathroom waste? It could be self-hauled to the stations. Special pickups are available for recyclables.

Action Item: The committee decided to send the letter. First each will look at the letter and send suggested edits to Julie.

7. SWAC Self-Education – Discussion

David Ruggiero will assemble some tour itineraries which the group will look at next month. Ideas include: Total Reclaim, Cedar Hills, Tacgrow, Recovery 1, CDL, SeaDruNar, Argo Yard, Nucor, Allied recycling, glass recycling (St. Cobain), cement factory.

10. Wrap Up

Recommendations

- See #4 re EOW pilot.

Action Items

- Committee members to send suggested edits to Julie for Item # 6..

Preliminary Agenda for Next Meeting – April 6th 2011, Room SMT 5965

- Approve March 2011 minutes
- Comprehensive plan recommendations

6:55 PM - Meeting adjourned