

MSWAC Advisory Committee Meeting

February 8, 2019 - 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

<u>MSWMAC Members</u>	
<i>In-Person</i>	
Sarah Ogier	Bellevue
Barre Seibert	Clyde Hill
John MacGillivray	Kirkland
Jenna McInnis	Kirkland
Mason Giem	SeaTac
Alex Herzog	Woodinville
<i>Skype</i>	
Joan Nelson	Auburn
Alison Bennett	Bellevue
Sabrina Combs	Bothell
Anita Demahy Green	Bothell
Robin Tischmak	Burien
Chris Searcy	Enumclaw
Rob Van Orsow	Federal Way
Tony Donati	Kent
Penny Sweet – Chair	Kirkland
Phillippa Kassover	Lake Forest Park
Diana Pistoll	Maple Valley
Carol Simpson	Newcastle
Andy Rheume	Redmond
Jina Kim	Renton
Uki Dele	Shoreline
Maia Knox	Sammamish
Paula Waters	Woodinville

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Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting commenced with the Call to Order and Introductions.

Due to the inclement weather, committee members were offered a call-in option via Skype.

Election of Officers

Seibert nominated Penny Sweet for the position of Chair and Giem seconded the nomination. Penny Sweet won the unanimous vote.

Seibert nominated Carol Simpson for the position of Vice Chair and MacGillivray seconded the nomination. MacGillivray nominated Linda Knight for the position of Vice Chair and Combs seconded the nomination.

Members cast votes electronically or via paper ballot. Waller tallied the votes and announced the results were 12 votes for Linda Knight and 3 votes for Carol Simpson. Linda Knight won the Vice Chair position with a majority of the votes.

Minutes

The January 2018 MSWAC minutes were unanimously approved as amended:

Carol Simpson requested her name be removed as she was not in attendance at the January meeting.

Public Comment

There were no public comments

Updates

SWD Director Pat McLaughlin presented the SWD update:

SR-99 Viaduct Closure

Closure of the Viaduct did not have a significant impact on operations. Plans for adding extra drivers and extending hours at Houghton and Cedar Hills did not turn out to be necessary. Normal operations resumed after the first week.

Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan)

The Regional Policy Committee is expected to take action on the Comp Plan on February 27th. The following week on March 6th, the Committee of the Whole (COW) is expected to take it up. We are optimistic the Council will pass the plan by April. Members are encouraged to talk with their respective King County Council Representative about the plan.

The Council's waste-to-energy proviso asks the Executive to continue studying the relative costs and environmental impact of waste-to-energy options. The proviso will inform long term planning for the region but will not impact next disposal options. The proposed Comp Plan calls for developing a new cell at Cedar Hills to provide a longer planning horizon to select longer term solutions for waste disposal. Any future system must reflect what our customers want and be endorsed by the cities and County.

Local News Coverage

Local media coverage by KING5 and Seattle Weekly discussed waste management options put forth in the Comp Plan and the importance of planning for the future of our waste disposal system. The public dialog has raised questions around next steps that will take us beyond 2040.

Combs expressed appreciation that King County staff included ["Empty, Clean, and Dry"](#) messaging in the King 5 news segment that aired February 8th.

SWAC

Gaisford noted SWAC approved the advisory letter to remove plastic bags, film and shredded paper from commingled recycling bins after edits to the first draft.

City of Kirkland Cart Tagging Program

MacGillivray presented on Kirkland's residential and commercial cart tagging program.

In 2015 the Organics Contamination Reduction Workgroup, made of 100+ stakeholders, was formed to identify upstream solutions for eliminating compost contamination. The workgroup produced a contamination reduction report in 2017 that is available online.

Kirkland has two organics programs— an organic-only program for commercial/ multifamily (MFR) and a yard and food waste program for single family residents. Commercial/multifamily is fully subsidized and collected once or twice per week, while residential is picked up once a week. Business and multifamily properties have to qualify for the organics programs and at least 10 percent of each MFR has to participate to make the expense worth the effort.

Collection vehicles allow drivers to visually inspect cart contents as the cart is emptied into the hopper. If contamination is observed, the cart is tagged. The tag is logged by the driver, triggering a visual inspection the following week of cart contents before it is added to the hopper. During the second week contamination is logged, photographed, and the cart is not serviced. The customer is given the option to remove contaminants and pay for a second pick-up or have contents removed as garbage. After three consecutive weeks of contamination, customers must contact city staff or their cart is removed. MFR enforcement differs slightly in that drivers need to get the cart and inspect its contents before compost goes into the hopper each week.

The tagging program started in September 2017. 708 single residency carts were tagged the first week and only 13% of those were tagged during the second week, meaning 4 out of 5 people changed their behavior. Program leniency is important as well as education and ensuring customers receive and understand the messaging. The program complies with privacy laws, doesn't cost a lot, and didn't slow down drivers on their route. In fact, drivers found the program's accountability empowering.

Giem asked about the results of MRF tagging and MacGillivray responded that the data only covered a few months and was not yet robust enough to show trends.

McInnis noted that the commercial tagging program allowed for greater contact with properties where there is significant contamination.

Kassover asked how Kirkland implemented the program. MacGillivray answered that establishing the pilot program did not require Council approval. The pilot fit within a standing contractual agreement that provided authority for a tagging program.

Giem noted that a drawback of the program is refusing service for Multifamily residences where there is abundant material.

MacGillivray responded that in those cases, the city picks it up as garbage to avoid a health issue.

Ogier asked for clarification on whether service is only refused for the organics. MacGillivray responded that it only applies to organics. Other carts are serviced as usual.

Responsible Recycling Task Force

Gaisford briefly reviewed and proved updates on the Recycling Task Force goals presented during the previous MSWAC meeting.

Goal 1: Action 1A

Gaisford asked if there is support for the Solid Waste Division to study in 2019 how a statewide stewardship policy approach for curbside recycling could be implemented.

Giem expressed support for the action.

Ogier asked what implementation would entail. Gaisford clarified that in the model set by Recycle BC producers of packaging pay for the take back system instead of customers.

Goal 1: Action 1B & 1C

Two companion bills to establish a plastic stewardship program, SB 5297 and HB 1204, are currently before the legislature. Most recently, the bill passed out of the senate and action is expected next week.

Sustainable recycling bills HB 1543 & SB 5545 would support research on developing markets for paper and plastic. There's a public hearing in the Senate on February 6th. The hearing in the House has been postponed.

Representative Smith's new bill HB 1665 would require the Department of Commerce to conduct economic analysis of recyclable material and solid waste processing. There is an executive session next week on February 8th.

Kasover asked if there was still a need for testimony or written letters. Gaisford responded that exact hearings dates for next week will be emailed today and members are encouraged to take action in the way that best suits them. The complexity of the plastics stewardship bills are likely to prompt calls for additional data studies while the sustainable recycling bills are likely to pass. Not much is known yet about the status of HB 1665.

HB 1795 concerns restricting materials in commingled recycling system starting in 2020. There was a hearing yesterday with lots of discussion but no clear direction forward.

Rheume commented that Redmond does not support all of the bills. Gaisford clarified that the legislative updates are only to highlight progress and does not represent the views of MSWAC or individual cities.

Goal 1: Action 1 D

This action item is to set up a process for Solid Waste Division work to coordinate support on legislation with feedback from MSWAC and SWAC. If there is interest, a subgroup could be formed to develop a process.

Goal 1: Action 1E

Considering action in 2020 to develop a model for beverage container stewardship in Washington.

Goal 5: Action 5C

Action next week on bill to reduce the number of plastic bags entering waste system.

Member Comment

No additional member comment

Actions

Review letter and provide feedback prior to March meeting.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned early at 12:33 due to snow.