

# Recycling Public Advisory Council

## Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Location: DNREC Shoreline and Waterway Services Facility, 901 Pilottown Rd., Lewes, DE 19958

Members present: BJ Vinton, Chairman (CSWSC)  
Paul Bickhart (Recycling Industry)  
Charles Campbell-King (Public)  
Dick Cecil (DE Association of Counties)  
Marianne Cinaglia (DeIEASI)  
Marjorie Crofts (DNREC)  
Stan Mills (League of Local Governments)  
Julie Miro Wenger (Del. Food Industry Council)  
Brian Nixon (DE Chamber of Commerce)  
Coralie Pryde (League of Women Voters)  
Mike Parkowski (DSWA)  
Wendy Turner (Mt. Pleasant Elementary)  
George Danneman (Soda Beverage Industry)

Members absent: Bob Ziegler (Waste Hauling Industry)  
Adam Webster (Restaurant Industry)

Non-members present: Bill Miller (DNREC) Jim Short (DNREC)  
Nancy Marker (DNREC) Don Long (DNREC)  
Jackie Howard (DNREC) Kim Jarrell (DNREC)  
Michelle Bennett (UD - Sustainability) Matthew Harchick (UD - Sustainability)  
Kurt Pilarski (Waste Management) Allen Thienpont (Waste Industries)

### **Precedent**

Prior to the formal start of the RPAC Meeting, David Small (Cabinet Secretary of DNREC) read a tribute from the Governor to Jim Short in anticipation of his retirement at the end of the month. Secretary Small also gave personal thanks and appreciation to Jim for his 32 years of service. Jim and Secretary Small each thanked the RPAC for their efforts to advance recycling in Delaware.

### **Call to Order, Introductions**

BJ Vinton called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30PM.

### **Approval of July 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

The July minutes were unanimously approved with the “Legislative Update” revised as follows: “Julie reported the plastic bag legislation (HB 202) was not passed into law and would have to be reintroduced to be considered again. Marj reported that the Universal Recycling Grants and Low Interest Loan Program lost \$5 million and about \$41,000 was reallocated from ~~other funds~~ **Per MARJ: change “other funds” to “Universal Recycling Grants and Low Interest Loan Program funds to be spent on DNREC’s Yard Waste Site.”** RPAC accepted the change and approved the minutes with this correction. (JH 10/21/16)

### **Public Comments**

Michelle Bennett, Sustainability Manager at University of Delaware gave a presentation on the program she has implemented on campus with the support of Facilities Management and her team of student interns. She will be applying for a grant and is focused on gathering metrics showing the cost benefit of

recycling. She answered questions from the RPAC and they thanked Ms. Bennett and her student intern, Matt Harchick for their efforts.

### **Update on additional Funding for the Grant and Loan Program**

Bill indicated to the Council that he is comfortable in saying the Program will receive an additional inflow of \$1.5 million dollars from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Program. This will be a onetime opportunity and there is no expectation that we will get more. Additionally, Bill said that the money must be encumbered by the end of this calendar year or again be vulnerable to being taken away by the Legislature. BJ asked about Cycle 8 grants and Jackie reported that to date, one submission had been received. Marianne asked if some Cycle 7 submissions were not considered for funding due to lack of grant money and Bill said no, that was not the case.

### **Media Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

The Ad Hoc Subcommittee met and decided to ask all Cycle 7 media applicants to resubmit in Cycle 8 and respond to a set of questions that will make our understanding of what they offer clearer and more financially understandable. Moving forward, this Subcommittee will become a part of the Scoring Subcommittee. Julie mentioned, in a matter of transparency, that she and Mike Parkowski, will be submitting a grant proposal focused on managing a comprehensive media campaign and that she and Mike have recused themselves from reading or reviewing this subset of grants. Mike added that while Julie is the acting Director of Keep Delaware Beautiful, neither she nor the Delaware Food Industry Council would receive any money from the grant if awarded.

### **New Education and Outreach Subcommittee**

Jackie indicated that this Subcommittee will address messaging to reach all demographic groups within in Delaware. Bill emphasized that this Subcommittee's focus should be on messaging and how to get that message out to the public. Marianne commented that messaging on the products that result from collected recyclables is important.

### **Universal Recycling Regulations**

Don reported that the public workshops were held in Dover, Lewes and Bear, and that the workshops were positive and that constructive comments were made and are under review. The two main comments that were mentioned by the public at the workshops were 1) utilities companies and hospitality venues should be included in the definition of "commercial sector" and 2) clarifying a requirement in a situation where the property manager is also the waste services provider. The next step will be to schedule a public hearing probably in November.

### **Recycling Market update**

Paul B. reported a slight drift upwards in paper and cardboard prices and Mike P. reported a slight bump up in single-stream recycling prices but single-stream is still negative but better than last report at RPAC in July.

### **Old/New Business**

Charles requested that 1) dates be set out as far in advance as possible for RPAC meetings to ensure everyone can get the dates on their calendars; Charles also requested that draft meeting minutes and Agenda be sent out 2 weeks in advance and again 2 days prior to each RPAC meeting.

### **Additional Public Comments**

None.

### **Next Meetings**

October 19, Kent County Location TBD, 9:30am-11:30am

November 16, New Castle County TBD, 1:00pm-3:00pm

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:20pm.