

# Recycling Public Advisory Council

## DRAFT Meeting Minutes for Wednesday September 23, 2015

Location: DNREC Shoreline & Waterway Services Facility  
901 Pilottown Road, Lewes, DE 19958

Members present: BJ Vinton, Chairman (CSWSC)  
Dick Cecil (DE Association of Counties)  
Marianne Cinaglia (DelEASI)  
Marjorie Crofts (DNREC)  
Stan Mills (League of Local Governments)  
Coralie Pryde (League of Women Voters)  
Wendy Turner (Public)  
Adam Webster (Restaurant Industry)  
Bob Ziegler (Waste Hauler Industry)

Members absent: Paul Bickhart (Recycling Industry)      George Danneman (Soda Bev Ind.)  
Charles Campbell-King (Public)  
Brian Nixon (Del Chamber of Commerce - Phone call-in noted)  
Mike Parkowski (DSWA)  
Julie Miro Wenger (Del. Food Ind. Council - Phone call-in noted)

Non-members present: Marshall Budin (DNREC)      Kimberly Jarrell (DNREC)  
Alfred R. Greenwood (Ocean Village Community)  
Tom Healy (Ocean Village Community)  
Bill Miller (DNREC)      Jim Short (DNREC)

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

BJ Vinton called the meeting to order at approximately 1:40PM. Introductions were made around the table. Wendy Turner a newly appointed member is a second grade teacher at the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School in New Castle County.

### **Public Comments**

Alfred R. Greenwood and Tom Healy representing the Ocean Village Community Association provided a written statement and made comments opposing the continued operation of the Delaware Fresh Pond recycling drop-off center (land leased to DSWA by DNREC-Division of Parks and Recreation) located in proximity to the entrance to the residential community. They allege that illegal dumping of waste and excessive noise from frequent servicing in the summer months are affecting quality of life and property values. The Chair acknowledged that the Association seems to have legitimate grievances and concerns noting that enforcement of environmental laws and regulations is outside the Council's purview and therefore the Council is not qualified to speak to these issues. Marjorie Crofts added that it is not part of the Council's charge to seek a remedy for the Association's grievances. The Chair mentioned that the Council could request that an explicit public policy be developed to address recycling drop-off center site locations. Marianne Cinaglia stated that if the center is being misused, the Council should be able to say something about this and iterated that noise is a concern. In response to a question by Tom Healy about DNREC's position on working with DSWA to come into compliance with the terms and conditions of the lease, M. Crofts responded that if the Division of Parks and Recreation did take corrective action the remedy may result in modifications, not closure of the site. In closing comments the Chair stated that the Council has the least power to remedy the Association's grievances.

### **Approval of June 24, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

The June 2015 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as written.

### **Recycling Legislation/Resolution Update**

House Bill No. 202 (HB202) imposing a \$0.05 fee on all single use grocery bags did not make it out of the House Natural Resources Committee.

The Organics Task Force held their first meeting on September 14, 2015. M. Crofts and Mike Parkowski are co-chairs. M. Crofts identified some of the Task Force members including a High School student representing the 'Zero Waste Team'. She summarized the meeting including presentations on organics treatment technologies and review of other state programs and development of a definition for 'organics'. Discussion followed regarding the applicability of the incinerator ban on the combustion of methane gas generated from anaerobic digestion of organics. M. Crofts stated that landfill sources of methane gas are not considered to be a waste because they can't be condensed. Coralie Pryde noted that while she is a proponent of anaerobic digestion she is concerned about the impact to communities. The Chair stated that the take-away from the meeting is that there isn't a 'one size fits all' solution and a large scale facility probably isn't feasible in New Castle County.

### **Outreach and Education Sub-Committee**

The Chair tabled discussion until the next meeting.

### **14<sup>th</sup> Annual RPAC Report**

The Chair stated that this will be the first RPAC Annual Report to address 'total solid waste' citing chicken litter and medical waste as examples. The Chair reminded Council Members that the Report is due November 1, 2015 and requested DNREC staff to email Council Members to schedule planning and development meetings. Bill Miller added that Council Members should think about the Recommendations section, suggesting Members review past recommendations. The Chair targeted the October meeting to review an Annual Report draft.

### **Recycling Market Update**

Paul Bickhart and M. Parkowski weren't in attendance to provide a market update. Bob Ziegler said that transportation costs to transfer recyclables from downstate to MRF's upstate are increasing and approaching a point where economics could favor disposal which could be problematic.

### **Old/New Business**

M. Cinaglia reiterated her position that the Council should take a position on the misuse of the Fresh Pond recycling drop-off center supporting corrective action to address the center's negative impact to the Ocean Village Community.

B. Ziegler mentioned that he is the Chair of the Delaware Chapter of the National Waste and Recycling Association (NWRA), suggesting that the Association could possibly apply for a grant to implement a statewide recycling education campaign that wouldn't be dependent on voluntary participation in a State sponsored approach. The Chair responded that he previously reached out to Chaz Miller with the NWRA suggesting this idea but nothing materialized. B. Miller announced that DNREC was working with the Grants Subcommittee of the RPAC on the Guidance Document for the next grant cycle. The outreach concept B. Ziegler mentioned may likely be prioritized and B. Miller encouraged the organization to apply when the time comes.

### **Additional Public Comments - None**

### **Future Meetings**

Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 1:30PM – 3:30PM (Appoquinimink State Service Center, Middletown)

Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 1:30PM – 3:30PM (Kent County, Location TBD)

### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:05PM