



City of Hamilton

Meeting Notes: Waste Reduction Task Force
 Wednesday, January 18, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
 Hamilton City Hall, Room 264

Present:	Peter Hutton	Jack Freiburger	Elizabeth Wren
	Tom Thompson	Jim Sweetman	Greg Kraatz
	Ron Speranzini		

Regrets:	Paula Hamilton	Grant Ranalli	Allan Freeman
	Deborah Wilson	Dan Rodrigues	Rose Killey

Also Present: Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs
 Christina Gallimore, Supervisor of Operations Support
 Rūta Morkunas, Policy/Program Analyst, Policy & Programs Section
 Three public members

The Chair called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

(Moved by Greg Kraatz, seconded by Jim Sweetman)

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes from – December 7, 2011

The minutes were approved as written.

(Moved by Jack Freiburger, seconded by Jim Sweetman)

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

It was agreed that there was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Administrative Items

There were no administrative items for discussion.

5. Solid Waste Management Master Plan (SWMMP) Review

The Solid Waste Management Master Plan Review – Draft Final Report was received without lengthy discussion at the January 16 Public Works Committee meeting. The Review has also been posted on the City and project websites for review, discussion and community feedback until the end of February. A short survey is available on the project website as a means to gather some quick feedback.

The report will go to the Public Works Committee in April with recommendations for the 2012 Solid Waste Management Master Plan.

The Chair expressed some concerns with the tracking of feedback in the process as there is no mention about final options consultations (i.e. posting on the website of comments from workshops, presentations, or other meetings, etc.) He has heard that some of the local environmental groups are concerned with the third guiding principle and how the change opens up shared responsibility for waste, that is, in the future could we be managing waste from other communities?

Staff urged committee members to submit any further comments on-line and to share the review with as many people as possible. The project website will explain what happens to the collected information and that the results will be considered in the final report after the commenting period has closed.

6. Projects

a) Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee (GLCC)

There was nothing to report.

b) SWMMP Steering Committee

The Steering Committee update was sent electronically to TF members prior to the meeting.

c) Clean City Liaison Committee (CCLC)

The CCLC report focussing of the mandate and Terms of Reference was passed at the January 16 Public Works Committee meeting.

7. Operations

a) Collection System Review

The Chair represented the WRTF at the January 16, 2012 Public Works Committee (PWC) meeting. Staff is recommending the enhanced option which includes year round Leaf and Yard waste collection, the phasing in of smaller green carts, optional blue boxes with lids, year round call in bulk Collection and bi-weekly garbage collection with a six bag limit.

The enhanced waste collection system is preferred. Task Force remarked that the proposed limit of six bags every two weeks does not appear in the document. There is a strong possibility that there might be consideration for less than the six bag limit. The biggest issue is storing pet waste and diapers for two weeks; however, feedback from other communities with bi-weekly collection suggests that there are no issues with collection of diapers and pet waste every second week. One option to address this is to offer tags for garbage bags to be taken to the transfer station, like the Halton program. Four out of five households already do the right thing and will likely continue to do the right thing.

Staff was asked to research the bi-weekly garbage collection limit further and report back to the PWC on February 6, 2012. The report will go to Council on February 8, 2012.

8. Sector Reports

a) Business

There is nothing new to report.

b) Education

There is nothing new to report.

c) Environment

There is nothing new to report.

9. Public Discussion

A member of the Public remarked that the WRTF has done really good work and wondered why everyone isn't really mad about the proposed increased garbage container limits, and the fact that amnesty days have risen from three to 15. The increase seems ridiculously high. The Chair responded that this type of issue is beyond the group's mandate.

10. Other Business

a) Structure Options: Waste Sub-committee

The Suggested Approach is a single combined committee with three citizen members and up to three political representatives. Less frequent meetings are appropriate at this stage of the waste management system maturity and this will be a more efficient use of staff resources. The City will still continue to seek additional input as appropriate from citizens. This sub-committee model is similar to the structure of the Clean City Liaison Committee. Staff is not suggesting an annual conference at this time.

Next Steps – will be seeking an endorsement at this meeting. Staff told TF that the recommendation was well received by the Steering Committee and agreed that meetings will be held as issues arise.

The chair made two final points: (i) That the Terms of Reference and the sub-committee meetings should be posted on the City website on the Master Calendar, and (ii) Need to ensure that there is a process that will keep interested parties and stakeholders informed.

With regard to the suggestion of a conference, TF is okay with not including it at this time.

The WRTF are in general support of this staff position.

(Moved by Jim Sweetman, seconded by Tom Thompson, all in favour)

CARRIED

b) The 2013 Waste Collection Calendar

Staff is working on the next version of the Calendar. It will be impacted by Council's decisions around the collection contract. Membership inquired whether multi-residential buildings get a calendar. Staff responded that they do not since multi-residential buildings generally have different collection days because they receive blue cart recycling service and bin garbage collection. Membership explained that smaller multi-residential buildings and condominiums have to take care of their own waste (and all streams) just like single family residential properties.

A TF member commented that the Calendar readability is about a grade 15 level because of the sentence structure. Easier readability may be achieved by cutting sentences in half and limiting them to about five small words. The vocabulary is generally at a grade four level which is good.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Membership will be notified as to when the next meeting as a wrap-up to the WRTF will be.

(Moved by Jim Sweetman, seconded by Jack Freiburg)

CARRIED

Copies to: All present
Regrets
SWMMP Waste Reduction Task Force Binder Distribution List
Gerry Davis, General Manager, Public Works Department
Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee c/o Craig Murdoch, Operations &
Waste Management Division
City Clerks Division, c/o Andy Grozelle, Lisa Barroso