



City of Hamilton

MINUTES: Waste Reduction Task Force
 Wednesday, December 7, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
 Hamilton City Hall, Room 264

Present:	Peter Hutton	Jack Freiburger	Elizabeth Wren
	Tom Thompson	Jim Sweetman	Greg Kraatz
	Ron Sperazini	Paula Hamilton	Grant Ranalli

Regrets:	Allan Freeman	Deborah Wilson	Dan Rodrigues
	Rose Killey		

Also Present: Pat Parker, Director of Support Services
 Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs
 Christina Gallimore, Supervisor of Operations Support
 Rūta Morkunas, Policy/Program Analyst, Policy & Programs Section
 Eight 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 – September 21, 2011

The minutes were approved as written.

(Moved by Tom Thompson, seconded by Jack Freiburger)

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

EXP Inc and staff are currently finalizing the Systems Analysis review. The summary of scenarios has been considered with the 'Enhanced System' option being the preferred approach.

Staff will table a draft report to Public Works Committee in January. There will be no staff recommendations in the report, however, Task Force members will have an opportunity to comment on the findings at the January 18 WRTF meeting.

6. Projects

a) Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee (GLCC)

The Sheila May dedication was held on November 28th.

b) SWMMP Steering Committee

There was no update from the Steering Committee.

c) Clean City Liaison Committee (CCLC)

A report focussing on the CCLC mandate and Terms of Reference will go to Public Works Committee January 16.

7. Operations

a) Collection System Review

A report is being prepared for the January 16, 2012 Public Works Committee and will be available on-line for review January 12, 2012. Task Force will decide whether or not to make a delegation for this meeting to speak on bag tags and bag limits. The WRTF does not support increased bag limits.

Potential savings could be realized if fewer vehicles are required due to less stops and increased use of blue boxes and green carts depending on the preferred system (i.e., weekly vs. bi-weekly collection of garbage).

The Task Force expressed concerns with increasing garbage container limits - there is already 97% compliance with one container, and increasing the container limit may decrease pressure on industry for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). The cost savings of lower bag limits must be made clear to the tax payer.

The Chair will draft a presentation to share with Public Works Committee on January 16. Final decisions concerning collections are expected to be made on January 25 at the Council meeting. The report should be available online by January 12.

8. Sector Reports

a) Business

There is nothing new to report.

a) Education

A waste audit was carried out at St. Lawrence School which has a student population of 400 (schools pursuing "Eco Certification" are required to conduct waste audits). In 2007 waste diversion was at 66%. Diversion is now at 72% consisting of 23% compost, 38% paper and 12% containers. Garbage constitutes 27% of the waste stream: the school generates about 140 pounds of waste per day.

The school has set up a friendly competition between classrooms for highest diversion rates with the prize of a gold box. Cross contamination is low.

b) Environment

The Hamilton Eco Net organization is planning to meet with David Sweet, MP to discuss the recent funding cuts to environmental groups.

9. Public Discussion

A member of the Public inquired about the number of illegal dumping incidences. Staff advised that this information would be available in the illegal dumping report going to the General Issues Committee on December 12.

10. Other Business

a) The future of the Waste Reduction Task Force

The Task Force is constituted to function until February. This proposed motion will be brought as a draft to SWMMP Steering Committee next week and discussion concerning the future of this committee will commence.

The following recommendation - circulated to members before the meeting - was presented by the Chair and proposed by membership to be presented to SWMMP Steering Committee for consideration:

December 6, 2011

Whereas the Waste Reduction Task Force (WRTF) was established ten years ago to monitor the implementation of Hamilton's Solid Waste Management Master Plan (SWMMP),

And whereas a comprehensive review is being undertaken to guide that plan for the foreseeable future,

And whereas in conjunction with this review, a renewal of the process of citizen participation and monitoring of the plan is desirable and appropriate,

Be it resolved that -

The operation of the WRTF be suspended upon completion of the current review and its adoption by City Council, (estimated to be after February 2012)

A Committee composed of three citizens, one politician and one staff member be struck to review input and recommend an amended structure or new process be recommended to the Public Works Committee with a mandate to report by the end of April 2012.

The Committee take into account the following recommendations of the current Task Force:

1. Ongoing monitoring should be done by a combined committee of citizens and politicians bringing together the current SWMMP Steering Committee and WRTF. This will provide some economy on staff time, and support better communication between citizens, political representatives, and the City administration.
2. The concept of an annual public conference on waste issues be strongly considered to provide interested citizens an opportunity to review the staff and political work plan and provide a forum for the generation of new ideas and their development from the public. Such a conference should involve stakeholders from environment, business, and major institutions from the government and not-for-profit sectors. Such conferences were held in the past by the Keep Hamilton Clean Committee and could also mimic the current Upwind Downwind process on air pollution issues.
3. A Task Force along the current model be maintained to meet on an as needed basis to review in detail new or amended policy and receive information from staff and the public. To provide a mechanism for more

detailed review during WRTF meetings to be called at the request of staff or the SWMMP Steering Committee as suggested above. We strongly recommend that all SWMMP Steering Committee members be ex officio members of the WRTF and that sector reps be identified by consultation with groups in that constituency i.e., the Chambers of Commerce, Business Improvement Area's, environmental groups, Boards of Education, etc. We do recommend that the current geographic criteria be maintained with some consideration to expanding the numbers and doing some consultation with neighbourhood associations and community councils to generate interest.

4. Strong consideration be given to redeploying staff resources to identify a staff person to work with the community to facilitate development of low cost, informal proposals for environmental education, diversion efforts and general citizen input on the environmental consequences of city environmental decisions. Such a position would be akin to the current Alternative Transportation Coordinator position and could offer targeted support to other city citizen groups besides the WRTF (like the Clean City Liaison Committee).

11. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2012 in room 264 at Hamilton City Hall.

(Moved by Tom Thompson, seconded by Jim Sweetman)

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