

**BREVARD COUNTY
RECYCLING CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Date and Time: June 12, 2003, 1:00 PM

Location: Brevard County Solid Waste Conference Room, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Bldg. A, 1st Floor

Members Present: Hillary Arena, Bette Danse, Bonnie DeCaro, Mike Shaffer, Amy Tidd

Members Absent: Vince Benevente, Brian Blenis, George Geletko, Patty Goffinet, Jim McMenamy, Ed Palmer, Craig Yoder

Staff: Mary Kane, Erin LeClair, Steve Nataline, Steve Peffer, Euripides Rodriguez, Pam Shoemaker

Guests: Chris Cook, Phil Danse, Debra Fisher, Dian Hardison, Mark Roth

Minute Taker: Mandy Guppenberger

Quorum Present: (X) Yes () No

Call to Order Bette Danse called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM. Ms. Danse called the roll.

Action Ms. Danse moved the quorum for meetings be changed from 5 members to 4 members. Ms. Tidd seconded the motion. Vote by show of hands was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes

Action The committee discussed the approval of the May 29, 2003, RCAC Minutes. Ms. Tidd requested a change in wording on page 2 on the last Action section to change from "... 'running list' to keep track of all topics that the committee would like to work further on at later dates or discard as they see fit." To reread as "...recommendation list for the County Commissioners." Ms. Danse motioned approval of the minutes. The vote was unanimous.

New Business Pam Shoemaker, Brevard County Recycling Coordinator, gave a presentation about the Recycle Florida Today conference she recently attended. Chris Crook from Waste Management gave a presentation about residential curbside recycling.

Pam spoke about the presenters at the conference and the events that were conducted each day. The American Plastic Institutes reported that numbers 1 and 2 plastic bottles comprised 95% of the plastic market. Electronic waste is a growing problem. It is projected that in 2006 890,000 televisions will be discarded due to new technology. Ms. Shoemaker spoke about different recycling issues discussed at the conference. They ranged from cell phone recycling, electronics recycling, and the different ways that dry wall is being recycled. Dr. Bob Peebles from Solutia, Inc., spoke about the Carpet America Recovery Effort, CARE, which is recycling carpets into different products, such as pellets to be added to recycled lumber to make them stronger for various uses such as railroad ties. Florida DEP officials stated that the state budget is projected to show a 1.2 billion shortfall this year.

Source reduction was discussed. In one example given, by reducing the number of copies from 7 to 3 pages, \$100,000 was saved.

Ms. Danse informed the committee that she had seen on the Internet that Habitat for Humanity was going to construction sites and use the material there for new homes or resale in their stores. The material has to be on-site, "clean" material; it cannot have gone to the landfill beforehand.

It was mentioned that Ron Henricks, the FDEP Waste Reduction Administrator, said that the DEP is focusing on sustainability.

Chris Cook

Mr. Cook, Waste Management Curbside Recycling Supervisor, explained his experience with Waste Management collecting residential *Waste Management* curbside recycling from single family and multi-family residences in Suntree, Viera, and Melbourne. He gave detailed information on multi-family recycling, mainly condominiums. He explained that Waste Management provides 96-gallon totes for every multi-family residence in the county.

Mr. Shaffer discussed adding recycling totes for magazines to the Waste Management pick-ups, which is being done in Volusia County. Mr. Cook explained that the

25 % participation rate should be higher and could increase in recycling. However, he explained that participation does fluctuate based on various factors such as seasonal visitors, size of families, etc. Ms. Tidd asked if newspapers becoming wet in the weather was a problem. Debra Fisher, S.P. Recycling, responded that as long as the material gets to the mill in a quick manner it should be fine. As paper absorbs water it begins to break down. It is preferable to have that occur at the mill.

The committee discussed adding another commodity to curbside pick up. The problems concerning adjusting route time, machinery upgrades, and/or adding of new vehicles for pick-ups were discussed. They asked which type of bin the drivers of the recycling routes preferred, 2 general bins or 3 pre-separated bins. Mr. Cook stated that the 3 pre-separated bins seem to be more efficient. Ms. Danse talked about a program where the community is given a 50-gallon container in which one side holds wet items and the other side holds fiber. The committee discussed the amount of contamination that goes on in multi-family recycling.

Ms. Danse handed out a sheet that explained the differences in RMPF classifications.

Action

Ms. Danse asked if the committee would like to participate in a tour of the Orange County MRF next week at 1:00 PM. Only two members wished to participate. Ms. Danse and Ms. DeCaro decided that they would like to go to the MRF and Ms. Shoemaker stated she would advertise the mobile workshop for the 19th.

Ms. Arena asked Mr. Cook if the multi-family improvements had their own routes or picked up with the single-family residential routes. He responded there are two multi-family routes. Questions were asked about the ability to convert current Waste Management vehicles to side loaders for automated pickups and the costs associated with that process. Ms. Arena told the committee the cost to retrofit the existing trucks was approximately \$40,000 per truck. She reminded the committee that new totes would have to be provided to each customer as well. Mr. Cook explained that all multi-family residents have recycling totes unless the Property Management requests they be removed from their property.

A discussion of mandating recycling in multi-family residences followed. Mr. Nataline reported on the process of trying to implement multi-family recycling in Alachua County. He stated that after visiting almost every complex, the only thing that mattered to the property managers was the bottomline. It took three years to get the mandatory commercial recycling ordinance passed. Many staff members were required for enforcement. Ms. DeCaro suggested a computerized system of bar-coding recyclable containers at businesses, which would generate a credit to the waste bill of the business for recycling. Apartment buildings in this county are charged the same as a single family account for their waste. Ms. Arena advised in Titusville there was a benefit of less recycling fees dependent upon the size of the dumpster. However, some still do not take advantage of that fact. Ms. Shoemaker informed the committee that during the conference, it was stressed that trying to make people recycle out of guilt no longer works. They will do it for convenience or to lower costs.

Mr. Shaffer read a letter to the editor, which appeared in the Sunday edition of the Florida Today concerning the benefits or lack thereof of recycling. Ms. Shoemaker provided copies of the entire article from the London Telegraph. Mr. Shaffer will write a letter in response if they wish.

Ms. DeCaro asked about the possibility of adding cardboard to curbside collection. Mr. Cook said it would take up a large amount of room on the recycle trucks, causing increased trips to the processor. It was mentioned that moving companies could be contacted to pick up the cardboard at a central location.

Ms. Danse recessed the meeting at 2:25 p.m.
The meeting was called back to order at 2:35 p.m.

INFORMATION

Ms. Danse distributed the name of a company who will refurbish computers. Mr. Shaffer also informed the committee about the Brevard Space Coast Chapter of the Computer Association will also take used computers for free.

COMMERCIAL RECYCLING

Ms. Danse asked if the committee ask that Solid Waste research an ordinance for mandatory multi-family and commercial recycling. The recommendation to be added to the list will be “Multi-family – Increase recycling participation rate.” The various sizes and ownership of types of complexes was discussed. Ms. Arena discussed the Titusville program of multi-family collection and the option for different size dumpsters. She will bring the city ordinance. Billing is done through the utility bills.

Mr. Rodriguez explained how commercial accounts are billed for disposal and recycling education. The County does not provide/bill for commercial curbside collection, therefore, no revenue sharing on recyclables.

Ms. Tidd asked how long it would take to complete the process of going to Individual Calculation for commercial accounts. He responded three years minimum.

Mr. Rodriguez reported on the full cost accounting for the Solid Waste Department. It is an advertisement published once a year for the true cost per residential and commercial unit of operating according to the state of Florida. It is operating cost, exclusive of capital expenses. It is published annually in March.

Action

Ms. Danse moved the committee add to the list, the consideration of changing the definition of multi-family from residential to commercial. Ms. Tidd recommended that the county go to Individual Calculations on commercial accounts within three years. Vote by show of hands was unanimous for both items.

Ms. Danse advised the committee that Peter Goren, Florida DEP, would have a teleconference with them on June 26, 2003.

Ms. Shoemaker asked that persons attending the Mobile Workshop be at Solid Waste by 11:00 a.m. on June 19th. Ms. Danse asked Ms. Shoemaker to contact Mr. Blenis for information from the School Board on their stand on increased recycling in the schools.

Mr. Nataline suggested the committee consider the amount of waste generated by the paper distributed. Ms. Danse said that some of the paper was recycled paper, and all of it was white recyclable paper. For this time period of information gathering and sharing, it was the best way the committee could be informed and take the information with them to review.

Action

Ms. Danse stated the next meeting would be held on June 26, 2003, 1-3 PM.

Adjourn

Action

Ms. Danse adjourned the meeting at 3:05 PM.

*Bette Danse
Chairperson*

*Mandy Guppenberger
RCAC Minute Taker*

Minutes Approved