



## MEETING MINUTES

### Recycling Ad-Hoc Committee

August 6, 2020

**Attending:** Barbara Clark, Darrick Dietrich, and Sandy Shelin  
**Absent:** Judi Fenno, and Elissa Brown  
**Council Rep:** Steve Moss, and Ted Koehler (excused)  
**Staff:** Ki Bealey, Mori Struve, and Darci Bell  
**Guests:** Steven Gimpel  
**Public:** None

### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Steve Moss.

### WELCOME

Steve welcomed everyone in attendance and Steven Gimpel was introduced and asked to provide an overview of his role at the Department of Ecology. Steve asked Ki to provide an update regarding what was accomplished at the meeting on July 30.

### APPROVAL OF July 2, 2020, MINUTES

Sandy moved to approve the July 2, 2020, minutes, and Darrick second. Motion carried.

### REVIEW GOAL

The goal was reviewed again.

### REVIEW ASSIGNMENT/DELIVERABLES

Members reviewed the current list of recyclables and there was discussion regarding if the decision was made to eliminate plastics, what will be the impacts. The intent of eliminating plastics is to increase compliance and participation and lower contamination. There was discussion regarding phasing/education/messaging/communication and achieving effective recycling. Ki indicated that the Committee's goal is to recommend to Council on how to proceed to improve recycling, but allow staff to implement and monitor the enforcement, sampling, and feedback loop. Barbara moved to eliminate plastics from the list for Phase 1. Darrick seconded. Motion carried. There was some discussion regarding updating the names of items on the recyclable list and it was determined that this can be accomplished through communication efforts. Phase 2 could include adding plastics back in, but not referring to the numbers on the plastic containers.

Members discussed ideas for education and enforcement. Tags could be attached to the containers, random sampling, create a feedback loop with customers, measure and report progress, provide periodic updates, explain how the system works; how citizens fit in and the City's role/control, and establish recycling standards. Enforcement is to be determined, but we will follow the draft Contamination Reduction and Outreach Plan (CROP), following the education efforts. It was agreed to allow City staff to monitor enforcement and associated efforts.

There was discussion on how to evaluate alternatives to the existing system. Ki indicated that the BDI contract expires in 2026. We could look at moving to a source separation. We are looking for a reduction in contamination so we could set a target date perhaps three years prior to the BDI contract expiration date and in the meantime monitor recycling contamination. It was agreed that by the end of 2023, the City would review/evaluate the system to determine a course of action for modifications of the current collection system. A tickler will be established to review the BDI contract by the end of 2023.

The last item the Committee needs to address is to provide state/local policy considerations. Steven indicated that statewide they are looking to ban using the number/recycling symbol on plastics. There is also a Recycling Development Center that is a combination of DOE and Department of Commerce staff that are working on various studies. Steven was asked to get additional information on ongoing studies/potential legislative items that the Committee could consider supporting. Other suggestions included a recycling plant and glass recycling plant on the East side and a feasibility study. Steven also indicated that the ban on plastic bags has been delayed.

### QUESTIONS

None noted.

**CONFIRM DATE, LOCATION AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT METING**

The next meeting was set for August 20, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.