

WHATCOM COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 28, 2016

Members Present:

Barbara Brenner, Casey Heinle , Eric Johnston, Amber Jones, Martin Kuljis, Marjorie Leone, Troy Lautenbach, Ed Nikula, and Mark Peterson

Members Absent:

Pete Edwards, and Greg Young

Staff Present:

Jeff Hegedus, Janice Deptuch, and John Wolpers – Whatcom County Health Department, EH Manager

Others Present:

Larry McCarter- RDS, Lisa Friend – Citizen, Beth Chisholm, Ambrose Kelly– WSU Extension, Sylvia Graham – Local Source Control Specialist with the City of Bellingham, Diana Wadley with Department of Ecology, and Derek Long – Sustainable Connections

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Whatcom County Solid Waste Advisory Committee was called to order on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in Garden Level Meeting Room by Chair, Mark Peterson.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the January 28, 2016 SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by ED Nikula and 2nd by Marjorie Leone. Motion approved by all.

Update on Final Draft 2016 Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan

Jeff congratulated everyone on their hard work. Diane Wadley with Department of Ecology gave the plan a final courtesy¹ review. In the comments SWAC had two items that they wanted to see addressed. First one was Newhalem Diablo areas make it clear in planning documents for services in this area. Second one was the Pt Roberts's collection and community involvement; this has to do with ordinances. Pt Roberts Community Advisory Committee meeting is on the calendar for May 10th. Our next step is to go before SWEC, present two year budget, present 2016 Comprehensive Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan to approve and move on to County Council. A big Thank You to Diane Wadley from Department of Ecology, Diane commented that we had a good number of comments on the plan and she appreciated everyone's hard work.

Pt. Roberts Community Involvement and Engagement Solid Waste Planning

Meeting will be May 10th. They will be asking people "How it is going with Solid Waste Recycling?" Ask the group if they have any ideas for improvement. Barbara said it was the same people that come to the meetings and make comments.

This is a small community impacting 2300 water service, 300 curbside collections, with ½ the tipping fees. The Parks Department expressed that Canadians drop their household garbage in cans at Parks. We need to look at transfer station and doing some work there. We have a duty to have service provider in this area. Concerned it would increase illegal dumping. Barbara asked if they can take garbage back across the border and Jeff replied "No". Amber commented that Point Roberts Community Center had a workshop.

Waste Reduction and Recycling Community Outreach and Education Service Provider Presentations

Sustainable Connections was awarded the bid for the Commercial Waste Reduction and Recycling Technical Assistance and Education Program.

Derek Long, Executive Director for Sustainable Connections gave a presentation on the proposed project, Toward Zero Waste as a Gold Standard; they will provide training and technical assistance to businesses throughout Whatcom County in order to help them meet the counties objective of reaching 50% reduction in total waste. Riley Grant from RE Sources spoke about the Youth Waste Reduction and Recycling Education; RE Sources for Sustainable Communities – Sustainable Schools Program. Riley talked about teaching youth about the benefits of recycling and giving them tools. Beth Chisholm talked about the Washington State University Extension (WSUE) Community Horticulture Program, Master compomster/Recycler Program. See link for attachments 1 – 5 at the end of the minutes.

Waste Pharmaceutical Product Stewardship Planning

Sylvia Graham, Local Source Control Specialist with City of Bellingham Public Works and Amy Hockenberry gave a presentation on the Pharmaceutical Stewardship County Ordinance.

Sylvia talked about prescriptions in Whatcom County, over 2 ½ million prescriptions filled and greater than 1/3 of the medications go unused. She talked about environmental impacts. Amy talked about the human side of this issue. She talked about the prescription abuse and misuse. They asked our youth and they said the prescription drugs were easy to get either from family medicine cabinet or friends. Sylvia and Amy showed great slideshow about the Waste Pharmaceutical Stewardship and moving forward. See link for attachments 6 and 7.

Open Session, Announcements, Future Agenda Items

Announcements

Jeff told everyone about the upcoming free tire recycling events on May 15th and May 22nd at the Birch Bay Lynden Road Facility for zip codes 98230, 98240, 98248, and 98264. Department of Ecology is funding project.

Sustainable Connections had 45 plus people at the April Brew's Day assisting people on proper dispose of their trash.

Troy announced their 25th Anniversary for Lautenbach Industries on June 17th. They will be having a get together to celebrate.

Future Agenda Items:

1. Background and current status on legal action of excise tax
2. Review to Bylaws
3. Check in with Wally about where they are at with the Whatcom County Disaster Debris Management Plan.

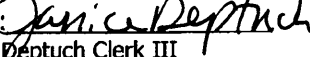
Adjournment

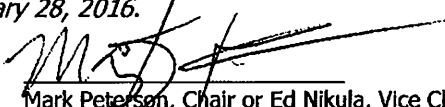
Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Eric Johnston 1st and 2nd by Amber Jones, all in favor.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Whatcom County Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting held January 28, 2016.

Attest: 
Janice Deptuch Clerk III
Whatcom County Health Department


Mark Peterson, Chair or Ed Nikula, Vice Chair
Whatcom County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

See link below for the attachments. Right click on "Attachments" and choose "Open Hyperlink". [Attachments](#)