

**SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
December 6, 2004**

PRESENT: Councillor Reg Rankin, Chair
Councillor Debbie Hum
Councillor Bill Karsten
Councillor Gary Meade
Councillor Dawn Sloane
Councillor Jim Smith
Councillor Krista Snow

STAFF: Mr. Jim Bauld, Manager, Solid Waste Resources
Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning Coordinator, Solid
Waste Resources
Mr. Robert Orr, Collection and Processing Coordinator
Ms. Patti Halliday, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Snow, that the meeting move In Camera to discuss two contractual matters. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee moved back into regular session at 3:05 p.m.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR

MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor McInroy, that Councillor Smith be nominated for the position of Chair of the Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Karsten, seconded by Councillor Meade, that Councillor Rankin be nominated for the position of Chair of the Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee.

Following a vote by secret ballot, Councillor Rankin was elected Chair of the Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee for 2004-05.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 9, 2004

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Hum, that the minutes of September 9, 2004 be approved, as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Councillor Snow requested that the following item be added to the agenda:

8.1 Three Stream Recycle Bins

MOVED by Councillor Meade, seconded by Councillor Snow, that the Agenda be approved, as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Don Mason, Executive Director, Community Monitoring Committee

Mr. Mason addressed the Committee regarding the mandate and work of the Community Monitoring Committee. Mr. Mason stated, in general terms, the Committee is pleased with the way the solid waste strategy has been implemented. He noted the Committee was strong in recommending approval of By-Law 602 and is prepared to support HRM in the current legal situation.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 10% Challenge

C An information report dated December 1, 2004 was before the Committee for its information.

Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning Coordinator, presented the Information report for the benefit of the Committee.

Some of the concerns raised by members of the Committee were as follows:

- C Concern was expressed with illegal dumping by persons on other properties and an education process needs to be conducted regarding this issue.
- C Communities who excel in following the strategy should be awarded. An example of an award would be free seed and compost.
- C Concern was expressed with pilfering of residential blue bags and where the remaining contents of the bags are dumped after the redeemable items are removed.
- C Efforts should be made on streets that are not participating in the strategy.
- C Positive reinforcement, in the form of rewards and recognition, is helpful in increasing compliance.
- C A standard date, such as the last Saturday in May, should be set for the composting bin sale, and a mobile hazardous waste depot should be set up at the same location for that day.
- C All HRM events should utilize three stream bins.

In response, staff made the following points:

- C Solid Waste staff work closely with Development Services regarding proposed new multi-unit properties. Staff review the plans to ensure there is integration for providing the space for location of organic and recyclable containers and provide input to

- Development Services regarding the plans.
- C Many registered condominium properties are serviced by HRM with respect to collection services.
 - C Source separation does not currently take place at all HRM buildings and facilities. However, in the near future Real Property and Asset Management will be issuing an RPF for three stream collection services for HRM owned properties which is expected to commence on April 1, 2005.
 - C Staff have been working with the By-Law Rationalization Committee on a new Nuisance By-law which would address blue bag scavenging, shopping carts, etc., A report will be forthcoming to Council in the new year. In the meantime, it was noted that Police Services have the authority to issue tickets for scavenging and they are the ones to contact when such incidents occur.
 - C Apartment buildings of six units or less are eligible to receive collection services from HRM, including bins. For those over that size who are not following the strategy, staff can take the address and conduct a compliance inspection and follow up with the property owner or manager. A follow up database is compiled on a complaint driven basis.
 - C With new construction, a mechanism to provide information on how to order a green cart was instituted through occupancy permit notification. Information is also disseminated through the Welcome Wagon program.

Councillor Rankin suggested it would be helpful if Real Property and Asset Management was requested to send a communication to staff and Councillors in HRM owned buildings regarding three stream separation.

Councillor Rankin requested that a separate tonnage report be prepared for the 3rd quarters of 2003 and 2004 for comparison purposes to track the 10 Percent Challenge.

7.2 Tonnage Report

Mr. Robert Orr, Collection and Processing Coordinator, presented the tonnage report to the Committee.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Three Stream Recycle Bins

Mr. Bauld noted OMG Atlantic came before SWRAC approximately 2.5 years ago with an unsolicited proposal which the Committee did not support at that time. Since that time, the Capital District has issued an RFP and selected a service provider for three stream recycle bins in off-street high profile green spaces in downtown Halifax and Dartmouth. This is the first

phase. The second phase would lead to other off-street venues and then working with RPAM to have containers on municipal streets through a competitive process at which time OMG would be eligible to bid as would any other company.

Councillor Snow stated she did not understand how utilizing OMG Atlantic's services would not be of benefit to the taxpayers and suggested the matter should be re-examined.

Councillor Rankin suggested it could be discussed further at the next SWRAC meeting.

Mr. Bauld agreed to bring forward the previous report regarding OMG Atlantic and to liaise with staff of the Capital District regarding their competitive process.

Councillor Sloane stated a concern in the past with respect to this issue was advertising. She noted the bins in the Capital District will not contain any advertising.

Councillor Meade noted there was also accessibility concerns expressed by the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities and well as snow plowing concerns.

The Committee agreed to place this item on the next agenda for further discussion.

9. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed the next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 27, 2005.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Patti Halliday
Legislative Assistant