

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

---

**SOLID WASTE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
May 19, 2005**

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

**REGRETS:** Councillor Krista Snow  
Councillor Harry McInory

**STAFF:** Mr. Brad Anguish, Director, Environmental Management Services  
Mr. Jim Bauld, Manager, Solid Waste Resources  
Ms. Laurie Lewis, Diversion Planning Coordinator, Solid  
Waste Resources  
Mr. Robert Orr, Collection and Processing Coordinator  
Ms. Sherryll Murphy, Legislative Assistant

**Table of Contents**

|     |  |   |
|-----|--|---|
| 1.  | CALL TO ORDER .....  | 3 |
| 2.  | APPROVAL OF MINUTES .....                                    | 3 |
| 3.  | APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS . | 3 |
| 4.  | BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES .....                      | 3 |
| 5.  | TONNAGE REPORT .....   | 3 |
| 6.  | PUBLIC PARTICIPATION .....                                   | 4 |
| 7.  | NEW BUSINESS .....   | 4 |
| 8.  | ADDED ITEMS .....  | 4 |
|     | 8.2 Composting Day .....                                     | 4 |
|     | 8.3 Guyana Delegation .....                                  | 4 |
| 9.  | NEXT MEETING DATE .....                                      | 5 |
| 10. | ADJOURNMENT .....  | 5 |

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOVED by Councillor Sloane, seconded by Councillor Karsten that the minutes of the March 10, 2005 meeting of Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee, as distributed, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS, ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

**Additions:**

- 8.1 Composting Day
- 8.2 Guyana Delegation

4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** - None

5. **TONNAGE REPORT**

- A document entitled Waste/Resource System Mass Balance and one entitled Ten Percent Challenge were before the Committee for consideration.

Councillor Rankin noted that the statistics relative to the Ten Percent Challenge are not heartening. The diversion rate appears to be moving in the wrong diversion.

Ms. Laurie Lewis indicated that activities towards enhanced level of separation have included staff visiting apartment buildings, speaking with managers and increasing capacity (more bins in the buildings). She went on to indicate that staff would be undertaking door to door education in the near future.

Councillor Rankin noted that Councillors Karsten and Sloane have stressed the importance of involving schools.

Ms. Lewis noted that an ongoing program of in school presentations is in place. She noted that information relating to the number of classrooms visited is available. Ms. Lewis went on to indicate that staff would be happy to provide the education material to the Committee.

Councillor Sloane invited Solid Waste education staff to Arbor Day at St. Pat's Alexander School on June 2, 2005. She went on to advise that Qwen Mitchell is the contact person at

the school.

In response to Councillor Meade, Ms. Lewis indicated that all schools are required to recycle. She went on to note that if Councillors are aware of schools that are not recycling, they should contact Solid Waste staff.

Later in the meeting, Councillor Rankin suggested that staff may wish to contact Councillors and encourage them to include the latest information piece relative the Ten Percent Challenge in their newsletters.

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**

**7. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**8. ADDED ITEMS**

**8.1 Composting Day**

Councillor Meade referred to a Composting Day that was held in the past and asked if the intent was that this be an annual event. The Councillor noted that there is considerable interest in backyard composting.

Mr. Bauld noted that staff is looking at a different approach than previously used. He indicated that the proposal is to solicit interest in the composting bins in advance. Mr. Bauld noted that HRM had previously ordered the bins in bulk and when the program concluded were left with a number of bins.

Ms. Laurie Lewis, Manager, advised that HRM had recently received a pre-sale proposal from the vendor which would include advertising. She indicated that a sale is envisioned for next spring.

A brief discussion ensued with regard to the pre-sale of composting containers with Councillors making the following suggestions:

- consideration of a purchase feature be placed on the home page of HRM's website
- building the use of composters into the Ten Percent Challenge
- using Channel 8 to advertise

In response to a question from Councillor Smith and at the request of the Chair, Mr. Bauld indicated that staff could gather information to be provided to new homeowners regarding local backyard composter suppliers.

**8.2 Guyana Delegation**

Mr. Bauld advised that UNSM and FCM has partnered with HRM to assist Guyana with issues relating to solid waste, wastewater, potable water and emergency services. He indicated that a delegation from Guyana will be arriving here on June 5<sup>th</sup> and that a reception will be held in Halifax Hall on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Bauld indicated that Tuesday, June 7, 2005, the delegation will participate in a tour of various treatment and waste facilities.

In response to a request from Councillor Karsten, Mr. Bauld is to provide an update with regard to the four stream waste bins. Note was made that significant positive feedback has been received.

Councillor Meade requested that information regarding the Materials Exchange website be communicated to all Councillors.

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting has been scheduled for June 30, 2005. Future meeting dates will be discussed at that time.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sherryl Murphy  
Legislative Assistant