



**CITY OF ANOKA
WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 9, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. in the Committee Room of Anoka City Hall.

ROLL CALL Board members present: Chairperson Vicki Violet, Vice Chairperson Thurston, Member Marijo Hain. Absent: Members Tim Aberwald and Jan Call. Staff present: Pam Bowman, Recycling Coordinator. Others present: None.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 10, 2016 MEETING MINUTES: Ms. Bowman noted that the details for Earth Day Educational Presentation had been left out, but she would add them. With that understanding, the February 10, 2016 meeting minutes were approved on a MOTION by Member Hain and SECOND by Vice Chairperson Thurston. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Recycling Event Update. Ms. Bowman informed the members that most details were set, but that she was still working to coordinate carpet collection. She also reported that USAgain contacted her and will be included in the event to collect clothing and accessories. She said although Member Aberwald had asked that smoke detectors be included in the collection, Ms. Bowman said she learned that the vendor cannot collect them. She said apparently each detector should have a label on it informing users how/where to properly dispose of it. She added that, carbon monoxide detectors will be collected for \$1 each. She said that final details (such as food and site plan) will be determined at the March meeting.

2016 Residential Recycling Agreement Update. Ms. Bowman reported that the city attorney had reviewed the agreement and pointed out and questioned some language, but due to deadlines and other cities already submitting their agreements to the County, Anoka County personnel said they would make note in their file for 2017 to address these items. With this understanding, the agreement was approved and will be signed. Ms. Bowman provided the final agreement in the packet which outlined the request for the additional enhancement grant.

Multi-Unit Special Electronics Collection Update. Ms. Bowman said she was attempting to coordinate an electronics collection with Tech Dump for the spring. Noting an increase in recycling costs and the discussion the Board had in February, she determined it would be best to charge \$5 per item to the customer and have SCORE funds cover the remainder. She said she contacted Cutters Grove Apartment, but they declined to participate. She said she will continue to pursue this, but won't spend much time on it as it would be a good project for the intern. She said if a first event is successful, a second one will be coordinated for later in the year.

Internship Update. Ms. Bowman said the process had begun to recruit an intern. She said applications are due by Friday, March 25. A discussion was held about the type of computer/technology the intern should use because Ms. Bowman said there was a lack of available computers at City Hall. She said Anoka County said enhancement grants funds could be used for a computer. Chairperson Violet suggested an iPad be used instead because it would be portable and easy to use in the field for photo taking, inventory, etc. Ms. Bowman said she asked the IT department to find a computer and if one is not found, she will purchase an iPad or use both. She said an iPad would also be useful to her for recycling-related activities.

RAW Newsletter Update. After pulling together details for the topics to be included in the RAW newsletter, Ms. Bowman said she would not be able to include the Household Hazardous Waste Facility information. She said she will do so in the fall issue. Members agreed that it was not vital to include. Chairperson Violet said information that should be included are projects specifically associated with the WRRB. Ms. Bowman said the compost site and Styrofoam articles are included as previously discussed, but that most of the information is related to general recycling and WRRB projects.

Earth Day Educational Presentation Update. Ms. Bowman thanked Chairperson Violet for putting her in touch with a teacher at Franklin Elementary School. Ms. Bowman said the teacher was thrilled and they are interested in having Climb Theatre come to their school to perform for K-2 students. The teacher had indicated to Ms. Bowman that the older students could not participate due to testing. Ms. Bowman said she will keep the members informed about the date and time.

Paper Shredding Event. Ms. Bowman said she would contact Anoka High School to see if its parking lot would be acceptable for use for the event. If it is not, she suggested using the land just to the east of the Anoka County Fairgrounds which is owned by Anoka County – where the County has held the special hazardous waste collections. Members also suggested using the parking lot at St. Stephens. Ms. Bowman said she will come back to the Board in March with more information. She said this too would be a possible project for the intern for May or June.

NEW BUSINESS.

Fix It Clinic. At the February meeting, Vice Chairperson Thurston suggested the Board host a Fix It Clinic. Ms. Bowman provided information in the March packet for the members to review. Vice Chairperson Thurston said she would like to pursue this and would do some more research to help develop it. Ms. Bowman said a clinic could be hosted in the Community Room of City Hall. She also suggested it be hosted in the fall so the intern could assist, and so there would be sufficient time to promote it and to find volunteers. She said the recycling coordinator for the City of Andover has a traveling kit that is available to use.

Vice Chairperson Thurston said she would like to have some sort of presentation before the clinic to provide attendees with more information about the environment, such as energy consumption, natural grasses, and more. Ms. Bowman said the cities of Blaine and Coon Rapids host a Green Expo in March at the National Sports Center which addresses many of these types of topics. This expo is open to the public and has grown and that creating a new one may not be necessary, but possibly having display boards related to waste reduction and recycling could be included around the room. Vice Chairperson Thurston said she liked that idea.

Vice Chairperson Thurston inquired if the city gets involved with these other types of environmental topics. Ms. Bowman said she would review the City's most recent Comprehensive Plan to see which departments and or boards may be associated with those topics. She noted an example such as Anoka Municipal Utility may address energy consumption and the Park Board/Parks Department may address prairie grasses, etc. Ms. Bowman added that an article titled "*Bee Safe City*" will be on the front page of the Anoka City View spring newsletter. She said it discusses the importance of bees to the environment and that this is a perfect example of ways the city is working overall to improve the environment.

Ms. Bowman noted that the mission of the WRRB is to focus on solid waste reduction and to encourage recycling and that the agreement with Anoka County states what SCORE funds may be used for. She will review the agreement for the language and the City's Comprehensive Plan and then provide that information for more discussion in March.

Annual Report to City Council. Chairperson Violet said she would present the report. Ms. Bowman said she would provide a list of topics to her prior to the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Monthly Service Log & Tonnage Reports. Members reviewed the information. No comments.

2016 Meeting Schedule. Members reviewed the meeting schedule.

MISCELLANEOUS

Determine March Meeting Agenda. Members reviewed the draft agenda for the April meeting. No comments.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m. on a MOTION by Chairperson Violet and SECONDED by Vice Chairperson Thurston. All in favor; MOTION CARRIED.