



**CITY OF ANOKA  
WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 13, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 5:09 p.m. in the Committee Room of Anoka City Hall.

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 9, 2016 MEETING MINUTES:** A MOTION to approve the March 9, 2016 meeting minutes was made by Member Call and SECOND by Member Hain. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Spring Recycling Event Update.** Ms. Bowman informed the members that all the advertising was completed and/or in progress. She said she purchased electronic banners on ABC Newspapers website, placed ads in the Anoka Union and the Anoka Shopper, ran it through QCTV, on the city website, social media, City View, and more. She said she ordered portable restrooms for the event and will continue to do so in the future so volunteers and vendors no longer need to access the buildings. The members said they would all be attending the event. Members chose to have Ms. Bowman order turkey sandwiches from Broncos for the crew. Ms. Bowman said that four volunteers from Anoka High School would be participating. Member Hain said she would pick up the donuts and coffee at Broncos at 7 a.m.

**Multi-Unit Special Electronics Update** Ms. Bowman said this item was on hold until more information about an intern is available. She said she would like to have the intern work on this project.

**Internship Update.** Ms. Bowman said the position was reposted until filled.

**RAW Newsletter.** Ms. Bowman said the RAW newsletter was distributed to residents at the end of March. She said she received many calls about the topics that were featured. From that she learned that residents were reading it and found it informative and educational.

Member Call requested Ms. Bowman to resend the recycling contest schedule to all board members. Ms. Bowman said she would. She also said the next edition would come out in fall prior to the fall recycling event.

**Earth Day Educational Presentation Update.** Ms. Bowman said Climb Theatre performed Space Baby for K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders at Franklin Elementary School on April 6. She said she was unable to attend and had not yet received feedback from Climb Theatre or the school.

**Paper Shredding Event Update.** Ms. Bowman said after reviewing notes from the previous discussions, she believes the best location for a paper shredding event is at 501 Pierce St. She said this would deter any confusion on location since the recycling events are consistently held at that location. Members agreed. She said this would be a good project for an intern and that only one or two people would be needed to be on site. She asked the members what months would be ideal if we were to host two events. Members agreed a Tuesday or Thursday night and/or Saturday the week of July 11 would be good. Chairperson Violet suggested it be advertised at the Ice Cream Social and Riverfest if possible.

**Fix It Clinic Update.** Ms. Bowman showed the members the tool kit she borrowed from the City of Andover. It was stocked with various supplies for a Fix It Clinic. Vice Chairperson Thurston said she did more research on details of a clinic set up and would follow up with the City of Andover and Coon Rapids to learn more about how they obtain volunteers and how they set up the basic event details. Ms. Bowman suggested an October event may work well so it can be advertised at the fall recycling event (place postcards in grab bags).

Ms. Bowman suggested hosting it in the Community Room of City Hall. Chairperson Violet also suggested possibly hosting it at the Anoka Senior Center.

### **NEW BUSINESS.**

**Park Benches Discussion.** Pending grant approval, Ms. Bowman said two park benches made from recycled materials could be purchased through funds. She said she budgeted for \$1500. In talking with the parks department personnel, she said the preferred location would be along the walking trail at Mississippi River Community Park. Member Call asked if that was over by Cutters Grove Apartments. Ms. Bowman said yes just to the west of the former Kmart.

Photos showing examples of the benches were included in the agenda packet. Ms. Bowman asked if anyone had a preference on the type of benches to purchase. Reviewing the photos, Chairperson Violet suggested that the style needs to work well with the landscape architecture at the park. Member Hain asked if they could be green in color. Ms. Bowman said she would work with the parks department personnel to determine the best style and color. She said a message about the donation from SCORE funds and the WRRB would be inscribed either directly onto the wood or on a metal plaque that would be attached to each bench. Ms. Bowman explained that if any additional costs were incurred for installation, cement, etc., the parks department would consider covering those costs.

**Anoka Lions Presentation Discussion.** Ms. Bowman inquired if the members agreed that a \$300 donation to the Anoka Lions was still a fair amount. All agreed. She reminded the members to attend the Lions monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m. Chairperson Violet said dinner would be included. Vice Chairperson Thurston and Member Aberwald said they would attend. Members Hain and Call said they were unable to attend.

**Environmental Initiatives beyond Waste Reduction & Recycling.** As a follow up to Vice Chairperson Thurston's inquiry about environmental initiatives city staff and others may be discussing on the city's behalf, Ms. Bowman shared information from the most recent comprehensive plan noting related topics such as environmental resources, natural watercourses, stormwater management, shoreland regulations, wetlands, solar access protection, etc.

Ms. Bowman explained that some cities have environmental boards that look at a more broad spectrum of environmental issues, whereas, Anoka's Waste Reduction & Recycling Board focuses on finding ways to reduce solid waste and increase recycling and reuse among its residents.

**Adopt-A-Park / Pick-A-Park / Highway Cleanup.** Ms. Bowman inquired if the members would like to adopt a park, pick a park, or help with some needed highway cleanup. Members were concerned with safety issues for the highway cleanup. Member Call suggested the members continue to do the Pick-A-Park program by being assigned to two city parks each summer. Vice Chairperson Thurston said that last year the two parks they picked had very little mess and clean up was very easy, with little recycling. She suggested Ms. Bowman inquire with the parks department about a larger park that needs more help. Ms. Bowman said she would follow up and will have more information at the May meeting.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

**Chairpersons Communication Board Report.** Chairperson Violet said the CCB meeting was very interesting and that the City Clerk did a presentation of all the boards and commissions accomplishments and goals. Chairperson Violet gave a very thorough update to the WRRB members about projects around town and more that she learned at the CCB meeting. Ms. Bowman thanked her for attending that meeting and representing the WRRB.

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

**2015 Year End Tonnage.** Ms. Bowman provided information in the packet noting the total tonnage of 1294.17 (of 1519 goal). She noted this was 85.199% of the goal. She thanked members for all of their hard work throughout 2015.

**Award from Green Lights Recycling.** Ms. Bowman shared a copy of the award that was presented to her for the city's/WRRB efforts in recycling. The award was "2015 Excellence in Recycling" for "Outstanding Sustainable Environmental Efforts in Recycling". Members said they appreciated the acknowledgment.

**2016 Meeting Schedule.** Members reviewed the meeting schedule.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Determine March Meeting Agenda.** Members reviewed the draft agenda for the May meeting. Ms. Bowman said Rich Hirstein from Republic Services will attend. No comments.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. on a MOTION by Vice Chairperson Thurston and SECONDED by Member Aberwald. All in favor; MOTION CARRIED.