City of Hamilton

MINUTES: Waste Reduction Task Force
Wednesday, February 15th, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
Room 110, Hamilton City Hall

Present: Rena Marie Cornelius  David Hart Dyke  Dorienne Cushman
Mary Lou Dickson  Michael Caruso  Joel Begin
Linda Hughes  Peter Hutton  Ron Joice
Angela Pastorius  Laurie Nielsen  Brooke Ryan
Linda Hughes   Peter Hutton  Ron Joice
Angela Pastorius  Laurie Nielsen  Brooke Ryan

Regrets: Joanne Bortolotto   Dana Woods
Also Present: Blair Smith, Manager of Waste Collection, Waste Management, City of Hamilton
Anne Winning, Supervisor of Policy & Planning, Waste Management, City of Hamilton
Colleen Brakewell, Policy Analyst, Waste Management, City of Hamilton
Steve Plaice, Jacques Whitford Limited
Craig Simpson, Public
Carl Van Rooyen, Public
Donna Robinson, Public
Gord Cameron, Public
Chris Roarke, Public

1. Approval of the Minutes from January 18th, 2006

The Task Force received a copy of the minutes from the January 18th, 2006 meeting. The minutes were amended as to item 4 WastePlan Update and item 5 Liberty Energy Proposal.

The minutes were approved as amended.
(Moved by Ron Joice, seconded by Laurie Nielsen)

2. Administrative Items

a) Chair and Vice-Chair Elections

Linda Hughes nominated Dave Hart Dyke for chair of the Waste Reduction Task Force. A motion to ratify took place and Mary Lou Dickson moved and Laurie Nielsen seconded the motion. Dave Hart Dyke accepted. There was no dissent.

Mary Lou Dickson nominated Dorienne Cushman for vice-chair of the Waste Reduction Task Force. A motion to ratify took place and Ron Joice moved and Angela Pastorius seconded the motion. Dorienne Cushman accepted. There was no dissent.

b) Sub-Committee Discussion

Discussion took place on a review of the current sub-committee structure. Staff were informed that members would like to change sub-committees. The Technology and Transportation sub-committee has not met lately and a member asked what roll this sub-committee had. A suggestion was made to implement a new sub-committee to look at multi-res and institutional/commercial collection. The chair asked which members would like to serve on this committee and Ron Joice and Peter Hutton volunteered. Discussion took place with regard to citizens who applied to sit on the WRTF committee but were not chosen and whether they should be asked to sit on a sub-committee. Staff informed the group that letters had gone out thanking the citizens for their interest. The chair asked the members

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to email him with their preference as to which sub-committee they would like to work on.

3. Standing Committee Items
   a) Sub-Committee Update

   Education Sub-Committee

   A member of the Education sub-committee notified the group that he had booked Dennis Guy to speak to the Environmental Reps of the Separate School board in April of 2006. Dennis will speak on the Green Cart Program. Joel Begin is working on lesson plans for the Spectator’s Newspaper in Education program. The lesson plans will be based on the theme “Be Green Cart Smart”.

   Glanbrook Landfill Committee (GLC)

   Brooke Ryan informed the group that Beth Goodger did a presentation on WastePlan at the GLC meeting of January 28th. The presentation was well received but concerns were raised as to the potential location of an incinerator. Brooke Ryan contacted Jennifer Mossop regarding Toronto’s garbage and the Michigan border and was told that there was no discussion taking place. Mike Caruso felt that the process for siting an incinerator is too long and would like to see it take place faster.

4. Solid Waste Management Master Plan Initiatives
   a) Waste Diversion Facilities Update (CCF, MRF, CRC’s)

   The CCF is on schedule for an April opening. It was 85% complete as of the end of January. Most of the composting tunnels are finished and decorative fascia is being installed on the front of the facility. A new scale has been installed for the MRF and CCF which is state of the art. Byrne Engineering is still working on the design plan for the MRF retrofit which will take into account green building initiatives. The tender for construction of the MRF retrofit should close sometime in June. The Dundas CRC will open in April of 2006 while the Kenora CRC will open later in 2006. The Kenora CRC has been delayed for potential cost savings of approximately $200,000. Questions were raised as to whether the signage had been updated at the Mountain CRC and staff reported that it had. A member also commented that the Green Cart Program booklet did not mention the CRC’s under Bulk collection.

   b) Green Cart Program

   Staff reported that the Green Cart Program is scheduled to roll-out in April. The City has hired ten Green Cart Outreach Officers who are currently being trained. The warehouse to store the carts, mini bins and communication material is available on February 17th and is located at Depew and Burlington Streets. Green Carts are being delivered every 2 weeks and the City will be taking delivery of the mini bins as well. Staff will be compiling the magnet, handouts and communication materials that the distribution staff will be delivering with the carts. The new collection vehicles are being delivered and currently we have taken delivery of 4 rear loaders. In January, Council approved the hiring of six additional Waste Collection staff for the Green Cart program. Questions were raised as to how long it will take to distribute the carts and staff responded between 6 to 7 weeks. The new Outreach Officers will be assigned to a distribution team and will be there to answer any questions residents may have.

   c) WastePlan

   There were a significant number of comments received on the recommended preferred waste disposal system, a combination of supporting views, the consultants are reviewing them and developing responses. In addition, we are considering slowing the process down to clarify the alternatives and answer additional questions. The next Joint Working Group meeting will be on March 9th to consider the results from the consultants’ review and to determine how to proceed. Steve Plaice of Jacques Whitford discussed the comments received and noted that most of the comments from the general public were in favour of the preferred waste disposal system. Of the comments from Non
Governmental Organizations (NGO), most were opposed to thermal treatment and favoured a stabilized landfill approach with the thought it could be sited on industrial and not agricultural lands.

5. **AMO Proposal for a Provincial Integrated Waste Management Strategy**

This paper was approved by the AMO board in December 2005 and was sent to the Ministry of the Environment. Discussion on the report was tabled until the next meeting as a number of members did not receive it via email. Task Force members asked for more background information on the report which staff reported they would bring back at the next meeting.

6. **Liberty Energy Update**

A letter was circulated on the Task Force’s request to the MOE to bump up the EA process for Liberty Energy to a full EA. A motion was made by Peter Hutton that the Task Force takes the position that Liberty Energy be bumped up to a full EA. Mike Caruso seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

7. **Staff Updates on Other Waste Issues**

Staff informed the Task Force that they had been directed by Council to find a 3% reduction in their budget. Service cuts are being considered by council. A member asked if other items will be removed from the recycling stream at the CRC’s. Staff responded that nothing more would be removed. Discussion took place with regard to construction material and shingles. Staff advised that they would request a staff member from the Disposal section to attend a future meeting. Questions were raised as to hybrid/diesel fleet and if the City was considering this. Staff will investigate and are also encouraging anti-idling for all City vehicles.

8. **Other Business**

The Task Force asked if diversion messages would appear on the side of garbage trucks. Staff responded that this is the plan and added that advertising of the programs will be included on the new trucks. A Task Force member notified the committee about the upcoming CANECT (Canadian Environmental Conference) 2006 tradeshow which takes place on May 1-2, 2006 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. A member has been in contact with the Mountain News and the Spectator regarding the use of reusable shopping bags and they are both considering the proposal. Discussion took place over the style of the report card and the calendar. It was felt that more emphasis should be placed on what goes in each box and that the room by room idea does not work. The idea was also brought forward that residents should be requested to put their blue boxes together, therefore saving the driver an additional stop.

9. **Public Discussion**

Craig Simpson was in attendance and informed the Task Force that he was a former member of the City of Toronto’s PAC group. He stated there was emergency legislation forcing every landfill in Ontario to take Toronto’s garbage if the border closes. He informed the group he had visited the stabilized landfill in Halifax and that is was a financial disaster for the city. He suggested the WRTF look at Toronto’s PAC reports as he felt they could learn from them. He also felt that if thermal processing is the final solution then there is no need for the Green Cart program and that waste is a provincial matter and not just a municipal one. Gord Cameron spoke about recycling in his condo in Dundas and would like to see recycling in a new condo from the beginning and not after registration and full occupancy. He also indicated he would be interested in a pilot program. Carl Van Rooyen from Redeemer College is working on a waste audit at the College and would be interested in the College taking part in the Green Cart program. Staff will follow-up with Carl Van Rooyer.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15th, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Hamilton City Hall, Room 110.

Moved by Mary Lou Dickson and seconded by Laurie Nielsen that the meeting be adjourned.
Copies to: All present
Regrets
SWMMP Waste Reduction Task Force Binder Distribution List
Scott Stewart, General Manager, Public Works Department
Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee c/o Craig Murdoch, Waste Management Division
City Clerks Division, c/o Lisa Barroso