City of Hamilton

MINUTES: Waste Reduction Task Force
Wednesday, February 20th, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Hamilton Convention Centre

Present: Mary Lou Dickson  David Hart Dyke  Grant Ranalli
Jim Sweetman  Betty Hay Lambeck  Paul Barrett
Angela Pastorius  Rose Killey  Mark McQueen
Tom Thompson  Anton Volcansek  Dan Rodrigues
Peter Hutton

Regrets: Allan Freeman

Also Present:  Pat Parker, Manager of Solid Waste Planning, Waste Management Division
Dennis Guy, Project Manager of Community Outreach, Waste Management Division
Adrienne Press, Policy Analyst, Waste Management Division
Jennifer Ferguson, Community Outreach Student, Waste Management Division
Jonathan Borrelli, Public
Trisha Branigan, Public
John Hawker, Public
Laurie Nielsen, Public
Donna Robinson, Public
Margaret Field, Public
Magdalena Szkarla, Public

The Task Force members and staff introduced themselves to those in attendance.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

(Moved by Dan Rodrigues, seconded by Betty Hay Lambeck)

2. Approval of the Minutes from the January 16th, 2007 Meeting

The Task Force received a copy of the minutes from the January 16th, 2007 meeting. The minutes were approved as written.

(Moved by Dan Rodrigues, seconded by Dave Hart Dyke)

3. Administrative Items

There are no administrative items to report.

4. Projects
   a) Sub-Committee Updates

Education & Communication Sub-Committee

The sub-committee would like ideas for recipients of the letter of recognition. Staff will review the letter. Last year the letter of recognition was given to Woodward Avenue School. Saltfleet School would also like recognition for their environmental efforts.

Business and Government Liaison Sub-Committee

A member of the sub-committee contacted Canadian Tire and Laura Secord regarding excess packaging. The “plastic bag” display was taken out of Jackson Square. The “packaging” display will be located at the
Upwind/Downwind conference on February 25 and 26. A member of the sub-committee distributed mailing labels which could be used to send examples of excessive packaging or packaging that is not recyclable to the Federal Ministers of the Environment and Industry.

Multi-Residential, Commercial and Institutional Waste Sub-Committee

Staff gave an update on the roll-out of the multi-residential organics program. Sixty-three (63) small buildings have received green carts in Dundas, Westdale and Flamborough. Set out data was collected for twenty-five (25) of those buildings. Sixteen (16) out of twenty-five (25) are participating (64%).

On the East Mountain, eighty-eight (88) buildings have received green carts. There is a participation rate of 62%.

In the downtown area, green cart collection has been implemented in fifty-two (52) buildings. The participation rate is 92%.

b) Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee

Allan Freeman will be replacing Brooke Ryan as the GLCC representative on the Task Force. The next meeting of the GLCC is on February 25.

c) SWMMP Steering Committee

An update was given from the Steering Committee delegate.

The Steering Committee is interested in having a joint meeting with the Task Force. Staff will confirm a date in the near future.

5. Operations

a) CRC Operations Review

Pat Parker gave the Task Force the opportunity to make a formal statement regarding the CRC/Transfer Station review.

The Task Force made a motion “That staff continues to seek out new markets for recyclable material and new opportunities to increase the diversion of recoverable material at the Community Recycling Centres/Transfer Stations.”

The motion was moved by Dave Hart Dyke, seconded by Dan Rodrigues. The motion was carried unanimously.

b) Community Outreach on Compostable Liners

Jennifer Ferguson gave an overview on compostable liners in the green cart program. Compostable liners will be accepted in the green cart starting March 31, 2008. They are a feasible solution for residents who have concerns about cleaning, odours, and pests.

A discussion took place around the use of compostable liners and concerns were raised about the selection process for the preferred vendor for the sample liners and the need to use compostable liners.

6. Solid Waste Management Master Plan

a) Status of SWMMP

Jim Sweetman began presenting the status of the SWMMP recommendations. Due to time constraints, only recommendations 1 to 3 were discussed. Members of the Task Force are to review the table and send any comments to Jim. The goal is to have the table complete for the joint Steering Committee meeting in April.
b) Balanced Scorecard
This item has been deferred to a later meeting.

7. Other Business
There was no other business.

8. Public Discussion
A member of the public suggested the City’s “Adopt-A-Park” program is a good method for keeping parks clean.

A member of the public suggested that staff investigate a more convenient method for collecting batteries (especially since Hotz is closing). A WRTF member told about his exploring the method used in Nova Scotia and P.E.I. of taking small batteries to containers at grocery stores for disposal.

9. Adjournment
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 19th, 2009 at 7 p.m. at Hamilton Convention Centre in Room 203.

Moved by Angela Pastorius and seconded by David Hart Dyke 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 Carolyn Biggs, Lisa Barroso