City of Hamilton

MINUTES: Waste Reduction Task Force
Wednesday, May 19, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Staybridge Suites, Wilshire Centre and North Room

Present: Paula Hamilton   Peter Hutton   Rose Killey
        Greg Kraatz    Mark McQueen    Michelle Morris
        Ron Speranzini  Jim Sweetman    Tom Thompson

Regrets: Allan Freeman   Elaine Jermy    Paul Barrett
         Grant Ranalli    Dan Rodrigues

Also Present: Jennifer DiDomenico, Manager of Policy and Programs
              Anne Winning, Supervisor Program Development
              Rūta Morkunas, Policy/Programming Analyst

Peter Hutton called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of the Agenda
   Committee expressed a desire to amend the set-up of the agenda. They felt that no
   predetermined agenda items should be slated after public discussion is closed and that “Other
   Business” should be left open for matters that are for information only.
   The agenda was approved as written.
   (Moved by Jim Sweetman, seconded by Michelle Morris) CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes from the April 21, 2010
   Committee mentioned that an inquiry and response at the last meeting should have been recorded.
   Staff requested that it be brought to the minute recorder’s attention when discussion is to be
   recorded - AGREED.
   The minutes were approved as written.
   (Moved by Greg Kraatz, seconded by Rose Killey) CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes
   Membership discussed the nomination of a new Glanbrook Landfill Committee (GLCC)
   representative and considered whether it was necessary for a WRTF member to sit on this
   committee. Members suggested that this position be left open for now and that various
   opportunities for communication (receiving the minutes, or get an update from an attendee) be
   explored. No one is currently available to fulfill this position.
   The following motion was put forth:
   That the WRTF not have a formal member join this committee, but to endeavour to communicate
   with the GLCC committee in some way so that WRTF requirements are fulfilled.
   (Moved by Jim Sweetman, seconded by Greg Kraatz) CARRIED

4. Administrative Items

   Membership Update
   The City was advised of the resignation of Trisha Branigan-Kilners from the WRTF and
   subsequently informed the Committee of this via an email. It was recommended that since the
   Task Force has full capacity otherwise, this position can be left vacant for now, as there is not a lot
of time before the regularly scheduled elections in the fall (October). Alternatively, Committee suggested that the previously received applications could be reviewed (from the vacant area) to see if any would be eligible and interested in filling in the vacated position – everyone agreed that this would have to be on a ‘no cost’ basis. Members inquired about the requirements in the Terms of Reference related to having to fill the spot – it was confirmed that there were none. Committee proposed that the selection committee reconvene and determine if they would select another candidate to complete the remaining term (1.5 years). The WRTF terms of reference will be forwarded to each committee member for review.

5. Projects

a) Sub-Committee Updates

Education & Communication Sub-Committee

This committee had nothing new to report.

Multi-Residential, Commercial and Institutional Waste Sub-Committee

Membership asked staff to elaborate on the timelines for completion of the multi-residential Organics program roll-out. Staff explained the each Councillor has received a list of non compliant buildings in their Ward and asked to assist in voluntary encouragement of participation in the program. Those buildings which still refuse to accept the green box will be moved on in the process which will include formal notice by the end of June to either accept the Organics program or have City service stopped. There are approximately seventy (70) buildings (about 7,300 units) that are not participating for a variety of reasons including: they are under construction, unwilling to receive the program, and / or building is not accessible for service.

Business and Government Liaison Sub-Committee

Committee member - Mark McQueen - reported on an initiative that he learned of at a recent workshop he attended that involves the pelletization of residual MSW (garbage is formed into pellets) which is then burned in EFW facilities, cement kilns, greenhouses, etc. Local municipalities such as Durham, York and Peel send their residual MSW to a company called Dongara where it is processed into fuel pellets and then sold to approved facilities as a cleaner burning alternative fuel source.

b) Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee

This committee had nothing to report.

c) SWMMP Steering Committee

Jim Sweetman attended the SWMMP Steering Committee meeting on behalf of the WRTF. The reported 2009 year-end curbside diversion rate was 47%. Based on this is it practical to expect a 65% diversion rate by the end of 2011? 99.5% of Single Family Residential properties are in compliance with the current garbage limit. Multi-residential properties will be audited to determine a reasonable garbage limit on par with the current SFR residential limit. It was noted that multi-res units will not generate as much garbage as SFR properties.

d) Clean City Liaison Committee (CCLC)

This committee had nothing to report.

e) Ad-hoc Recycling Review Sub-Committee

Committee reported that they will be presenting a Recycling Review report at June’s meeting.

f) Ad-hoc Festival and Special Event Recycling Committee

Committee discussed its plan to provide diversion options at eight of the larger City of Hamilton events (Mustard Festival, Battle of Stoney Creek, It’s Your Festival, etc.) and will adopt the system...
that is used at the Burlington Ribfest with adjustments to conform to City of Hamilton standards. Membership would like to see the Special Event policy evolve to a point where a waste plan is required to be included in the organization’s submission.

6. Operations

a) One Container Limit Update

Staff reported that less than 0.5% of SFR properties are non compliant with the One Container Limit. There were only 701 reports of over the limit (OTL) garbage during the week of May 7th down from 2800 properties the first week of the One container limit. There has not been any noticeable spike in illegal dumping.

Committee was informed that approximately 1,700 properties are receiving Special Consideration with the largest category being medical followed by agricultural. Committee discussed agricultural properties having difficulty meeting garbage container limits because of feed bag disposal. This is a packaging issue as the bags are not recyclable.

b) Diversion Options

A diversion options report is being brought to council on June 14th. Possible diversion options include Street Sweepings, Drywall Recycling, Reusable Diaper promotion and a commercial Green Cart program. Staff provided a verbal presentation on the content and summary of the four options as they were evaluated, along with the recommendations. Committee requested that a copy of the presentation be circulated to them for their information.

c) Annual Report

The 2009 Waste Annual Report was presented to the Committee and hard copies handed out to each member.

7. Public Discussion

There was no public discussion.

8. Other Business

a) SWMMP Review Update

The Request for Proposal closed on April 15th. Seven firms’ submitted proposals and staff are currently in the process of awarding the contract. The review will take approximately 16 months and should be completed by the fall of 2011.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at Hamilton City Hall.

(Moved by Greg Kraatz and seconded by Jim Sweetman that the meeting be adjourned). CARRIED

Copies to: All present

Regrets

SWMMP Waste Reduction Task Force Binder Distribution List
Gerry Davis, General Manager, Public Works Department
Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee c/o Craig Murdoch, Operations & Waste Management Division
City Clerks Division, c/o Carolyn Biggs, Lisa Barroso