The Chair requested the membership and staff to introduce themselves due to the large number of public attendees.

1. **Approval of the Minutes from October 18th, 2006**

The Task Force received a copy of the minutes from the October 18th, 2006 meeting.

The minutes were approved.
(Moved by Dorienne Cushman, seconded by Angela Pastorius)

2. **Administrative Items**

Staff provided an update on the new member appointments application period currently underway.

A comment was made that receiving the minutes earlier with an opportunity to provide comments worked well. Staff indicated they will continue to do this.

A request was made for information on the cost of the 2005 Annual Report. Staff indicated it will be provided at the next meeting.
Members of the public in attendance who were considering applying for Task Force positions were encouraged to submit additional documentation, e.g. a resume and advised that their application would be held for consideration for any positions which might become available in the next six (6) months.

3. Standing Agenda Items
   a) Sub-Committee Updates

   **Business & Government Sub-committee**

   An update was provided on the plastic bag campaign in area grocery stores along with the recent workshop attended by representatives from twenty-seven (27) Hamilton high schools organized by Linda Hughes. Arrangements have been made with No Frills and Food Basics to set up waste diversion displays in their stores. Comments were given on the quality of the display and the highly effective waste diversion work implemented at the workshop.

   **Education Sub-committee**

   An update was provided on a pumpkin composting initiative undertaken by Joel Begin at the separate school board. Three-hundred and fifty (350) pounds of pumpkins were collected and delivered to a CRC. Suggestions were requested on how this could be done more efficiently next year.

   b) Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee (GLCC)

   No update was provided as the representative was not in attendance at the meeting.

4. Waste Management System Overview Presentation

   Staff gave a presentation on the City of Hamilton’s Waste Management System.

   The concern about the potential impact of multi-residential organics diversion was discussed. Staff indicated it was needed and will have a significant effect on waste diversion.

   In relation to the slide outlining the work undertaken by the Waste Reduction Task Force, it was stated that the Task Force also acts as a representative body of the public to convey concerns on the programs offered by the Waste Management Division.

   An inquiry was made on electronics recycling. Staff advised that electronics can be recycled at the CRC’s. Further discussion took place on the electronics recycling program.

   A suggestion was made to include small electronics and batteries in the blue box as it would make them easier to recover and would save resources. Staff outlined how this program might work and listed some of the key obstacles to this program working, specifically the sorting of these materials at the MRF.

   A comment was made that Rogers is offering drop-off of old cell phones and rechargeable batteries at their Limeridge Mall location.

   A comment was made on the difficulty of accessing some services, such as HHW drop-off, without a car.

   A comment was made on the potential for dumping by people who can’t afford or choose not to participate in user pay. Staff provided some information on how this can be prevented, such as the use of bag tags with addresses.

   A request was made for batteries to be explicitly stated in the Green Cart non-acceptable items ads. Staff said this will be done as soon as possible.

   An inquiry was made into the drop in tonnages at the CCF once the leaf and yard waste season is over. Staff indicated that composting tonnages may drop over this period, but are not sure by how much, since late season yard waste will be put in Green Carts.
A comment was made on the future activities of the Multi-Residential Waste Diversion sub-committee, and the need to monitor residual waste from this sector to determine further waste reduction opportunities.

Discussion took place on the potential cost savings from moving to a four (4) day collection.

A comment was made on the recent Spectator article which stated that 65% of people weren’t willing to pay for garbage collection in order to achieve diversion targets. Staff responded that the user pay program would include tax adjustments to remove disposal costs, which were not accounted for in the Spectator survey question.

An inquiry was made on the Gold Box Program and how money is given back to the successful residents. Staff advised that only curbside serviced residents are eligible for the program at the moment, and that the multi-residential sector is not eligible.

An inquiry was made on waste diversion programs at churches. Staff outlined the limited service provided to institutional facilities (i.e. churches). Staff noted that churches which are serviced by the City will be provided organics diversion service during the multi-residential organics rollout.

Comments were made on how in Ontario the Province does not require municipalities to address IC&I waste. This system was compared to Nova Scotia’s waste management system where the Province is more involved in addressing all waste streams. The IC&I sector accounts for about 65% of the waste generated in the Province.

An inquiry was made on non-compliance with bag limits and the lack of Green Cart Program participation in an attendee’s neighbourhood. A request was made that staff become more direct and refuse to service non-participating properties. Staff advised of the weight limits, stickering and by-law enforcement processes which are in place, as well as the potential for user pay to address non-compliance. The issue of encouragement compared to enforcement in relation to waste management rules was discussed.

An inquiry was made on the Green Cart and how a smaller container needed to be made available along with the potential for deposit return to aid in waste diversion. Staff and Task Force members responded to these comments, outlining possible Green Cart set-out solutions. Staff outlined the potential effect of the new deposit return system for the LCBO on the City’s glass recycling rates.

An inquiry was made into Task Force meeting times and membership terms. A background on the Task Force membership and the rotation of members was provided.

A comment was made on the high public turnout for the meeting.

An inquiry was made into the results of the public school board recycling contract process. Staff indicated they had no new information on this matter. Staff provided background information on the past public and separate school board recycling collection proposals put forth by the City.

6. Other Business

Discussion took place with regard to the lack of a reuse store at the Dundas CRC. Staff indicated that at the time of planning there was a Goodwill store nearby in West Hamilton, which has since closed. It was also stated that the Dundas CRC site is too small to allow for a reuse store to be constructed.

7. Public Discussion

A question was asked on whether shredded paper put out in clear plastic bags would be collected with the blue box. Staff indicated it should be collected in the recycling trucks.

An inquiry was made on the timeline of the WastePlan process. Staff outlined the current work being undertaken and some of the main tasks that will be completed this year. The Chair outlined that the Terms of Reference of the Joint Working Group stipulates that one of the public representatives has to be in attendance at all meetings if quorum is to be reached.
An inquiry was made on the potential for IC&I waste to be managed through the City. Staff outlined the differences in private and municipally managed waste and commented again that the IC&I sector generates about 65% of the waste in the province. Limitations on the amount of waste that can be brought to the transfer stations by individuals and contractors was discussed.

8. Adjournment

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

The next meeting is scheduled for December 13th, 2006, (the second Wednesday of the month) at 7:00 p.m. at Hamilton City Hall, Room 110

Moved by Joel Begin 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, Debbie Gargano