1. Approval of the Agenda

An additional item “Identification of Waste Stream on Street Furniture” was added to the agenda under Item 6 - Other Business. The agenda was approved as amended.

(Moved by Anton Volcansek, seconded by David Hart Dyke) CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes from the October 15, 2008 Meeting

The Task Force received a copy of the minutes from the October 15, 2008 meeting. The minutes were approved as written.

(Moved by Mary Lou Dickson, seconded by David Hart Dyke) CARRIED

3. Administrative Items

a) New Member Appointments

The WRTF dealt with the selection of new members. The applicants and members of the public were asked to leave for the discussion.

A Task Force member on the New Member Appointment sub-committee explained that there are five (5) open positions on the WRTF. There were a total of thirteen (13) applicants including one (1) incumbent. The sub-committee used the evaluation tool from last year’s selection process to evaluate the applications.

The sub-committee recommended the following people be elected to the WRTF:

- Trisha Branigan-Kilner (Hamilton Mountain)
- Paula Hamilton (Flamborough)
- Elaine Jermy (Environment)
- Rose Killey (Stoney Creek)
- Gregory Kraatz (Glanbrook and Ancaster)

The recommendation will be presented to the SWMMP Steering Committee and Public Works Committee for approval.

The applicants and members of the public were invited back to the meeting.

A motion was made that the WRTF accept the sub-committee’s recommendation.

(Moved by Peter Hutton and seconded by Dave Hart Dyke) CARRIED
4. Projects


Pat Parker gave a presentation on the MOE Discussion Paper “Toward a Zero Waste Future - Review of the Waste Diversion Act”. A staff report is scheduled to go to Public Works Committee on December 1. The report is posted on the Environmental Registry and the deadline for comments is January 16, 2009.

The WRTF had a discussion on Extender Producer Responsibility (EPR). The following are highlights of the discussion:

- EPR affects importers and packagers as well as producers
- Concern that producers will just transfer the cost to the consumer
- EPR should include producers who create products that aren’t recyclable, currently only stewards of material that goes into the blue box pays a fee
- Producers should create a label for products that indicates the environmental potential of the packaging so consumers have the choice when purchasing a product
- Producers of non-recyclable packaging should pay more than producers of recyclable packaging
- Glass beverage containers would be a good material to have a deposit/return as it is a nuisance to collect
- A deposit return system on all beverage/food containers would be better since there is so many aluminium and plastic containers/bottles produced
- Concern that a deposit return system would remove most of the revenue from the blue box and that we must consider the full impact
- With regard to reduction through the three R’s, it was suggested that “refuse” should be added to the hierarchy in addition to reduce, reuse and recycle
- Items accepted in the Blue Box should be harmonized across the various programs in the province
- Staff indicated that consistency of programs will be discussed during the Blue Box plan review
- Concerning Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Waste, staff commented that the City does not manage most of the IC&I Waste
- Most industrial companies do not have an incentive to recycle and everything is thrown in the garbage
- The WRTF did not think they were familiar enough with roles and responsibilities to offer an opinion

On an inquiry about delegations, staff indicated that the Task Force can make a request for a delegation in advance of the Public Works meeting. The Task Force decided to divide their review and comment of the paper into three (3) sub groups:

- EPR - Jim Sweetman, Grant Ranalli, Dave Hart Dyke
- 3 Rs - Rose Killey, Angela Pastorius, Anton Volcansek
- IC&I - Mark McQueen, Dan Rodrigues, Peter Hutton

The sub groups are to have comments to Jim Sweetman by Wednesday, November 26. Staff will circulate links for recent reports regarding the Waste Diversion Act.

Education & Communication Sub-Committee

The sub-committee sent letters of recognition to Universal Tool and Die, Mohawk College and Walmart.

Multi-Residential, Commercial and Institutional Waste Sub-Committee

Staff gave an update on the multi-residential diversion roll-out. Phase 2 (medium sized buildings) is nearly complete. Phase 3 will begin in the New Year. Two (2) open houses were recently held for the superintendents/property owners of large buildings. Staff distributed the new outreach material for superintendents and residents of multi-residential buildings.

b) Glanbrook Landfill Coordinating Committee

The GLCC will be meeting on Monday November 24.

c) SWMMP Steering Committee
The Steering Committee met on November 12. Peter Hutton has circulated a summary of the meeting to the Task Force by email.

5. Operations

Pat Parker gave a brief presentation on Green Cart and Leaf & Yard Waste Program Changes - follow up to PW08126. The Public Works Committee had concerns about the level of change required for residents with proposed changes in Report PW08126 and staff was asked to come up with alternatives.

The following motion was put forward by the WRTF:

Whereas the amount of nitrogen due to yard waste collected weekly from the green cart program is causing operating issues at the Central Composting Facility (CCF),
and whereas the processing of organic waste from Simcoe at the CCF is diverting a significant amount of material from Simcoe’s landfill,
and whereas the processing of organic waste from Simcoe generates a significant amount of revenue for the City of Hamilton,
and whereas green carts can be topped up weekly with yard waste during all months of the year, and whereas unlimited leaf and yard waste is collected during specific weeks in the spring and fall, and whereas backyard composters are available to all residents at low cost, the Waste Reduction Task Force (WRTF) is resolved that Council be requested to approve the changes to the waste collection system recommended by staff in PW08126;

a) That the City discontinue the weekly collection of the two additional containers of leaf and yard waste with the green cart;
b) That the City continue to provide separate bi-weekly collection of unlimited leaf and yard waste during peak periods in the spring and fall).

(Moved by Dave Hart Dyke and seconded by Mary Lou Dickson) CARRIED

6. Other Business

a) Identification of Waste Stream on Street Furniture

A WRTF member indicated that the City’s Operations and Maintenance department is planning to purchase new street furniture. Therefore to promote increased citizen awareness on the final disposition of waste material, and to tie in the goal of “Landfill Diversion” to real time waste choices, the following motion was put forward by the WRTF:

That the Waste Reduction Task Force ask that City of Hamilton Public Works Staff move towards new waste stream identification from “LITTER” to “LANDFILL” on all City owned, maintained, and contracted street furniture.

(Moved by Dan Rodrigues and seconded by Angela Pastorious) CARRIED

7. Public Discussion

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2008 at 6 p.m. (dinner) and 7 p.m. (meeting) at the Hamilton Convention Centre, Room 203.

(Moved by Mark McQueen 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