

**MINUTES OF THE
GREENSBORO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 27, 2018**

Members Present

Kay Brandon, Vice Chair
Brenton Boyce
Tony Davies
Mary Louise Smith
Godfrey Uzochukwu

Staff Present

Chris Marriott
Nancy Lindemeyer

The Solid Waste Management Commission met on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the Field Operations Training Room. Mark Taylor and Bob Davis were excused from the meeting. City Council liaisons Marikay Abuzuaiter and Goldie Wells attended.

Kay Brandon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of minutes of September 26, 2017 meeting

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Council person Wells asked about the status of recycling at Cumberland Courts. Chris Marriott stated that the majority of residents were using the brown recycling containers for garbage. After conducting a comprehensive recycling education campaign with little success, the City decided to stop recycling collection, and put Trash Only stickers on the brown containers. The City provides blue recycling containers if requested, but only 5-8 individuals have done so. Council person Wells noted that Cumberland Courts were located in her district and that she will reach out to them regarding recycling.

Old Business

a. Staff Updates

Chris Marriott encouraged Commission members to download the new GsoCollects app that provides information about all of the city's collection services. Mary Louise Smith suggested sharing the app with the Neighborhood Congress so they can help spread the word.

Chris stated that the City received one proposal from the Yard Waste Automated Cart Impact Study RFP from NewGen Strategies & Solutions. Staff will discuss the recommendations in the study, then bring the information before the Solid Waste Management Commission for input.

Chris said that the city wants to extend the current recycling contract with Republic Services (formerly ReCommunity) for 2 additional years. He plans to bring the proposed extension before City Council at their March 20, 2018 meeting. He said that, in two years, the city will need to rebid the recycling contract, so it's important to reduce the city's recycling contamination rate of 20% before then.

b. Other Old Business

Tony Davies asked about the status of various uses of the landfill. Chris stated that the Landfill Gas to Energy Project with White Street Renewables is ongoing and that equipment has been purchased. He believes the necessary power purchase agreement from Duke Power has been received.

New Business

a. Discuss how the Commission can move forward and meet with purpose

Kay Brandon asked for discussion regarding the purpose of the Commission meetings going forward. She stated that the initial resolution creating the Commission charged the Commission to review the City of Greensboro's current and long-term solid waste management and recycling practices. Initially, the Commission focused on recycling as a means to reduce solid waste. Commission members agreed that recycling continues to be relevant to the original purpose of the Commission.

Tony Davies suggested that the Commission request more feedback from staff in the form of monthly summaries or more frequent updates.

Godfrey Uzochukwu suggested that Commission members should be getting new ideas, identifying companies that generate waste to hear their recycling methods, and invite people, neighborhoods and communities to the meetings to share their ideas.

Mary Louise Smith suggested getting recycling information into the schools so that students could learn how to recycle and share the information with their families.

b. Consider revisions to the meeting schedule

Kay Brandon requested discussion regarding the Commission meeting schedule due to frequent cancellation of monthly meetings.

Mary Louise suggested quarterly meetings. Uzo stated that the meeting schedule should be driven by Commission activities. Tony stated that he preferred monthly meetings, but would be willing to meet every other month. Brenton stated that he supports monthly meetings.

Nancy Lindemeyer stated that the meetings must be publicized or cancelled no less than 48 hours of the meeting time (Friday afternoon at 3 pm) per the resolution establishing the Commission.

No decision was made and the discussion was tabled until the March 27 meeting.

Goldie Wells challenged Commission members to be prepared to report about how they encouraged recycling in the community at the March 27 meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned. The next scheduled Commission meeting is Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 3 p.m. at the Field Operations Training Room, 401 Patton Avenue.

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Respectfully submitted,
Kay Brandon, Vice Chair