



MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE
WASTE DIVERSION SUBCOMMITTEE
May 19, 2011
2:00 p.m.
Canada Room

Members

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Councillor Logan Kanapathi

Other Invited Guest

Councillor Howard Shore
Councillor Alan Ho

Regrets

Councillor Valerie Burke

Staff

Claudia Marsales, Manager, Waste Management
Kimberley Dunsmoor, Community Outreach Assistant
Peter Loukes, Director Operations
Leigh Fitzgerald, Environmental Program
Administrator
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

The Environmental Issues Committee convened at 2:18 p.m. with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath as Chair.

**1. MINUTES OF THE MAY 5, 2011 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE,
WASTE DIVERSION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Seconded by Councillor Howard Shore

That the minutes of the May 5, 2011 Environmental Issues Committee, Waste Diversion Subcommittee be adopted.

CARRIED

2. WASTE MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Ms. Claudia Marsales, Manager, Waste Management delivered a PowerPoint outlining the various waste management services. She advised that all these services will be considered during the review period.

The Committee discussed the current level of service for leaf and yard waste.

There was brief discussion with respect to fugitive boxes.

The Committee discussed the importance of including a list of acceptable items for each waste service provided (eg. Recyclables, organics, residue, etc) during the education program.

The Committee suggested that the following be included under the "Guiding Principle":

- Program changes should be easy to understand
- Program changes by easy to follow
- Program changes should include ease of disposal

3. CLEAR BAGS - THE GOOD, THE BAD AND UGLY

Ms. Claudia Marsales, Manager, Waste Management delivered a PowerPoint regarding clear bag programs.

The Committee discussed social pressure and the increased motivation to recycle when residents are concerned about community scrutiny. Staff advised that they are looking at the possibility of installing two buttons on the disposal trucks (green button, red button). These buttons would be utilized when garbage is being picked up, the green button would be pushed if there is proper recycling at the curbside and the red button when there isn't. This would assist staff in sections of the Town that would require further investigation.

The Committee discussed the possibility of banning the black/green bag.

The Committee suggested that the following be included:

- Add pilot project under considerations
- Add compostable bags under organics

4. FOCUS GROUP DETAILS

Staff distributed a proposed schedule for the focus group. The Committee requested that the proposed date of Monday June 6, 2011 be re-scheduled to the following week.

5. NEW MEMBERS

The Committee suggested that a Regional representative from the Town of Richmond Hill be invited to attend future Waste Diversion Subcommittee meetings. The Committee also suggested that a representative from Markham's Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) be included in future discussions.

6. ARTICLE FROM YORK REGION NEWS

The Committee briefly discussed the article entitled "Bin change causes flop".

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will follow the focus group meeting date.

The Committee suggested that staff bring examples of the different bags (clear, blue, black, etc) to the next meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Issues Committee - Waste Diversion Subcommittee adjourned at 4:07 p.m.