

## **ZERO WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**05/09/2012**



Zero Waste Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes  
09 May, 2012

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on 09 May, 2012 at 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Council Chambers Room in Austin, Texas.

Chair Gerry Acuna called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Gerry Acuna, Faye Kazi, Brent Perdue, Jeff Paine, Cathy Gattuso, and James Nortey

Staff in Attendance:

Bob Gedert, Jessica Edwards, Phil Tindall, Ron Romero, Keith Murray, Jessica King, Gena McKinley, Blanche Quarterman, Amy Slagle, Andy Dawson, Sylba Loren and Gretchen Kingham

### **1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Two citizens spoke during the opportunity for citizen communication.

- a. Adam Gregory, Texas disposal Systems, provided the commission with a letter addressing concerns about the up-coming Hauler Ordinance discussion and action.
- b. Scott Johnson, Citizen, spoke about his concern with yard waste making its way into landfills, about his approval for the Catalog Choice program for citizens to opt out of receiving junk mail, and about his concern for Styrofoam – especially during the holiday season.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for the regular meeting of 04/11/12 were approved on a Commissioner Brent Perdue motion; Commissioner Faye Kazi second on a 5-0-0 vote, Commissioner Jeff Paine abstained. Commissioner Rick Cofer was absent.

### **3. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a. Hauler Ordinance**

Item 3a was postponed until the June 13, 2012 ZWAC meeting due to the lack of a quorum and draft ordinance.

### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a. Food Waste Collection Options Presentation**

Director Bob Gedert gave a presentation on Food Waste Collection Options

- Andrew Dobbs, Tx Campaign for the Environment, spoke against a city pilot that encourages disposing food waste down the drain.
- Patrick Van Haren, Microbial Earth and Austin Zero Waste Alliance, spoke against a city pilot that encourages disposing food waste down the drain.

A resolution to call the Austin City Council to focus on the highest and best use of food scraps and not participate in any pilot program that would support disposing of food waste down the drain passed on a Commissioner Cathy Gattuso motion, Commissioner Brent Perdue second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Rick Cofer was absent.

**b. Clean Austin Fee**

Director Gedert provided a detailed report on the proposed changes to The City's current Anti-Litter Fee.

A vote to recommend an ordinance renaming the anti-litter fee in section 15-6-33 of the City Code (rates for Anti-Litter and other services) to better describe the provided services and providing for the use of the funds from the fee to more clearly delineate the funding directed to Austin Resource Recovery and Code Compliance was pasted on a Commissioner Faye Kazi Motion, Commissioner Cathy Gattuso second on a 6-0-0 vote. Commissioner Rick Cofer was absent.

**5. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

**a. Single-Use-Bag Update**

Director Gedert provided a detailed update on the progress of the Single Use Bag Ordinance activity.

**b. Discussion - Director's Report**

Public Recycling Update, Master Plan Implementation Update, ARR Annual Report, Council Items, Staff, Job Postings, Performances Measures, and Statistical Reports

**6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

June: Hauler Ordinance, Cost Efficiency Study, FY 2013 Budget

July: Brownsfield Presentation, Colorado Study, Single-Use Bag Update

August: 9 Zones Report

Fall 2012: Styrofoam Recycling Options, Construction and Demolition Update

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Gerry Acuna adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. without objection.