



## **Zero Waste Advisory Commission**

## **Regular Meeting Minutes October 9, 2019**

The Zero Waste Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on October 9, 2019 in Council Chambers in City Hall in Austin, Texas. The following are the meeting highlights. For detailed information, please visit [http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards\\_commissions/meetings/97\\_1.htm](http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/97_1.htm).

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Acuna called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**Board Members in Attendance:** Gerry Acuna, Cathy Gattuso, Jonathan Barona, Ian Steyaert, Lisa Barden, Melissa Rothrock, Amanda Masino, Kaiba White.

**Absent are:** Joshua Blaine.

**Staff in attendance:** Ken Snipes, Sam Angoori, Tammie Williamson, Richard McHale, Victoria Rieger, Gena McKinley, Andy Dawson, Donald Hardee, Amy Slagle, Armelle Ouedraogo, Gabriel Gonzalez, Lori Scott, Scott Long, Richard Avila, Marcus Gonzalez.

### **1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

Taylor Youngblood chose to speak about the state of recycling in the Mueller area.

Robyn Schneider chose to speak about the expansion of the Waste Connections landfill and its impact to ABIA.

Jeffery Jacoby chose to show a video about the impact of birds in landfills.

Adam Gregory chose to speak on the anti-lobby ordinance.

### **2. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Chair Acuna entertained a motion. Commissioner Gattuso moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Barona. Passed on a 7-0-1. Abstention made by Commissioner Masino.

### **4b. PARD Recycling Presentation – Presentation by Parks and Recreation Staff**

Meredith Gauthier and Liana Kallivoka from Parks and Recreation (PARD) presented information about recycling in Parks.

Commissioner Masino asked about PARD's financial resources regarding insufficient funds. Meredith Gauthier said there wasn't enough funds for messaging and audits, but there is a partnership with the Watershed Protection department and ARR that support them. Commissioner Masino asked about PARD's partnership with Leave No Trace. Meredith said it was just a messaging partnership.

Commissioner Gattuso asked about recycling at ACL. Liana said that special events require large event vendors to do recycling, but for smaller events there is no requirement. Commissioner Rothrock thanked PARD for pushing for recycling at large events like ACL.

Commissioner White suggested to put composting at other locations throughout ACL and to have compostable serving utensils and wares. Chair Acuna said that ARR and PARD do not provide recycling at events like ACL, and that it's up to the event coordinator to provide those services. Commissioner White asked if there could be a priority for Barton Springs since there is a container filled with bottles.

Adam Gregory, TDS, spoke about the diversion rate at ACL. Chair Acuna asked if the reports are submitted to the Parks Department and then given to the City? Liana said the report goes to the department and to the Special Events office and isn't aware of where it goes after that.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **3a. Discussion and Action – Hazardous Waste RCA**

Chair Acuna entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Rothrock moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Barona. Passed on an 8-0 vote. Commissioner Blaine was absent.

#### **3b. Discussion and Action – Temporary Fencing Services RCA**

Chair Acuna entertained a motion for approval. Commissioner Masino moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Steyaert. Passed unanimously 8-0. Commissioner Blaine was absent.

#### **3b. Discussion and Action – C&D Impact Study**

Gena McKinley, ARR, offered to give a presentation to the Commissioners providing updates for the Commissioners. Commissioners decided to table this item until the November meeting.

## **5. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

### **5a. Director's Report: Solicitations Update, Statistical Reports and Performance Measures**

ARR Director Ken Snipes introduced himself. Amy Slagle, ARR, gave a summary about the Violet Bag program. Commissioner White asked what PARD gets charged for cart services. Richard McHale, ARR, said that the department charges \$42.85, City of Austin departments get no discount. Commissioner White asked about recycling carts, Mr. McHale said that there isn't a separate fee for recycling.

Commissioner Steyaert asked plastic film recycling solicitation from the last meeting. Andy Dawson, ARR, said that there were unsatisfactory results in June, and the current results haven't improved. Commissioner Masino asked about the daily drop-off of material collected through dumpster roll-off service. Amy Slagle said that it is currently handled through the residential bulky program.

Commissioner Rothrock asked about the violet program concluding. Amy Slagle said that service hasn't stopped and is still ongoing at the four original sites.

## **6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Travis county presentation, impact of the ETJ boundary revisions, review fine system of San Antonio and McAllen, Aviation Bird Data.

**ADJOURNMENT** Chair Acuna entertains a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gattuso moves for adjournment. Seconded by Commissioner Barona. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Acuna at 8:06 pm to no objection.