

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting September 6, 2007

Present: Craig Blake, Nancy Brumback, Peter Harvell, Carolyn Lee, John Pearson, Thomas Powers, Eric Richard, Thomas Young

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened at 7:30 p.m. in the Thompson Room of the Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Chairman John Pearson. In keeping with the agenda published in the previous minutes (7-26-07), the minutes were reviewed. The minutes were accepted as presented with the header date corrected. Move to accept by Nancy, second by Eric, accepted unanimously.

Carolyn handed out excel sheet containing information from 2 of the 4 waste haulers and the Transfer Station. Information from one was incomplete and the other had not responded. No conclusions were drawn since not all data was available. Craig did not report on his action item to contact multi-family sites in town. This report becomes Old Business for the next meeting.

Action: Eric and John will attempt to get (complete) information from the haulers before the next meeting.

Peter outlined a methodology for proceeding from this point that he favors following. No decisions were taken about whether or how we might follow this plan. The Mission Statement was again referenced as guiding our plans for action.

It was agreed that our next task is to determine which 5 or more towns we believe should be used to gather comparison data to understand waste options in comparable towns. Tom has done some preliminary looking at surrounding towns and noted substantial differences in demographics that might not make them the best comparisons. Carolyn noted that she had previously distributed a partial analysis including some demographics of the towns in the Merritt report. We then made a list of items that we will use to assess the appropriateness of a town as a comparison to Sudbury. It was decided that including some towns with some clear disparities of demographics versus Sudbury could help us to understand the impact of some of these variables on the success of different trash management options. We gave the criteria initial high, medium and low weightings for importance. These were:

High: Population, Land area, Total # Households, Population density and % of Population of school age/ median age in town.

Medium: % Population living in single family dwellings, Median household income.

Low: Total tonnage refuse collected and % recycling, Miles from Sudbury, and Form of government (city vs. town).

Action: Tom will gather the above data for a range of towns and come back to the meeting with 10-12 possible towns for consideration. The committee will then narrow the list for recommendation to the Selectmen and Maureen. The commitment is to have the initial list ready for the 1st meeting in October.

Action: At the next meeting we will work on compiling a set of questions to ask the towns we decide to contact. Preparation for this meeting includes reviewing and bringing to the meeting the lists of questions from the Merritt Report (provided by Maureen), from the Massachusetts Recycling Coalition Coordinator Manual (provided by Eric), and from Peter's handout of June 26 meeting.

We discussed when to possibly invite the Merritt group to come in and review what they did, and again agreed that late October will probably be good, and that we all need to review their report prior to that time. In discussing other future items, the question was raised whether we should

consider making any interim recommendations to the town, e.g. about initiating registration of haulers operating in Sudbury, as allowed under Massachusetts laws.

Action: John will talk to Maureen about this.

It was also noted that we must be prepared to write a committee report for inclusion in the Town report, and that is due somewhere near calendar year end.

The next meeting will be Sept. 20. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Attest:

Carolyn Lee, Clerk, SWMOC