

SWAAC Meeting Minutes

Albemarle County Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee

August 10, 2023, 4-5:30 pm

County Office Building, 402 McIntire Rd.

Room 235

Attendance:

- SWAAC: Christine Hirsh-Putnam, Peggy Gilges, Victoria Walsh, Betsey Soulsby, Kendall Dix, Adam Gendell, Annie White, Margaret Eldridge
- SWAAC members absent: Teri Strother
- Liaisons attending: Donna Price, Jamie Powers, David Rhoades, Isabella O'Brien
- Other attendees: Gabe Dayley, Mike Kruse, Joe Szakos

July 13, 2023 SWAAC meeting minutes were approved.

August 10, 2023 SWAAC agenda was approved.

Announcements

- Mike and Joe have applied for SWAAC membership. We still have one position open.
- Minutes and Agendas may not be released to SWAAC members before they are made available to the public.
- Our December 2023 SWAAC meeting will be held on zoom.

Old Business/Follow up

- SWAAC charter changes are with Jamie. We need to better define youth/student representation.
- Secretary-Teri to create a plan to cover note taking for upcoming meetings.
- Annual report to BOS- no news on new form or submission date.

Action Items

- Victoria will send SWAAC the revised committee information for prospective members..
- Peggy will send agenda to Jaime for a Planning & Operations meeting on Tuesday, 8/15. Need COB meeting space.
- Jamie to send slides from today's presentation to SWAAC.
- Betsey will connect Kendall to Ed Brooks to build community connections in the Scottsville area.

Presentation by Gabe Dayley and Jamie Powers, Draft Climate Action Priorities:

- Using SMART criteria (Specific, Measurable, Achievable by 2030, Relevant to climate and Time-bound) to set specific goals and timelines to implement emissions reductions. Looking at what are the most strategic actions to be taken across all sectors (Transportation, Stationary Energy, Land Use & Agriculture, Waste). Not all Climate Action Plans correspond directly to SMART goals proposed.
- Now at Step 3 of implementation plan, seeking staff and committee input into this draft –an invitation to respond, give feedback. Step 4 will entail revision/ incorporating feedback. Step 5 will be getting input and guidance from Supervisors this fall, then incorporating actions into AC44.
- Organic waste goal #1 (food and yard waste), reduce tonnage 50% from 2020 to 2030. Waste hierarchy is for food to be diverted for consumption first, then for composting.
- Organic waste goal #2 increase diversion of organic recyclables (paper/cardboard), 35% improvement from 2020 to 2030.
- The baselines were calculated using national estimates.

- Achieving goals– setting them realistically. They must be both ambitious and feasible. Three types: Conservative, Baseline and Stretch. Waste diversion goal is baseline; it's based on reasonable peer and community targets. There is planned overshoot to ensure reaching 45% ghg reduction by 2030.
- Other factors were considered for prioritization in this order: GHG impact, Co-Benefits, Advancing Equity, Catalyst for Community Action. Gabe and Jamie scored 70 of 150 actions from the CAP. Local government actions represented about 40-50% of the actions in the Plan, and were not scored, but should be acted on. For each score, there was a written rationale supporting the score.
- Cost in some cases is too nebulous to estimate well at this point.
- The SMM goal of expanding recycling and composting was the only SMM goal in the top 20. Actions were also placed on an X, Y grid charting Impact and Capacity. PAYT was the highest scored strategy.
- Re: Hauler requirements, Lance has suggested making estimates of ghg reduction based on national estimates.

County Report Out:

Planning and Vision/Operations:

- Group would like to meet on Tuesdays following monthly SWAAC meeting, from 4-5. Need meeting space at COB.

Education and Outreach:

- Christine and Betsey met with John Coles, Environmental Program Manager for ACPS to look at goals for waste reduction for the upcoming school year. Greer collected somewhat more than 3.8 tons, far more than other schools most likely due to Betsey's volunteer work in the lunchroom from March to June.
- ACPS will have a new head of janitorial staff coming in this year. Goal is to have composting active in all schools. Stipends will be offered for lunchroom compost teacher/monitors. Reusable trays will be used. Reusable (metal) utensils as a pilot in some schools this year if possible.

New Business and Discussion:

- Our December 2023 meeting will be held on zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm

Next SWAAC meeting will be held **in person** Thursday, Sept. 14, 4-5:30 in Room 235 of the County Office Building.