



Albemarle County Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee



Notes

Thursday, September 14, 2023, 4-5:30 pm
County Office Building, 401 McIntire Rd
Room 235

Call to order

Establish a Quorum

Welcome/Acknowledge guests

Review agenda and approve

Review [August draft minutes](#) and approve

In attendance: Peggy, Kendall, Christine, Victoria, Betsey, Mike, Adam

Liaisons: Isabella, Jamie, Phil

Guests: John, Caleb

Absent: Teri, Annie, Margaret

Announcements and proceedings:

- Kendall moved to approve the agenda, Victoria seconded, all were in favor.
- Victoria moved to approve the notes from the August SWAAC meeting, Christine seconded, all were in favor.

Action Items/Followup

- SWAAC Charter changes
 - Peggy reviewed the draft provision relating to the Committee's charge of recommending new programs and associated staff hires. No objections were raised.
 - Kendall recommended removing "as and when appropriate".
 - Peggy reviewed the draft provision relating to the Committee's makeup, noting that the County does not hold the authority to require Committee member representation by either the City or the County school system. No objections were raised.
 - Peggy reviewed the draft provision relating to FES-designated support for SWAAC. No objections were raised.
 - Christine moved to submit the recommended revisions, Kendall seconded, all were in favor.
- Secretary- Teri plan for managing
- Building community connections through lens of equity and inclusion -Betsey and Kendall on Yancey Community
 - Betsey requested that a flyer be posted at the Center; Phil volunteered RWSA to print it.
 - Phil noted the opportunity to provide compost collection at the Southern Albemarle Convenience Center, which could be implemented by the end of 2023 (not in time for inclusion in the flyer).

- Jim noted that Lance should check to ensure that the description of the operation shared with surrounding residents doesn't preclude compost collection.
- Student Engagement on SWAAC- WAHS, Teri and others
 - Christine has engaged with Western Albemarle and other schools and noted Teri's role at UVA may open additional opportunities.
- Annual Report to the BOS
 - The report has been submitted!
- New SWAAC members
 - Peggy noted that one more vacancy remains.

Presentation: TJPD Waste Metrics- Isabella O'Brien

- Isabella overviewed the VA state mandates for achieving a minimum recycling rate and reporting, noting that the Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Planning Unit (Greene, Fluvanna, Albemarle Counties plus Charlottesville City) must report annually.
- Isabella noted that each VA locale is required to submit their solid waste management plan along with measurements of recycled tonnage, and if their recycling rate is lower than the minimum mandate, they must provide a revised plan.
- Isabella overviewed the data sources, including permitted solid waste management facilities and local businesses & related who generate significant recycling tonnages and/or provide recycling services.
 - Isabella noted that GFL has not submitted data and there is complexity about allocating the portion of GFL's material that originated in the solid waste planning unit.
- Isabella described the considerations affecting the completeness, validity, and consistency of data reported by each county.

County Report Out:

- ESD AC44 Draft Goals and Objectives Update as it relates to SMM
 - Jamie noted that the organization of the plan has been adjusted to elevate and highlight the environmental stewardship section.
 - Jamie noted a public open house on the 26th.
 - Jamie noted the draft rewording of the SMM goal statement and the aim to make the language accessible.
 - Peggy voiced an opinion that the waste hierarchy should be treated carefully with uncertainty surrounding the relative positions of energy recovery and disposal.
 - Jamie noted that the objectives are loosely ordered in terms of preferability and impact.
 - Phil suggested elevating the objective regarding food waste and yard waste diversion. Others were in support.
 - Jamie noted that objectives related to safeguarding human health are included in other sections of the Plan.
- Climate Action Grant Awardees
 - Postponed to October due to time.

Discussion:

- [SWAAC Work Plan](#)- goal setting- until P&O meet.....Chesapeake Letter- can each of us take one action to help dispel the myth of all in one recycling

Planning & Vision/County & RSWA Operations Group:

- Lead: Peggy Gilges, Members: Peggy Gilges, Adam Gendell, Kendall Dix, Teri Strother, Victoria Walsh, Annie White
- Next meeting-

Outreach, Communication & Education Group:

- Lead: Christine Hirsh-Putnam, Members: Margaret Eldridge, Peggy Gilges, Betsey Soulsby
- Composting in schools
- Next meeting- the second Thursday of the month 5:30-6:30 at the COB room 235

Further Discussion:

- Jamie noted that the County will likely pursue a new EPA grant on recycling communications.
- Victoria suggested a future agenda item related to local media monitoring and response messaging.

Adjourn