

Draft Meeting Minutes
Albemarle County Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee
February 15, 2024

In attendance

Christine Hirsh-Putnam, Betsey Soulsby, Peggy Gilges, Adam Gendell, Mike Kruse, Victoria Walsh

Absent: Margaret Eldridge, Joe Szakos, Teri Strother

Liaisons: Jim Andrews, Jamie Powers, Bea LaPisto-Kirtley

Guests: Chuck Delanoy, John

Call to order

Done.

Establish a Quorum

Done.

Welcome/Acknowledge guests

Done.

Review agenda and approve

Done.

Review JANUARY minutes and approve

Done.

Action Items/Followup:

- Introductions
- Cascades visit lessons, questions for RSWA
 - Facility produces only recycled raw material. Very accommodating to tour group, may be able to arrange a follow up tour.
 - Glass is a significant contaminant to OCC; is it possible to engage with them directly to explore getting a higher price?
 - Our stream is high quality, will having the baler give us enough space to store material during times we'd get a lower price?
- Follow up on question about a list of bills to forward to the state level:
 - Counsel keeps supervisors up to date with county priorities for Albemarle County and TJPDC and considers suggested additions to policy statements.
- Suggestions for Charter update are in progress, then will be sent to Supervisors for consideration

Discussion:

Received citizen request for pickleball recycling support. One 55-gallon receptacle has been given space at Darden Towe for broken pickleballs. An additional collection site is requested for western Albemarle. Committee to learn more and discuss the next meeting.

Glass recycling – are there ways to improve local re-use opportunities? Winchester has a glass grinder and five collection points. Resulting sand is sold for landscaping / landfill cover. How can we determine if there's enough sustained local demand to consider this?

County Report Out:

New pilot program - \$100k fund to support community organizations working on climate actions. Grants are up to \$25k each. Four fully funded, one partially funded

- Vermicomposting at [Autism Sanctuary](#)
- Reduced waste through re-use at [Community Bikes](#)
- [FLIPP](#) solar installation certification preparation program

Planning & Vision/County & RSWA Operations Group:

Lead: Peggy Gilges, Members: Peggy Gilges, Adam Gendell, Kendall Dix, Teri Strother, Victoria Walsh

We have not met since November. We are working on the Quick Reference Recycling guide. Action Item: volunteers, please take a look and make additions. The document is in the SWAAC drive.

Action items:

Select three suggestions for 2024 Advisory Letters from the Committee

- Review Legislative Priorities for Albemarle County and TJPDC and suggest additions to policy statements. Initial suggestions:
 - Supporting pay as you throw by introducing hauler requirements
 - More county support for organics collection (measurement, curbside collection)
 - Procurement practices to support increased recycled material use
- Contact our School Board members and support that.

Outreach, Communication & Education Group:

Lead: Christine Hirsh-Putnam, Members: Margaret Eldridge, Peggy Gilges, Betsey Soulsby

- Local student engagement – Christine met with a group of students; there is interest but scheduling is an issue. We encourage them to attend when available and to review meeting minutes and other SWAAC materials.

Composting in Schools - Need adult support, please consider contacting the school board to encourage support.

Adjourn

5:35 PM