

Albemarle County Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 14 , 2024, 4-5:30 pm County Office Building, 402 McIntire Rd Room 246

Call to order Establish a Quorum Welcome/Acknowledge guests Jeffrey Dumars Review agenda and approve Review <u>February minutes</u> and approve

Present:

Jim Andrews Bea LaPisto Kirtley Kaleigh Reno Christine Putman Joe Szakos Betsy Soulsby Chuck Delanoy (former employee at Klockner Pentaplast) David Rhoades Phil McKalips Mike Kruse Jamie Powers Adam Gendell Kendall Dix

Absent

Peggy Gilges Victoria Walsh Isabella O'Brien

Announcements:

Add completing the charter to the agenda Motion to review and approve the charter

- Betsey Soulsby made this motion; Adam second
- Betsey Soulsby motion to approve Feb minutes; Mike second

Charter is subject to approval by County

• Kendall Dix - motion to approve; Betsey second.

Phil McKalips gave a McIntire update:

- Pickleball ball recycling is now available.
- Mulch is available now for free while it lasts.
- Baler design moving ahead. Hope to go out to bid in July/August 2024.
- McIntire 1,2, and 5 plastics will be combined. Still don't want opaque ones or political signs (flat).
- Discussion ensued about pros and cons whether that would be a step backward for recycling. Was decided it would be better to combine 5s into the 2 bin for now. Most caps are polypropylene.
- McIntire takes lids on now.
- Plastics go to Sonoco locations at Madison Heights and then to Raleigh.
- Kendall asked if there is regulation by the federal government of packaging. Answer only for food. Policy resides at state level, e.g. EPR.
- Rigid plastic packaging is moving to 1, 2s and 5s.

2023 revenue~ \$100k, 2025 Expected revenue \$120,000 from the plastic bag tax; the finance department report for 2023 yet to come. Restricted to recycling education, environmental cleanup, mitigating plastic pollution.

- County collects 170 tons of various litter/organics street sweeping
- Litter is a problem
- Clean ups and adopt a ride are essential
- More partnerships possible?

Action Items/Followup

- Student Engagement on SWAAC
 - Action item: Teri talked to Christine re: UVA student interest on the SWAAC committee (let's talk about a pair - that works)
- SWAAC member tasks (review informational documents and share expertise)

Discussion:

- SWAAC Work Plan
 - Hauler requirements e.g. proper information on their website
 - Sent a preliminary plan to the committee via email
 - Plan for more structure to the committee and end result: tangible recommendations to the board

1) Hauler Requirements as a means to collect data on recycling rates, and to push for "pay as you throw" and for better information to the public about what is recycled - Peggy/Victoria

2) More support for organics collection and reduction of organics in landfill - Teri/Kaleigh

3) County procurement policies to increase amount of post consumer recycled content in paper products - Mike/Betsey

4) AC44 - Christine/Kendall

5) Legislative priorities for 2025 - Joe/Kendall

Should recycling education be included?

 Work plan assignment: research>outline a plan of action >bring to committee to review

Suggestion from a communications/marketing perspective to say hauler transparency and not requirements.

More instruction on assignment: have a conversation with your team and create a plan of action; maybe you have questions; end goal a tangible, achievable step that the board can take. Keep in mind staff time and budget. Potentially this committee could have access to those funds. Bea - people want to see results. Bea brought up the food take out industry.

Some good news from students: Walton grades 6-8 are composting their waste; science teachers collecting paper; and Murray elementary school talked to ACPS asking for reusable silverware; Hollymead K-5th is composting; Baker-Butler is composting.

Next month - Mike Kruse is presenting

Adjourn