

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2010
TIME: 5:15 P.M.
LOCATION: CITY HALL
MCCLOSKEY CONFERENCE ROOM
BLOOMINGTON, IN 47401
(812) 349-2020

CALL TO ORDER
5:17 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES

Steve Akers
Jerry Jochim
Kevin Dogan
Tim Frazier
Ron Howard
Kyla Cox

Larry D. Barker, Executive Director, Monroe County Solid Waste Management
Scott Morgan, Operations Director, Monroe County Solid Waste Management

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dogan moved to approve the minutes, Jochim seconded.

ADOPT-A-ROAD

Akers reported that members of the CAC cleaned the section of road on Old 37 between Rhorer and Wayside Drive. The group collected 130 lbs of trash and 50 lbs of recycling. Akers said that at first, the road didn't look bad, but was a lot when the group began to pick up. The majority of trash was straws, spent lottery tickets, and plastic. Dogan said that across from Kroger, the trash was very thick. Morgan asked if the group saw much aluminum, and Cox said there was more plastic and Styrofoam than aluminum. Morgan said those materials have less value than the aluminum. Akers said that anyone interested in adopting a road should contact the MCSWMD for more information. Akers said it was pretty painless and took about two hours to clean.

BULKY ITEM DAYS

Akers said that on April 9 and 10, Bulky Item Days were held at the Fairgrounds. Cars were screened and workers looked for reuse items for ReStore and St. Vincent DePaul. The scrap metal went to JB Salvage and other waste went to Hoosier Disposal. Those who came to drop off items received a reusable tote bag. A lot of people made multiple trips with waste. People had a lot of questions about materials, and Morgan and crew assisted them. Akers mentioned that mattress collection may need to change in light of the bedbug epidemic.

Morgan said he believed that there were more than 1000 cars that came through, which beat the last two spring pickups.

Morgan said 114 tons were collected in two days. The record, set in 2005, was 89 tons. Morgan said he believes the event set an all-time high in vehicles. Dogan asked if there were any differences in materials, and Morgan said it all looks the same and is trash. Barker mentioned a unique bench that came from an old shoe store and said that ReStore snatched it up very fast. Akers said he saw an entire house furnace and air-conditioning compressor and it was inside the ReStore truck; it really didn't look very old. Morgan said it is amazing how many people plan their clean-ups around this event. Dogan noticed in prior years that people brought large appliances that were missing something and were no longer useful. Dogan suggested that it would be good to remind people to bring reusable items in tact so they can be salvaged. Morgan said metal was consistent with the past. Jochim asked if the total included metal, and Morgan said no, it is just

MSW numbers. Morgan said unfortunately the car counter malfunctioned so a final car count could not be determined, and that was disappointing.

IU ELECTRONICS WASTE

Akers reported that IU electronics waste collection occurred April 9 and 10. The estimated amount collected for recycling was 350,000 pounds of e-waste. Akers wasn't sure if that amount included the other campuses. Over 2000 vehicles came through. Akers thanked Laura Knudson and Susan Coleman for organizing the event.

IU RECYCLEMANIA

Akers reported that IU Bloomington participated in Recyclemania. In 10 weeks of participation, IU Bloomington generated the least amount of solid waste per person at approximately 37 pounds. Half-million pounds were recycled and it reduced waste stream by 26%.

IU ENERGY CHALLENGE

Akers explained that the Energy Challenge is an energy savings contest among the residence halls, Greek houses and academic buildings on campus. More than \$60,000 was saved in utility costs and more than 1.5 million pounds of carbon was diverted.

ELECTRONICS FEES

Morgan reported that in April, the board agreed to \$1 fee for electronics disposal. Morgan explained that everything that was free for disposal would remain free. Morgan said the district has an agreement with a company called ERI, and manufacturers are paying for recycling because they have to show they are recycling 60% of their covered electronic devices (such as monitors, TVs, computer accessories). There is a minimum one-year contract with option for one-year renewals. Morgan said anything that is not a covered electronic device will still cost 19 cents per pound. Morgan said they have done a lot of homework and have a list of downstream recyclers. The representatives have met with the MCSWMD. All material is shipped to Indianapolis, to one of seven centers that accept this waste. Morgan said it is a win-win situation and the reduction in cost will increase the amount of material. Barker said this is a dream come true for the district. Barker said the Indiana law doesn't take affect until 2011, but ERI has gotten in front of the curve and MCSWMD was able to get in on the service early. Barker said he hopes he never has to see another TV or computer in a ditch. Barker said all material is ground up, so memory devices will be destroyed. Morgan said the material collected is not reused; it is recycled, and that takes away the ability for anything to be gleaned from the memory. Barker said he had worried about materials going to third-world countries, and ERI has assured him that no items will be sent there illegally. Akers said this would have to be considered in planning the next IU electronics disposal day. Morgan and Akers said Indiana is ahead of the curve, and Morgan said that MCSWMD is way ahead of the curve. Dogan said a pick-up day would still be useful for the campus community.

MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (MRF)

Barker said nearly a year ago, the board authorized MCSWMD to go forward with a study. The first part of the study was to determine if there were sufficient commodities for a MRF. SDG presented the study on April 8. It was so well received, that the board authorized a feasibility study to assess the cost associated with processing the commodities. That study is being completed now. The presentation on the feasibility study will take place on June 10. Barker said that everyone can view the meeting on CATS.

OLD BUSINESS

Akers said that CAC had discussed the restaurant recycling project. Akers said he contacted Chad Roeder of Pedal Power, and there are many restaurants utilizing his services. Akers said many restaurants are combining their materials for pick-up. Roeder is collecting from businesses and residential areas and using the B-Line to transport materials by bicycle. Akers said he and Frazier attended the green business meeting held by the Chamber. FARM did a presentation, and it sounds like they could be a good example of a green business. FARM is sending compost to Hilltop, and Pedal Power is taking their materials. Akers said that the Village Deli and Soma have a good network as well. Akers said there is a cost associated with it. Frazier said he contacted Tracy to find out more about the efforts and culture of the staff, and he was open to CAC doing a tour.

Frazier said he is playing phone tag with Uptown and also talked to Green Bean and Rumba! Café. Frazier said people are very receptive. Akers said a site visit would be great. Jochim said he agreed that it was a good idea. Dogan said it would be nice to put together a brochure or video of best practices. Frazier suggested inviting those who have had issues implementing recycling at their restaurant to attend a discussion. Akers said FARM has a 1000-acre farm to grow food for the restaurant. Frazier said that Green Bean is concerned about reducing waste. Cox said she spoke to Paul Busby of the Bloomington Independent Restaurant Association and he would be happy to distribute a survey. Cox suggested learning what the concerns are and breaking those down with a presentation.

NEW BUSINESS

Jochim mentioned that there is a problem with bed bugs, as heard from a news story about Arlington Elementary. Jochim said there are many places that have bed bugs. Mattresses and couches can harbor them and be nearly invisible. Jochim said this spring, there will be people who toss mattresses and couches out on the curb, and everyone should be aware not to pick them up. Barker asked if there is anything that can be done to treat the problem, and Jochim said yes, heating the item to above 120 degrees or using a steamer would kill them. They can survive a washer, but not a dryer. Akers said he knows of some houses that have had problems and it is very expensive to resolve. Barker suggested telling students to leave their covers on when they buy mattresses. Jochim said that bed bugs don't transmit diseases. K. Cox mentioned travel tips to avoid bed bugs: do not put a suitcase or other items that could become infested on the bed. Jochim said travel is still one of the main ways they are carried.

Akers said that in the residence halls there is a year-end collection. This year, there is a new effort, Hoosier-to-Hoosier community sale at the football stadium on Saturday, August 21. The majority of the items collected from the residence halls and Greek houses, as well as some apartment complexes, will be processed and sold on August 21. They will be sold cheap and keep it out of the landfill. It will have a festival atmosphere. The first drop off will be this Saturday, May 1. Drive to the west side of the stadium to drop off items.

Barker said the Indiana Recycling Coalition meeting is coming up on May 4, 5, and 6. If interested, go to MCSWMD web site or the IRC site for more information. Steve, Tim, and Elisa will go to the session on May 5, and Akers will be talking about Recyclemania at one of the sessions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.