

Solid Waste Advisory Committee	
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 6:02 PM	Assembly Chambers
Type of meeting	Regular
Chair	Annemarie Hasskamp
Vice Chair	Kim Burnham
Secretary	Kim Burnham (<i>this meeting</i>)
Attendees	Annemarie Hasskamp, Kim Burnham, Neil Klug, Ex officio Deb Potter
Absent	Mike Healy
Citizens Present	Steve Burnham Jr.

Handouts

Agenda; SWAC FY2022 Work Plan; Bear Awareness Flyer

Citizens Present

Jen Thuss, Steve Burnham, Jr.; No comments during citizens present.

New Business

B. Consideration of Wildlife Awareness

K. Burnham recommended several actions be taken on this topic. She read and handed out a copy of draft wording for the recommended actions. See attached. N. Klug recommended removing the word “possibly” in the 2nd recommendation regarding the bear awareness flyer.

D. Potter asked if SWAC is a committee that could do bear awareness outreach to employers, at the beginning of the season. K. Burnham suggested that sending the bear awareness flyer out as a box holder mailing, at the beginning of the season, is one form of outreach from the municipality.

Current bear awareness flyer needs revision to include municipal seal, and a larger, more visible section for the code and fines.

D. Potter indicates that she could assist, as per SWAC’s recommendations, to help amend the city’s Relocation Guide to include wording about bear awareness for new residents.

D. Potter read the draft responsibility outline of new rec center job position (“Captain Funtastic”). There was a brief discussion of how Harvest Week and apple pressing could potentially tie in to the other food/ garden responsibilities of that position.

A. Hasskamp mentions the other wildlife awareness topics that still need to be considered:

- Bear proof cans: Commercial and residential trash handling.
- The Open House event, which would serve as a venue for more bear aware outreach. A possible timeline for an open house was discussed. Construction of the transfer station will be ongoing until July, which could delay a spring Open House event—feasibility and timeline for an event should be designated by city manager, PW director.

Citizen Steve Burnham Jr commented that an Open House and Grand Opening for the composter and new transfer facilities was not only important for the purpose of education, but also to show community members how their tax dollars are being used.

Citizen Jen Thuss suggested creating bear awareness magnets/ stickers similar to the compost magnets/ stickers.

D. Potter added that June 17th is national garbageman day.

K. Burnham indicated that where appropriate, outreach should include the broader term “wildlife awareness” to help increase awareness that animals (birds, foxes, dogs) other than bears are also attracted to trash, and that trash guidelines need to be followed year-round.

C. Consideration of Compost Stream

K. Burnham made a motion regarding keeping potential persistent pesticides, which are sometimes used on straw, out of the compost stream (see complete motion below).

Citizen S. Burnham, Jr. commented that separate stickers should be made to post on the compost bin and near the leaf/ grass drop off area to help inform the community of this change.

N. Klug indicated that compostables being received in the bin were generally appropriate, except for some large bones/ turkey carcasses, and occasionally non-compostable plastic bags that hold food.

K. Burnham asked if it'd be possible to get a summary of the quantity of raw compostables (food, grass, leaves, etc) that have been being received, as well as how much finished compost is being created over a season or a year. Potentially an infographic could be created from this info to share with the public.

D. Election of Officers

See motions/ votes below.

Outcome:

Annemarie Hasskamp - chair

Kim Burnham - vice-chair

Mike Healy- secretary

Discussion Items:

A. Update on Bear Proof Can Program:

A.Hasskamp indicated she received updates from the City Clerk about bear proof can program.

It has not been rolled out, but some citizens have purchased the cans:

32 gallon cans: 0

64 gallon cans: 5 (4 by residential customers/ 1 by commercial business)

96 gallon cans: 7 (3 by residential customers/ 4 by commercial businesses)

2 dumpster bear lids

1 dumpster with a bear lid

City manager is waiting for direction on bear proof can program.

Details to consider:

Mandatory vs. optional?

Cans provided by city— free of charge vs. customer purchasing?

Full purchase price at time of acquisition vs. prorated? (Is city hall prepared to do prorating?)

The new cans need to be better advertised, so the community knows they are available.

A.Hasskamp indicates she thinks if they are mandatory, the city should pay for them.

K.Burnham indicates she favors trying the optional route for a longer period of time. She indicated she is concerned that bear proof cans can send the wrong message i.e. that it's ok to put trash out before trash collection day. N. Klug indicates he wasn't sure if the city was currently set up to implement the prorated pay system. Will consider this topic again at next meeting, along with other topics relating to wildlife awareness.

N. Klug indicated that Public works is working on protocol that addresses how dumpsters will be secured. K. Burnham indicated that info about the new dumpster protocols could be included with the bear awareness flyer if / when those get sent out with business license renewals (as per the new recommendation).

B. Update on Incinerator and Transfer station:

N. Klug indicated construction of the new transfer station is moving along well and on schedule.

Incinerator upgrades will not happen until after new transfer station is complete.

Motions	
* = indicates participation by alternate member.	
First/Second	Motion
K. Burnham	To approve amended agenda with item 6A removed (review of yearly work plan. 3Aye; 0 Opposed; 1 Absent
Neil Klug	
K. Burnham	Motion to recommend the multiple actions as discussed under wildlife awareness. (See attached document). 3Aye; 0 Opposed; 1 Absent
N. Klug	
K. Burnham	Motion to recommend that any waste straw or hay received by Public Works be incinerated, and be excluded from the compost stream and not landfilled; and that "hay and straw" be added to the city's 'non-compostable list' 3Aye; 0 Opposed; 1 Absent
N.Klug	
K. Burnham	Motion to nominate Mike Healy as SWAC secretary. 3Aye; 0 Opposed; 1 Absent
N. Klug	
A. Hasskamp	Motion to nominate Kim Burnham for SWAC vice chair. 3Aye; 0 Opposed; 1 Absent
N. Klug	
K.Burnham	Motion to nominate Annemarie Hasskamp for SWAC chair. 3Aye; 0 Opposed; 1 Absent
N. Klug	

Action Items		
Action	Person Responsible	Deadline
Determine if minutes from last regular SWAC meeting need approval.	A. Hasskamp	Next regular meeting
Assist with amending the city's Relocation Guide to add wording about bear awareness.	D. Potter	ASAP
Get numbers input (weight) and output (volume) for composting for last few months.	N. Klug	Next meeting
Find out what is planned for new transfer facility (i.e. recycling).		
Check with city manager regarding feasibility for a spring composter open house/ grand opening for transfer station; and if feasible, what would be best timeframe/date for the event.	A. Hasskamp	Next meeting
Gather open house info from previous attempt.	K. Burnham	Next meeting

Next Meeting(s)

To be determined.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn N. Klug/ K.Burnham passes at 7:22pm