

Frederick County Solid Waste Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 15, 2015  
7:00 pm Winchester Room

Attendees:

John Daniels, Chair  
Peter Blood, Vice Chair  
Ellis Burruss  
Patrice Gallagher  
David Gray  
Kai Hagen  
Joe Richardson  
Chris Voell  
Phil LeBlanc

Out: Don Briggs,

Other Attendees:

Kevin Demosky  
Phil Harris

Vivian Laxton

AnnMarie Creamer (arrived 7:25)

ALSO: Nine members of the public. (Gary Thuro, Dave Twigg, Sally Sorbello, Richard Jefferies, Bruce Holstein, Gene Stanton, Matt Seubert, Eric Besch and \_\_\_\_)

Call to Order by John at 7:04

Ellis moved to approve minutes, Joe seconded. Approved.

Comments (committee members)

Dave about Jan's

Patrice about she and Joe meeting at Urbana High School

Ellis: lots to do, let's go

Joe: More about meeting with principal at Urbana High School. They are excited about engaging students. Considering different ways to do that. He mentioned various possibilities of other schools getting involved.

Also spoke to his Rotary. Will speak to others. Wants them engaged.

Kai: Re:

page 5: "The Study Team will first consider a broad list of potential CONVERSION TECHNOLOGIES based on agreed evaluation criteria. TECHNOLOGIES will be qualitatively ranked in a matrix to facilitate rapid comparison between several different alternatives."

Raised issue that "conversion technologies" should be changed to reflect what we have already agreed and assumed. Perhaps "Options."

Peter: To Joe -- any outreach his fine. Everyone is welcome. We do want to have reasonably accurate expectations about numbers of folks attending various outreach meetings.

Patrice: Reminder about other ways (beyond speaking at meeting) that people can or might be able to submit comments, ideas, documents, etc.

Chris (arrived at 7:15)

John: Welcome county staff. Thank you to Vivian and Kevin and Phil for their work (especially getting the schedule done, and logo, etc.). Thanks for members of the public for attending.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gary Thuro: Read a statement. Concerns based on past experience (WTE fight). Quoted a range of sources about incineration. Assured that any move in that direction would generate tremendous public pushback.

Matt Seubert: Worked with NIA. WTE a "non-starter." Doesn't trust the Authority. Please proceed with caution. Incineration a bad deal.

Bruce Holstein: Member of Carroll County Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Last thing we need is a recommendation, 18 months from now, to implement PAYT. Suggests that the outreach process include look at various PAYT options. Offered some specific details. People need to be educated about PAYT. Suggests committee ask Geosyntec to hire ILSR as a subcontractor (rather than conversion technology-oriented companies).

John Daniels responded with general statement about the open-ended nature of the outreach and analysis process.

Peter Blood: Made it clear that committee can ask that more items be on the short list to be evaluated.

Richard Jefferies: Also concerned about the use of the term "technologies."

John Daniels: More clarification...about the word "options" instead of technologies (as an amendment).

Patrice: Reminder that from the very beginning committee has been talking about systems and options.

Dave Twigg: Years ago WTE was considered good not long ago.

Sally Sorbello: Thank you to volunteers (committee) for volunteering. She wouldn't have if the Authority were involved. Whatever technology or option, we also need to focus on waste reduction, recycling, etc. No "conversion technology!"

John Daniels: Beyond role of committee to recommend a new subcontractor.

DISCUSSION: Develop Advertising Plan for outreach meetings

John: Reminder of the schedule of outreach meetings. Thank you AnnMarie for the logo and content in county newsletter (sustainability). Working with Shannon More on more. News release went out this afternoon. Listed various other PR items that are happening, or could.

Peter, Patrice

John: Advertising. Question about physical space.

Ellis: Three weeks to first outreach meeting. Comments about media outlets. Encourage municipalities to attend (elected officials, related staff, etc.). Listed some other service organizations. Reminder about students. FACEBOOK boosted posts.

Patrice: FCPS email blast.

Joe: more about schools and students.

Peter: Concerned about many times more people showing up than expected. Perhaps having five will help avoid that.

Chris: Less concerned about logistics than "context." Right time to involved students? "Educate them" with a different kind of program?

Patrice: Importance of characterizing the meetings clearly and properly. Many

people will be there to discuss real world options (interesting to students).

Peter: Some members of the public will be involved out of mistrust and concern.

Ellis: Experience that public meetings attendance is a "crapshoot."

Joe: Wants to be sure he takes the right approach with students (given our charge and logistics).

John: We need to focus on our role/charge/mission.

Ellis: Invitation to haulers.

Patrice: Frederick County Chamber of Commerce. All the environmental organizations. Municipal email lists.

Kai and Ellis: We need a sharp graphic.

Ellis: FNP ads -- enough to get into their calendar of events.

Vivian: Don't forget other papers/media.

AnnMarie: Valpack (70,000 people receive). Listed number of folks reached by various county communication options.

Patrice: Is our website up-to-date?

John: Yes...at the moment.

DISCUSSION: Info and questions from Jeremy / Geosyntec

John: Venues and dates. Check. Advertising. In progress. Information and materials for the meetings. Summary of other programs (in other jurisdictions). Need overview of what county is doing now. Three questions for facilitator to focus on. Options, criteria, other factors.

Background document.

What should be made available to the public ("hyperlinked")? What other links/info would be helpful?

Want to avoid clutter.

Went through other questions.

Emphasize moving forward, not dwelling on the past (in terms of lengthy public comments).

Discussion about committee receiving communication from public.

Ellis: Basic fact sheet -- online AND available in printed form at meetings.

Phil and Kevin: Not county job to write the fact sheet (consultant job).

John asks everyone to read the "background document."

Kai: Concern about 9:00 end time on schedule sample.

Kai: Don't break up public input into three or more sections.

Chris: Discussion versus hearing format?

John: Tend to want to leave this to the professionals.

Peter: Reminder that consultant can be flexible, depending on attendance.

Ellis: Recommends, "voting cards" (for public, about criteria). DUSWM info table at each meeting.

Peter: Let's call these public forums (not hearings, etc.)

#### DISCUSSION about Gantt Chart

Multiple comments about breaking out 1.6, starting with cataloguing. Need an additional bar.

DISCUSSION about timeliness of receiving information from consultant before meetings.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Richard Jefferies: Encouraging the invitation and engagement of students. Concern that examples used by Geosyntec not be limited to Maryland. Who decides ultimate criteria?

Vivian: Does having the consultants talk about other communities prejudice forums?

Strike it.

Gene Stanton: Important to allow/encourage kids/students to talk. Reminder that it is important to have various ways to get feedback/suggestions.

Dave Twigg: Question about phone survey (use of cell phones)? Hearings versus discussion (sensing session)?

Gary Thuro: Enjoyed meeting this evening. Suggests large venues.

END PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe: Let's err on the side of too large venues.

Kevin: Reminder that consultant wanted to avoid dais/stage configuration.

Jan Gardner arrived about 8:55 (after MDOT meeting). Reminder that we really want a DIALOGUE.

NEXT MEETING?

John Third Thursday is scheduled date, but we probably need another.

John, Patrice and David thank people for coming (public).

John: Reminder about how much there is to do -- consultant, staff, committee.