

Solid Waste Committee Meeting

Virtual Meeting

May 19, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Arlington County Solid Waste Committee (SWC) was held on Thursday, May 19, 2022 via Microsoft Teams. SWC members in attendance were Carrie Thompson, Anne Germain, Larry Straub, Dean Amel, Scott Pedowitz, Marlene RedDoor, David Dunn, Charles Meng, Barry Harte, Brian Goggin, and Carolyn White. Sam Watzman, Saul Reyes, Steven Marku, Gabriel Calvo, Julie Sproesser, and Kimberly Fedinatz, were not in attendance.

Erik Grabowsky, Adam Riedel, and Douglas Krietemeyer were in attendance from the SWB. Stacey Demers and Brent Dieleman were in attendance from SCS Engineers.

Welcome and Introductions

Carrie T. made brief remarks welcoming all the participants to the meeting and turned the meeting over to Doug Krietemeyer for the presentation.

SWB Update

1. Doug Krietemeyer made a presentation to the SWC regarding the Solid Waste Bureau's recent waste audits and how the SWB uses that data to modify programs or target education initiatives.
 - a. How waste audits are conducted.
 - b. Residential Waste Audits
 - c. Multi-family Waste Audit
 - d. Commercial Waste Audit
2. Question and Comments
 - a. Carrie T. commented on how surprised she was to see how poorly people are recycling and managing trash in the multi-family and asked about the ability of carrot and stick to get them to do better. Erik G. mentioned that other communities have grant programs to help incentivize people, performance, and other things.
 - b. Carrie T. also asked about posting educational materials inside multi-family properties, Adam clarified that we ensure that buildings have an adequate system and we do provide educational materials, but targeted enforcement of community disposal is a tough problem. There are buildings that want to do better but with current staffing the SWB is unable to provide the resources necessary to provide that assistance. Carolyn W. also mentioned that there may be opportunities to get other organizations involved to provide assistance/education to property managers.

- c. Scott P. asked for clarification on what the trash stream looks like. Doug K. clarified that it's really anything without an easily accessible diversion outlet and things that cannot be recycled (examples include diapers, cat litter, chip bags or individual snack wrappers).
 - d. Dean A. suggested that swapping the trash chutes and recycling rooms for capacity and ease of use could influence behaviors. SWB staff explained that that may require building code changes to facilitate because there maybe code requirements that specify what is needed.
 - e. Larry S. asked about recycling and trash statistics in Fairlington Villages. David D., the Capital Services representative, and member of the SWC explained that they don't conduct regular audits. Capital Services does provide the same report to the Villages Board that they are required to provide to the county about waste degeneration and recycling.
 - f. Marlene R. asked if there were any "dirty" MRFs in the area. There are none. A dirty MRF is a facility where trash is sorted to recover recyclable materials. It was explained that most fail because they the model is not sustainable.
 - g. Carrie T. gave a brief introduction to the SWOT analysis activity that we did not have time to conduct, however it will be postponed to the beginning of the next meeting.
3. SWC 2022 Meeting Dates
- a. The next meeting will occur June 16, 2022 and will begin the brainstorming for new ideas.
 - b. Meeting dates through July are:
 - i. July 21, 2022
 - ii. August – No Meeting

Adjourn.