The regular meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was called to order by the Chair at 5:40 PM on May 4, 2016, in the 6th Floor Conference Room at the Executive Office Building (EOB). Introductions were then made.

Meet and Greet with DSWS Chief, Dan Locke

Dan’s opening comments. Where we can be involved:
- Budget review
- Food waste (recommendation to CE from Lisa soon – capacity to process food scraps)
  - Waiting on Executive decision. Need to hold close due to PIA concerns
  - Working on determining a path for capacity
  - Also type of system
  - Need to work on collections methods;
    ▪ Containers – in kitchen
    ▪ Liners
    ▪ Provide or require
    ▪ Size of containers
  - How to get folks on board
    ▪ Tip fees
  - What all gets included? Paper (soiled), proteins, bones, compostable plastics – all dependent on processing system.

Question: How firm is the CE’s decision? Council holds purse strings. CE will decide direction. CC funds or doesn’t. We will have a way to have input to the process. DSWS will help with that input.

Question: What is the driver to get food waste? 70% by 2020. Activities on merit, need budget support. We get money to support the recycling efforts. New styrofoam ban forces compostable materials to be in place. Food is the last big part by weight.
Gude Comments: Bioremediation will not be the solution due to low level metals contamination. MDE takes exception to the contractor’s recommendation. Now plan will be to CAP the top (toupee). Folklore on Gude was dig to water and fill. Current borings show water table is well below the trash. Placing a CAP over the waste is the recommendation. This is a hold the waste in place answer. CAP installation will give the County a long grace period before MED will go after other potential cures to the gas migration problem. CAP installation will cost ~$28M in two years and be done. This puts the long-term cost of CAP installation at about half of the cost of bioremediation. Can CAPPED land be used for any of the food composting? Re-use is a delicate issue as the local residents have a say in the reuse. This decision is coming up, we need to figure it out. Potential yard waste site?

White Oak (site II) is slated for development. Not open for other uses.

Question: What else can we weigh in on? Much of what we do is static. Outreach always need update. In ten-year plan there are goals moving forward. May be opportunities there. Current Plan is on the website.

Full county waste pick-up. An admirable goal but . . . Suggestion to add this to next month’s discussion. Perhaps a letter to the CC.

The measurement of waste by weight may not be the best way to measure the benefits of a recycling process. Other thoughts: carbon impact, IE: Glass (low environmental impact, high weight, low value) should we recycle. Plastic (bury to sequester the carbon?).


County GHG goal, not specifically stated. Climate protection plan. County uses the Federal WARM model. Perhaps a better measure of solid waste management decisions.

DEP’s and by definition DSWS’s goal – Safeguard Land, Water and Air.

DEP made comments to State’s request for comments on Zero Waste. Robin will forward to us for review.

In depth introductions by each member to give Dan a sense of the talent available to him through SWAC.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Past Minutes: November 5 (needs approval), January 6 (no quorum), February 3 (no quorum), and March 16 (no quorum). All four sets of minutes were reviewed, corrected and approved as corrected.

Subcommittee Reports:

Planning: no report
Recycling: no report. We will review the sub district recycling rate data next meeting.
Budget: no report
Interview Committee: 2 vacancies are open to be filled. Applications will be forwarded by DSWS Staff to the sub-committee for review.

Bob and Sara D went to CE’s meeting. Town Hall type meeting. Focused on membership issue – contact made after that meeting. CE supported that we should reach out to him if we have a need to chat.
NEW BUSINESS

Nominations and Elections for 2016 (Chair and Vice): Paula is Chair, Sara D is Vice Chair – for the remainder of 2016. Nominations made, accepted, and approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Susan – Climate protection for Montgomery County – report exists. We should review and see how it fits into our efforts. Look at metrics we can use. EIWG - On Composting – what impact can we have on the other tiers of composting? Home owners, other options . . . community based? Small numbers but a culture change could establish a new model for solid waste. Look at issue from a resource position. Is compost use in the County's SWPP. How can we support the residential efforts? Dan’s response – yard waste is supported; food waste is a potential issue if not dome properly by committed people. Susan – there are options.

Kelly – attending as an opportunity to see what we're doing. Her experience is with EPA in PP.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45. Next Meeting set for June 1, 5:30 PM, in the 6th Floor Conference Room at the Executive Office Building (EOB).

ACRONYMS

CC County Council
CNG Compressed Natural Gas
DAFIG Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group
DEP Department of Environmental Protection
ERP Enterprise Resource Planning
MES Maryland Environmental Services
SWAC Solid Waste Advisory Committee
CE County Executive
CPI Consumer Price Index
DSWS Division of Solid Waste Services
FY Fiscal Year
HHW Household Hazardous Waste
MC Montgomery County
RRF Resource Recovery Facility