

NOTICE OF MEETING
RECYCLING AD HOC COMMITTEE
TUESDAY - JULY 13, 2021 - 1:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - ROOM 204
823 ROSENBERG
GALVESTON, TX 77550
TELEPHONE: 409-797-3510
ZOOM CALL-IN NUMBER: 346-248-7799
MEETING ID: 844 0958 1307 PASSWORD: 4GT.5E (computer); 410057 (telephone)

The committee will conduct an in-person meeting on the above date, time, and location. Some members of the committee may attend the meeting via Zoom.

AGENDA

1. Declaration Of A Quorum And Call Meeting To Order
2. Roll Call
3. Consider For Approval Minutes Of The June 8, 2021 And June 22, 2021 Meetings.

Documents:

[MINUTES 6222021.DOCX](#)
[MINUTES_06082021.PDF](#)

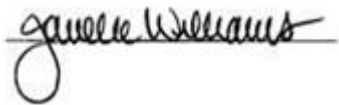
4. Public Comments (Limited To Three Minutes Each)
5. Continue Work On Draft Outline To Report To City Council.

Documents:

[DRAFT REPORT.PDF](#)

6. Next Steps/Goals For Committee Discussion.
7. Request Agenda Items For Future Meetings
8. Adjournment

I certify that the above Notice of Meeting was posted in a place convenient to the public in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code on July 7, 2021 at 12:00 P.M.



Janelle Williams, City Secretary

In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons in need of a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall, within three (3) days prior to any proceeding, contact the City Secretary's Office, Suite 201, 823 Rosenberg, Galveston, Texas

77550, (409-797-3510).

Members of the City Council may be attending and participating in this meeting

DRAFT

June 22, 2021 1 PM Recycling Committee Meeting
(in-person City Hall room 100 and Zoom)

Declaration of A Quorum and Call Meeting to Order at 1:01 PM

Roll Call; William Schuster, Dorothy Trevino, Susan Syler, Cody Wright, Joanie Steinhaus, David Fortenberry and Scott Van Slyke

Consider for Approval Minutes of the June 8, 2021 Meeting

Attached Documents:

Minutes June 8, 2021

Draft outline; **comments due**

back to Joanie by July 7th noon.

History- **Dr. Cole**

Issues:

Committee- formed to consider market trends in Recycling (Loss of Chinese market for plastics) best practices and streamlining efficiency in anticipation of new recycling center. \$500,00 a year in fees from water customers plus budget from Waste.

At time committee was formed recycling center had vendors with no final disposition reports, 20% contamination rates (material going to landfill at higher transport rates than transfer station) Question of effectiveness and efficiency of Taxpayers funding

Measurement tool- **Cody**

Measurement tool (develop)to track how the center is functioning, efficiency, budget, less waste to landfill, final disposition, citizen input. This tool would be used to draft report and explain the worth of the recycling center.

Recommendation to Council:

- Ensure city recycling staff reports to the city council 2-3 times per year on the status of the center; efficiency, market trends and best practices
- The City Councils directs the city manager on any changes or recommendations to the recycle program
- Vendors provide final disposition reports so users have confidence in the report.
- Center is reducing waste going to landfill and providing a service
- Extensive education outreach needed - reaching more citizens and also Commercial-businesses. Coordinate education with waste reduction.
- Staff develop a measurement tool to track how the center is functioning within shifting markets as well as recycling in Galveston- how much is being recycled, diverted from landfill, etc.
- Future curb-side recycling for community (third party vendors, pop-up)

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- Look at rates for different size trash cans (add sizes and costs)
- Create an email opt-in for residents to receive distribution of email blasts on recycling events and recycling updates (water bills, Next Door, Facebook and other social media sites)
- Overall community commitment working toward a zero-waste community (add papers, references)
- Develop and encourage commercial recycling

The City Council desires to establish an ad hoc committee in order to consider the City's role in an Island- Wide Recycling Program, to include market trends, best practices, and streamlining and efficiency

1. How to effectively create an environment where residents and visitors have citywide access to recycling
 - a. Pop-up events stationed on east and west side of the island
 - b. Ease at the recycle center; signs, organization, beautification of center
 - c. City staff pick up of recycling materials at schools and residents over 65 or disable
 - d. Financial reality of cost of city-wide curb-side pick up
 - e. Additional recycling stations on the beach
 - f. Partner with other organizations on the island that offer additional ways to recycle materials (paint, ???)
 - g. A list of locations where information is available on city website
 - h. Reduction of waste to the transfer center
2. How does the City effectively market and advertise its recycling facility?
 - a. Creation of tri-fold to be distributed in water bill, at short term rentals, hotels and other locations on the island
 - b. Videos posted on city website and other city social media sites explaining components of the recycle center
 - c. Email blast to residents,
 - d. Presentations to HOAs, Clubs, Next Door and other venues on the island
 - e. Engage other non-profits with similar missions to promote recycling
 - f. Recycle committee members add their voice to promote recycling
3. What can the City do to make the facility more user friendly?
 - a. Ease of recycling at the recycle center; signs, organization
 - b. Beautification of center
 - c. Upgraded efficiency at the center; staff guidance
 - d. Scott and recycle staff working at the center; highlight staff member on a monthly basis
 - e. Community members tour the recycle center
 - f. Outreach to schools and tours of the center for local students
4. Understanding the facility will operate 5-6 days a week during daylight hours, are some days and times better

Included in report;

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- A. Information from city staff member on: **Susan**
 - 1. Update on city-wide plan for access to recycling- covered by Scott
 - 2. Benchmarks- **Cody**
 - a. What needs to go in Scott's report
 - b. Tonnage, waste-diversion,
 - c. budget

- B. Additional items to cover in report;
 - 1. Why are people not recycling?
 - Access to reach the center
 - Awareness of center
 - Time constraints
 - No financial incentive or penalty

- C. Long term goals:
 - a. Track put or pay- transfer station. Contracts with waste (BFI) cost per ton and minimum to meet with city contract. City still pays even if the amount of waste is reduced.
 - b. Biggest amount comes from yard waste- compost
 - 1. Galveston Island Tree Conservancy- speak with Priscilla Files-use leaves for mulch on city-wide projects and parks and mulching
 - 2. How to dispose of palm fronds- use to build dunes (check with GLO)
 - 3. Educate residents to Leave grass cuttings on lawns-
 - 4. "Keeping n' Green" recycling is planning on offering customers a compost pickup
 - c. Recycled materials? Potential City ordinance or resolution to eliminate Styrofoam in businesses
 - d. Construction waste?
 - e. Continue city-wide clean ups once per year bring materials to the recycle center (April)
 - f. Continue Shred Days; 3-4 per year (June and November)
 - g. Include volunteers; community service workers
 - h. Island is not perceived as an eco-destination by visitors
 - i. Work for zero waste city-wide goal

Next steps/goals for committee discussion

Request Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Meeting ended at 2:29 PM

DRAFT
RECYCLING AD HOC COMMITTEE
JUNE 8, 2021

6/8/2021 - Minutes

1. Declaration Of A Quorum And Call Meeting To Order
Chair Joanie Steinhaus declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call

Present: Board Members Joanie Steinhaus, Susan Syler, David Fortenberry, Dorothy Trevino, and Cody Wright (1:06 p.m.); Ex Officio Council Member William Schuster; Cindy DeWitt, Director of Administration and Sanitation; Scott Van Slyke, Recycling Department; and Janelle Williams, City Secretary.

Absent: Board Members Stephanie Vasut and Dr. Jackie Cole.

3. Consider For Approval Minutes Of The April 13, 2021 And May 25, 2021 Meetings

Susan Syler made a motion to approve the April 13, 2021 minutes, with David Fortenberry seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.

Susan Syler made a motion to approve the May 25, 2021 minutes, with David Fortenberry seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.

4. Public Comments (Limited To Three Minutes Each)
None.

5. Presentation From City Staff Member On:

1. Update on city-wide plan for access to recycling

2. Pilot program - **Scott Van Slyke and Cindy DeWitt discussed with the committee a proposed plan for pop-up recycling events for the East End and West End still in the planning stages.**

3. Tri-fold - **Scott Van Slyke shared with the committee a tri-fold document created by staff for educational purposes that shows materials accepted, how recyclables are processed and where it goes, and the value of recycling. He shared information on an 'I support recycling' sticker that could be passed out to businesses and residents.**

4. Additional videos/outreach planned - **Scott Van Slyke discussed with the committee the Recycling Educational Campaign Timeline. Phase 1 results: (1) released four recycling educational videos, (2) hosted four recycling events, (3) developed and updated educational information on the the Recycling Divisions' website, (4) hosted one recycling committee tour, and (5) established and completed all Phase 1 objectives. The Recycling Division is currently developing their Phase 2 goals, objectives, and benchmarks. The committee suggested reaching out to community groups to get the word out.**

6. Measurement Tool (Develop) To Track How The Center Is Functioning, Efficiency, Budget, Less Waste To Landfill, Final Disposition, Citizen Input.

City staff will be working on developing a graph on the city website that will show recycling progress.

7. Begin Outline For Committee Final Report (Last Meeting In August)

The committee will begin drafting the final report at the next meeting. The committee has been very well educated, and the recycling center has come a long way. One long-term goal would be committing to becoming a zero waste community.

- Issues and accomplishments
- Engage citizens
- Reduction of waste to transfer center
- Benchmarks
- Why are people not recycling - **the community needs to be better educated. One idea is to provide information on what to do with materials not accepted at the recycling center such as batteries and paint.**
- Track put or pay
- Scott will share list of locations where information is available on city website

8. Next Steps/Goals For Committee Discussion

With five remaining meetings, the committee will begin drafting their final report to City Council.

9. Request Agenda Items For Future Meetings

10. Guidelines In City Council Resolution

- How to effectively create an environment where residents and visitors have citywide access to recycling
- How does the City effectively market and advertise its recycling facility?
- What can the City do to make the facility more user friendly?
- Understanding the facility will operate 5-6 days a week during daylight hours, are some days and times better
- The City Council desires to establish an ad hoc committee in order to consider the City's role in an Island- Wide Recycling Program, to include market trends, best practices, and streamlining and efficiency

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

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DRAFT REPORT

History- **Dr. Cole**

Recycling Committee History

Committee was formed by Council to report on the effectiveness of the Recycling Center in anticipation of a new recycling center. Recycling best practices were changing due to market forces including the loss of the Chinese market for plastics. There was also a desire of residents to know the final disposition of the products for cost and effort efficiencies

Issues:

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- h. Island is not perceived as a eco-destination
- i. Work for zero waste city-wide