

SWAC Summary

December 11, 2008

Present: Janet O'Connor, Rik Fredrickson, John Wyatt, Don Stacy, Tracy Farrell, Tami Ramsey (via phone), 3 Shelton High School students and 1 parent, David Baker

Approval of minutes and agenda followed roll call.

Updates: The City reported that they were moving forward on the expansion of the curbside recycling program. This will include larger bins, the addition of yard waste, and the inclusion of multi-family housing. This is made possible by a grant from Ecology and the extra effort by the city staff (Tracy) and the grant officer (Tami). The second hearing (action) is on December 15th at 6 PM. County updates on the recycling program are less rosy. Bluebox sites will be cut in order to make the budget balance. The remaining recycling sites – the 4 County operated garbage and recycling locations – will be discontinuing the acceptance of plastics and glass for recycling. These changes will reduce costs for the County by more than \$50,000 for 2009.

A customer survey went out with the bills on December 1st. So far, 100 responses have been compiled, with the majority being people who support recycling in some form.

In an effort to offer recycling opportunities to residents, a curbside collection ordinance will be brought before the Board on December 23rd. There was a great deal of discussion about the ordinance strategy. The ordinance will require the hauler to provide garbage and recycling collection to all subscribers with automated collection, and, all collection will be automated within three years. In essence, everyone in Mason County will have curbside recycling, as an option, by the end of 2011. A motion was made and seconded (Mr. Wyatt abstained) to write a letter of support from the SWAC.

Old Business: Hazardous Waste Plan There was a basic review of the Plan thus far, with a guiding document provided by Ecology. The document was discussed, with the requirements highlighted along with the goals from the Beyond Waste Plan. It was agreed the State goals could be incorporated, and that staff and DOE would bring a schedule to the next meeting. Additionally, if SWAC members wish to participate in the development, a block of time between meetings could be arranged. This will be pursued at the next meeting once the schedule is identified.

Next meeting will include the Hazardous Waste Plan schedule and recommendations, an update on County Recycling programs, and an update on Electronics Waste, as that program begins statewide on January 1st.

Next meeting will be January 8, 2009 in Building 1 at 6 PM