

**RECYCLING AD HOC COMMITTEE
MINUTES - MAY 11, 2021**

5/11/2021 - Minutes

1. Declaration Of A Quorum And Call Meeting To Order
Chair Joanie Steinhaus declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present (via videoconference): Board Members Joanie Steinhaus, Cody Wright, Susan Syler, David Fortenberry, Dorothy Trevino, and Dr. Jackie Cole; Cindy DeWitt, Director of Administration and Sanitation; Scott Van Slyke, Recycling Department; Dan Buckley, Deputy City Manager; and Janelle Williams, City Secretary.

Absent: Stephanie Vasut.

3. Consider For Approval Minutes Of The April 27, 2021 Meeting
David Fortenberry made a motion to approve the April 27, 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Susan Syler. Unanimously approved.
4. Public Comments (Limited To Three Minutes Each)
None.
5. Presentation Of The Park Board Recycling Program; Kimberly Danesi (15-20 Minutes And Questions)
Kimberly Danesi discussed with the committee the Park Board's trash collection and recycling program. She reported on the following: the Park Board has approximately 4,000 trash cans along the Seawall and beaches, and 30 full-time and 10 seasonal employees that are responsible for tipping the cans; they have 12 large recycling containers with three compartments and 20 stand alone recycling cans along the Seawall; 2.2 million pounds of trash was collected in 2018 along the beaches, which was an exceptional year because of debris being washed up due to Hurricane Harvey; in 2019 they collected two million pounds minus debris; in 2020 they collected 2.5 million pounds of trash along the beaches; they are seeing a correlation of increased trash with increased visitation; in 2019 they added an evening crew in addition to the morning crew to service the trash cans; the Save Our Shores campaign that started in 2019 addresses items being left on the beach and is working well due to education efforts and signage; their recycling activities started with six containers mainly at the beach parks which are taken to their facility and hand sorted then taken to the City's recycling center, and they now have 12 recycling containers; the recycling containers were not deployed during the pandemic but will be deployed this summer; the Park Board is very aware of the trash issues and they are developing a Trash Initiative Task Force to look at proactive public education that we want trash in the can, not in the sand. Currently, items being left on the beaches overnight are collected by Park Board staff and taken to the landfill. Scott Van Slyke will visit the Park Board's facility to assist with the possibility of recycling these items.
6. Recap And Questions Regarding The Tour Of The Recycle Center
Committee members and staff recapped the tour of the Recycling Center taken on May 11th. Scott Van Slyke reported that committee members toured each section, the self-sorting center, the bulk area drop off, the mixed metals, oil, and e-waste areas, the processing area where the bailers are, and the area where mixed metals are separated. He thanked everyone that was able to attend. Committee members that did not make it are welcome to come by for a tour.
7. Meeting In Person, Discussion On May 25th Meeting
The committee discussed the possibility of meeting in person for future meetings. The May 25th meeting will be held on Zoom, and the agenda will included a discussion on going back to in-person meetings.

8. Committee Requests A Staff Member From Federal, International Attend The Next Meeting (May 25)
The committee requested a presentation from Federal, International at the May 25th meeting. Federal, International representatives requested questions in advance of the meeting so they will be able to answer at that time.

9. Next Steps/Goals For Committee Discussion
Joanie Steinhaus discussed with the committee progress on goals in the City Council Resolution. At the previous meeting, the committee had a pretty in depth conversation about goals that have been met and what still needs to be covered. Per the Council Resolution, the committee will meet through August. Dan Buckley reported that staff is currently working on redesigning the center on the current site. It will not look anything like the current site, but will resemble the facility in Texas City. As staff works through the redesign, it would be helpful if the committee could provide information on what makes the center user friendly and what makes it work for the citizens of Galveston. The committee and staff discussed hours of operation, but future hours will not include an open center that is unmanned.

10. Request Agenda Items For Future Meetings
Questions for Federal, International should be sent to the Chair so she can compile and send to the City Secretary.

11. Guidelines In City Council Resolution
 - How to effectively create an environment where residents and visitors have citywide access to recycling

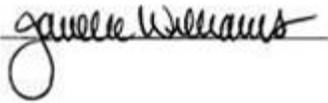
 - How does the City effectively market and advertise its recycling facility - **staff shared some recent educational videos that have gone out to the public.**

 - What can the City do to make the facility more user friendly - **committee members reported from the tour that staff has made some good improvements to the center.**

 - Understanding the facility will operate 5-6 days a week during daylight hours, are some days and times better - **the committee will discuss hours at the next meeting.**

12. Schedule Future Meetings
The next meeting is scheduled on May 25, 2021.

13. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.



Janelle Williams, City Secretary
Date Approved: May 25, 2021