



Solid Waste Advisory Panel MINUTES – 1st Meeting 2017

Present:

Councillor René Lapierre	Chair, Solid Waste Advisory Panel
David Bouffard	Vice-Chair, Solid Waste Advisory Panel
Chantal Mathieu	Director of Environmental Services, CGS
Renée Brownlee	Manager of Solid Waste & Administrative Services, CGS
Aziz Rehman	Manager of Waste Processing & Disposal Services, CGS
John Bulfon	Manager of Waste Collection & Field Services, CGS
Kyle Anderson	Field Officer, CGS
Margaret McLaughlin	Public Member
Gord Slade	Public Member
Terry Sweeney	Recording Secretary, CGS

Absent:

Councillor Al Sizer	Councillor for Ward 8, CGS
Andrew Dubé	Public Member

Held: Wednesday, June 21st, 2017, at 10:10 a.m.
Education Room, Environmental Services, 1805 Frobisher Street

Adjournment: 11:50 a.m.

Chair Lapierre welcomed everyone and the meeting came to order at 10:10 a.m. Introductions were made around the table.

1. Overview - Support Programs:

An overview of the new programs was provided. All programs were put in to place to assist residents who have temporary and extraordinary circumstances that prohibit them from meeting the weekly garbage unit allowance since the reduction from three to two garbage units in October. Residents enrolled in the new programs will be periodically audited to ensure they are participating in all of the City's waste diversion programs.

A Panel member asked whether a resident with a long term medical condition could avoid renewing every six months. Renée Brownlee indicated there were reasons for this requirement, but this would be taken under advisement.

2. Overview - Home Visit Educational Program Plan:

Staff advised the purpose of this program is to educate residents to enable them to successfully and effortlessly meet the garbage unit limit by participating in the City's various waste diversion programs – at their convenience in their own home. Staff anticipates an increase in home visits as the garbage unit limit decreases.

3. Waste Diversion Equipment:

As a result of the decrease in the garbage unit limit in October 2016, staff have seen a significant increase in the amount of Big Blues purchased and requests for new Blue Boxes and Green Carts. With the move to a one garbage unit limit coming in 2019, staff anticipates the demand for diversion equipment will continue to increase along with the cost to purchase the containers.

A member asked whether an information package is sent with the equipment and Renée Brownlee indicated that a package is offered to residents. It can be provided by mail, e-mail or accessed from the City's website.

4. Field Education & Inspections:

Inspections are performed on proactive and reactive approaches by the Field Officer to ensure residents are complying with the rules and regulations relating to roadside waste collection. Attempts are made to resolve issues through the use of various educational materials. In some cases a more formal approach must be taken to enforce the Waste Management By-law including charges.

5. (Large) Furniture & Appliances:

Large Furniture and Appliances can be collected roadside for low density residential homes by calling 311, submitting an on-line form or by placing at the roadside on their collection day. Staff are in the process of creating a database that will enable residents to request collection through a mobile app. A suggestion was made that a reply be provided when a request is made by residents. Renée Brownlee indicated she would review that matter with the app developer.

Staff described the current list of eligible items, non-eligible items and alternatives for collection, including the current tag system for garbage bags and garbage containers (cans). Staff also described that a system for garbage bundles would be in place later this year.

Staff sought input from the Panel members on changes to the current list of eligible items. No items were recommended to be added or removed from the list. A member advised that education was required to inform residents that freon no longer needs to be removed from appliances. It was also suggested to revise the wording for basketball stands and swing sets.

The Province's plan for a circular economy was briefly discussed and how manufacturing companies would eventually fund the full life cycle of their products. Panel members gave their support to staff to proceed with diverting Furniture & Appliance waste for recycling if this funding becomes available.

6. Other Business:

The Director responded to an inquiry about recycling water bottles. Plastic water bottles are collected through the Blue Box program. The plastic is baled at our Recycling Centre and shipped down south and sold on various markets. The City shares in the profit with the Recycling Processing contractor.

Staff advised that the procurement for the processing of recyclables is currently out and is the last 10+ year contract to be renewed.

The timing by-law for placement of garbage was briefly discussed.

Every other week collection was also briefly discussed and staff indicated additional reports would be forthcoming prior to implementation.

7. **Next Meeting:**

A second meeting for the Solid Waste Advisory Panel will be scheduled in October.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Distribution: Advisory Panel Members