

# APPROVED MINUTES

## Recycling Commission Meeting Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 5:30pm – 7:30pm Noel Wien Library Conference Room

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

### 2. ROLL CALL

**Commissioners:** Karl Monetti, Chairman; Ariane Staples; Jimmy Fox; Karl Hough; Frank Williams; Brett Parks

**FNSB Staff:** Bob Jordan, Manager, Solid Waste Division; Jane Steeves, Secretary

**Liaisons:** Van Lawrence, FNSB Assembly

**Guests:** Becca Brado, Green Star of Interior Alaska; Chris and Molly Hunter; Robert Shields, Alliance for Reason and Knowledge; Kayla MacDonald, Chena Power/K & K Recycling; David Weissman, Green Star of Interior Alaska, Design Alaska; Deb Hickok, Explore Fairbanks; Amanda Frank, KUAC; Mary Ann Nichols, Rachel Lee, Eric Breitenstein, Interested parties

### 3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

(Approval of Consent Agenda passes all routine items indicated by an asterisk (\*) on the agenda. Consent Agenda items are not considered separately unless so requested, in which case the item is returned to the general agenda. Said item will be discussed prior to public comment period, or under New Business, at discretion of Chair.)

#### A. \*Approval of Agenda -

**MOTION:** To approve as submitted.

**MOVED:** Brett Parks

**SECONDED:** Karl Hough

**DISCUSSION:** None

**PASSED:** Unanimously

#### B. \*Approval of minutes of 02/10/16 meeting

Included in 3. A. above

### 4. MESSAGES

#### A. Chairman's comments –

##### I. Discuss FY6 Budget Status

- a. The Mayor has passed the FY17 budget request of \$134,150 on to the FNSB Assembly
- b. There will be an Earth Day celebration Saturday at Veterans' Park with a walk from 12pm-1pm.
- c. Rodney Guritz, Arctic Data Services, is out of town. No report this meeting.

#### B. Communications to the Recycling Commission:

##### I. Report on progress of shopping bags and outreach program – Becca Brado, Green Star of Interior Alaska (GSIA).

- a. 5,000 reusable shopping bags were purchased with FNSB funding. The remaining 1,600 will be distributed at Fred Meyer's to celebrate Earth Day and at similar events throughout the summer. The bags are sturdy, but the size will be increased for any future purchases. "Reminder" vinyl car window clings are being distributed. Alaska Waste provided grocery list magnets with a reminder to take a reusable bag when shopping. See attached data sheets indicating increasing usage of reusable bags. GSIA will continue to gather data.

##### II. Report on K & K Recycling – Kayla MacDonald

Current projects and research were reviewed via power point:

- a. 55-kw screw expander: purposed to create power; pellets could be used for fuel.
- b. Genius Stirling Engine: a long-lived turn-key generator for use in remote areas; the first model will be in Fairbanks within a month.
- c. CO2 growth enhancement greenhouse: will be operating at Eielson to provide fresh vegetables. Oyster mushroom spores are being used to create CO2.
- d. Eielson: emissions from the power plant will be channeled through the greenhouse to enhance plant growth.
- e. Tomato growing technique: tomatoes are growing in sterilized glass and bio-char, the latter is carbon.

- f. Recycled asphalt project: road repair cold patch, holds its shape when compacted; works well for potholes, but too slick for large surfaces.
- g. Cardboard and plastic fuel pellets: small pellets and eco-bricks; looking to create a partnership with a company outside of Alaska to acquire EPA and air quality approvals, or will pursue same here in Fairbanks.
- h. Recycled Plastic Bail Trail: Soil Stabilization; bailed plastic has been buried in a dug trench to see if it works to stabilize permafrost damage; possible use for new roads and road repair; plastic doesn't produce leach ate and is approved by the FNSB.
- i. Papercrete Bricks: made of cement, paper and cardboard, and occasionally plastic; could be used for small paver stones, patios, flower boxes, smaller items; investigating water retention and structural failure due to same.
- j. Renewable Energy Fair: includes the building and the insulation of structures around the world using bailed recycled plastic, paper, and cardboard.

The goal for the future is to use recycled materials locally to invest in the community. The company is looking for a building for central recycling and will pursue its own dreams, whether or not their RFP for central recycling is successful. Dialog is continuing relative to restarting recycling at Eielson AFB and there are plans to begin a dialogue with Fort Wainwright. The immediate intention is to begin accepting all plastics in the near future.

- III. Report on progress of RFP (Request for Proposal-Recycling Operator) - Bob Jordan
  - a. The RFI was issued late November 2015 and closed mid-December. A group has been working on a draft for an RFP which is expected to be issued no later than June 2016.
- IV. Report on Arctic Winter Games/Legacy Project recycling bins – Deb Hickok
  - a. The bins used for recycling at the Games were located at seven schools, Pioneer Park, Birch Hill, Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center, etc.
  - b. Remaining funds include: \$35,000 from the Recycling Commission, \$10,000 from Fort Knox and \$20,000.00 legacy monies from the Games. There is an ad hoc committee working on the best distribution, preparing the culture to welcome recycling and ensuring current users are actually recycling before they receive more bins. The first call for applications went out in mid-March. Applications have been received from North Pole Middle School, the Carlson Center, and the Children's Museum. Applications are available for private sector purchase, and for schools and government/non-profit entities. Activity is stepping up to solicit more applications. Applicants are expected to provide an acceptable method of recycling the materials. The highest volume has been cardboard from the cabins in Pioneer Park. Storage has been built on site. Committed parents, teachers and students provide volunteer labor at the schools, which creates a recycling challenge when a dedicated person moves on. Bob Jordan will meet with Deb Hickok regarding the deadline of June 30, 2016, for use of FNSB funds.
- V. Demonstration on Zero Waste Alaska 3D printing – Chris Hunter, Alliance for Reason and Knowledge
  - a. Chris Hunter runs a lab with a particular interest in 3D printing. 3D printers can repeatedly process plastic with little material loss. 3D printer technology is still in its infancy but it is getting faster and better, using less power and becoming more precise. 3D printers bypass machine shop processes. The Navy is manufacturing most things in a full machine shop on board ships faster and cheaper than shipping items from source. The same process could be used in the villages. 3D printers will allow for manufacture in the villages and remote areas. Students in villages are learning how to use them now. The groundwork is being laid. Since most items have a number and a triangle indicating the materials used in manufacture, 3D printer use is best supported by central recycling.

## 5. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

(Note: our policy is to encourage public comment. All items on the agenda will be open for public comment unless otherwise noted. If you would like to comment on any agenda items and cannot stay until such items come up for consideration during the meeting, you may comment at this time. You may also suggest a future agenda item to the Commission at this time. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes, with 30 minutes total time allotted.)

A. Agenda items

None

B. Items not on the agenda

Robert Shields noted that Earth Day will be featured at UAF, including vendor booths, on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. A monologue on Nikola Tesla will be presented at Raven Landing the same day. In addition, there will be an Earth Day presentation at in the Schaible Auditorium on campus on Sunday.

Mary Ann Nichols, Raven Landing, shared that recycling is happening on each floor of the complex. Bins are provided for plastics, paper and cardboard, aluminum, batteries and electronics, toner cartridges, solid foam, prescription pill bottles, etc. The pill bottles are sent to Africa to be used in lieu of paper packaging of prescriptions.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Items on agenda scheduled for public hearing

None

B. Items on agenda not scheduled for public hearing

None

**7. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS/PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

A. Items on agenda scheduled for public hearing

None

B. Items on agenda not scheduled for public hearing

I. Discuss and act upon Application for Special Recycling Projects, Green Star of Interior Alaska (GSIA) Community Recycling Program

- a. The application requests \$62,150, the remaining funds in the Commission's 2016 budget, to take over the recycling activity at the Fairbanks Rescue Mission, which will cease June 30, 2016. - Becca Brado and David Weissman presented.

**MOTION:** To accept the application as submitted

**MOVED:** Jimmy Fox

**SECONDED:** Ariane Staples

**DISCUSSION:** GSIA will assume the Mission recycling activity until the FNSB is ready. Rodney Gaskins will consult during the takeover; support job shadowing and sell selected equipment to GSIA. The potential site is 1200 Wells Street – one building containing two warehouses and a compactor. The owners are motivated sellers and willing to work with GSIA to possibly rent or purchase. Naming rights could lower the price significantly. This centrally located building could potentially save the cost of construction of a new recycling center although some repairs are necessary. Dialog with ALPAR indicates a potential partnership with GSIA will be in place by July 1, 2016. The goal is to create *no interruption of service*. There can be no risk of shutting down recycling and losing the confidence of the community. A longer term goal is to create a recycling partnership with Fort Greely.

**PASSED: Unanimously**

II. Discuss and act upon Application for Approved Recycler, (GSIA) Community Recycling Program

- a. The application requests an additional \$25,000, ear-marked for avoided costs, to fund the take-over of the current Fairbanks Rescue Mission recycling activity. Becca Brado and David Weissman presented.

**MOTION:** To accept the application as submitted

**MOVED:** Brett Parks

**SECONDED:** Karl Hough

**DISCUSSION:** This change-over will parallel the RFI/RFP process to create central recycling. The Mission will deliver items to GSIA rather than to the Mission. GSIA could reach out to Alaska Waste to deliver cardboard as soon as space is available. The intent is to being bailing and shipping as soon as possible. GSIA hopes to triple the current recycling with the increase in space.

**PASSED: Unanimously**

**MOTION:** To extend the meeting until all proposals are heard.

**MOVED:** Ariane Staples

**SECONDED:** Brett Parks

**DISCUSSION:** None

**PASSED:** Unanimously

III. Discuss and act upon Alliance for Reason and Knowledge

a. Zero Waste Alaska – Phase One: Education

b. Robert Shields presented. The \$20,000 application proposes to make a one half-hour film about the dumpster diver community in Fairbanks. The film would be created by Alaskans for Alaskans. The intent is to inspire entrepreneurs to generate new ideas using reclaimed materials obtained from decentralizing recycling to stimulate economic development. The film would be posted online and shown in local venues. The difference from similar films is local stories would make the connection.

**MOTION:** To accept the proposal as submitted

**MOVED:** Karl Hough

**SECONDED:** Brett Parks

**DISCUSSION:** Decentralized recycling does not meet the current goals of the Recycling Commission

**FAILED:** Unanimously

c. Zero Waste Alaska – Phase One: Empowerment

d. Robert Shields presented. The \$20,000 application proposes collaboration with the Recycling Commission to hold a one-day recycling fair to enable local recyclers to display their products. The core idea is to offer prizes for the best ideas for business start-ups.

**MOTION:** To accept the proposal as submitted

**MOVED:** Karl Hough

**SECONDED:** Ariane Staples

**DISCUSSION:** The proposal is not timely. Better to wait until after the centralized recycling is in place and hold a fair with a significantly greater financial investment.

**FAILED:** With a qualified 'no' vote from the Chairman, relative to the timing issue.

**MOTION:** To extend the meeting to 8:45

**MOVED:** Jimmy Fox

**SECONDED:** Brett Parks

**DISCUSSION:** None

**PASSED:** Unanimously

e. Zero Waste Alaska – Phase One: Enrichment

f. Robert Shields presented. The \$10,000 application proposes updating the recycling report that was asked of PDC to include more up-to-date options than the two that were addressed

**MOTION:** To accept the proposal as submitted

**MOVED:** Jimmy Fox

**SECONDED:** Ariane Staples

**DISCUSSION:** The Commission is interested in gathering additional information not included in the PDC report. A report similar to the composting study might be helpful.

**FAILED:** The Chairman voted 'yes'. All other Commissioners voted 'no'.

**8. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS**

Karl Hough expressed thanks from the Recycling Commission to Robert Shields for his submissions and oral presentation.

**9. ADJOURN**

**MOVED:** Karl Hough

**SECONDED:** Ariane Staples

**APPROVED:** Unanimously