



**CITY OF ANOKA
WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 10, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Member Call at 5:10 p.m. in the Worksession Room of Anoka City Hall.

ROLL CALL Board Members present: Members Jan Call, Sue Dergantz, and Eileen Rathbun. Absent: Chairperson Cheryl Knapek, VC Vicki Violet and Member Marijo Hain. Staff present: Pam Bowman, Recycling Manager. Others Present: None.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 10, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

A quorum was not present, therefore, a motion could not be made. This item will be added to the April meeting agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Subcommittee Reports.

- **Multi-Family** – Nothing new to report.
- **Organics** – Ms. Bowman reported that she had already received over 100 surveys; mostly online and a handful through the mail. She reported that she met with city staff to discuss collection locations and that it was determined the best location would be Harmony Gardens which is off Johnson Street, just north of the Anoka Northstar Station. She said details would need to be determined and the program would proceed dependent on the survey results. She said the survey is open through March 31st. She said a motion to approve this program is needed and since there is no quorum, this would need to be done at the April meeting. Member

Member Dergantz said she shared the survey on social media and also saw it on Nextdoor and that Councilmember Skogquist posted it to the Anoka Community Page Facebook page.

- **Plastics** – Ms. Bowman reported that in discussing collection locations for the plastic bags, staff is hesitant to place it at 501 Pierce St. She said, instead, places such as City Hall, the Anoka Senior Center, and the liquor stores might be better locations because they would have controlled access so the bags remain clean and dry. Ms. Bowman said she would be able to monitor the bags at City Hall, much like she does for the holiday lights, but would not be able to do so at the other sites. She said if collections were to occur at the Senior Center and liquor stores, we should not rely on those staff members to manage the program for us. She said these details will need to be determined. She added that maybe it is best to start small with one collection at City Hall and then grow as needed.

Ms. Bowman said she learned from the city of Coon Rapids that the bags pile up fast and storage can become an issue and to expect to have to take them to Coon Rapids 1 to 2 times per week. She said the bags **MUST** be clean and dry. Just one bag that is wet, can ruin the entire load. She explained that the bags would be gathered and hauled as often as needed to the Coon Rapids Recycling Center where they will be baled. She said she would need to keep track of the weight of the bags and enter those amounts into the Trex information online monthly.

Ms. Bowman said Colleen Sinclair from Coon Rapids said the city of Andover just started the program and had collected a large amount to fill a small moving truck within the first week; which they delivered to Coon Rapids.

Ms. Bowman said that she would use the same collection boxes she uses for the holiday lights and noted they will fill up fast because they are not very large.

Member Rathbun asked what happens to the bags when they leave Coon Rapids. Ms. Bowman said they are collected by a company called Merrick.

Ms. Bowman showed a poster that Trex provides which can be used at the collection site. It explains all plastics that can be recycled in the collection.

Ms. Bowman said should the details work out for a collection, she would need to apply online, set the 6 month collection dates and work through promotional details and schedules.

Report to City Council.

RAW Newsletter

ACE Solid Waste Transition Update.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Recycling Drop off Event.

MN Green Corp Opportunity for Program Assistance

COMMUNICATIONS

2021 Meetings & Activities Schedule.

Anoka County Recycling & Resources Calendar Topics

General Recycling Questions

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. on a MOTION by Member Hain and SECONDED by Member Rathbun. All in favor; MOTION CARRIED.