

MEETING MINUTES
RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE REDUCTION BOARD
TUESDAY, March 10, 2020
Community Building – John Neighbor’s Activity Room

1) Call to Order

Marlow called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

2) Attendance

Members Present: Brown, Castro, Hairston, Jacobs, Little, Marlow, Mifflin, Sheth, Stelzer, Swiger
Also Present: Barrera
Members Absent: Sickler

3) Agenda Order

There were no changes to Agenda order.

4) Approval of Minutes

Steve motioned to approve minutes of the February meeting and the motion was seconded by Yvonne. The Board voted unanimously to approve the February, 2020 minutes.

5) Board Member Reports

a) West U Little League Carnival – February 29 – Report - Yvonne

Carnival was a success. Ran out of “dugout bucks”. Need a substantial “A” frame to support boards. Location was excellent. Weather was great. Next year need more Board members.
To do: Will plan on more bucks for next event.

b) West U Spring Festival and Arbor Day – April 4– Board

Shreya is putting together plant pots with lids and getting it all organized. Matt is point person with support from Board. Still waiting for official invitation. As far as we know, will not be cancelled.
To do: Shreya to work on materials. Matt to work with Board members to finalize plans and organize volunteers for event.

c) Composting Class– April 4 - Board

Doing bin giveaway as last year.
To do: Gerardo will get bin and send out notification.

d) Shred-it Event – May 2nd - Board

Board to think about materials to hand out at Shred-it-Event. Steve disseminated hand out (curbside recycling guidelines). Gerardo has contact to use to make guidelines up-to-date.
To do: Orval to write report for last Shred-it. Steve to send computer file of handout and Gerardo will get draft for April meeting. Board to provide feedback by end of month. Orval would like handout on heavier card stock.

e) New Neighbor Program - Jerome

New Neighbors list consists of 26 homes. Shreya clustered list by block and Jerome will do this for future months. Board can determine preference. Updated list has been emailed to Board.
To do: Jacobs will take all of April to accommodate unavailability during summer months,

f) Recycling and Solid Waste Survey for Residents – Discussion - Board

Orval handed out survey questions that were discussed from last time. Do we want to add more? Gerardo reminds us that if the survey is too long, no one will answer. Orval suggests using what we have and then we can add more later if needed.
To do: Orval will send electronic copy to Gerardo who will send it to survey company. They will give feedback on question order and content. Shreya, Jacobs, and Hairston have agreed to compile responses from open-ended question on survey.

g) WULL/ WUSA – update – Marlow/ Board

All signs up and look good, We have recycling liaison for each team but do not have permission for sending out recycling pledge. Good news is that the bins are being used.

To do: Orval will continue to work with liaisons on the pledges.

h) Master Recycler Program – Structure/ Discussion/ Modules - Board

Susie sent out her module. Team wants all modules to have same format. Yvonne has dates in September/ October (7:00-9:00 pm) on Thursdays. Will have field trip to waste management. For Board - Gerardo has reached out to contact so everyone can visit MERF and ask questions, They are more than happy to accommodate. Usually during work hours (no more than 2 hours approximately). Gerardo can set up in April. Orval suggests that we also might like to go to FCC as well in a couple of months (summer/ fall).

To do: Board to let Orval know if they prefer am or pm.

i) Currents Articles Discussion (articles assigned to Board members) - Board

Marlow sent out “Current” article assignments.

To do: Orval to send out articles finished and ready to put in currents. Have comments by April 14.

j) Miscellaneous (such other items discussed by Board) - Board

Young resident made a presentation on single use plastics.

To do: Parent will email presentation. Gerardo will send to Board.

6) West University Staff Report

Gerardo had stats for February, 2020. Similar to last month.

To do: Let Gerardo know if you have any questions,

7) Chairman’s Report

Nothing additional to report.

8) Board Member Comments

- Steve talked about construction waste. There are three providers in area who take construction waste and sort. Cost is about \$10 a load. Homeowners don’t pay but builders would have to comply. Steve suggests approaching “Building and Standards Board”. Orval indicates we can meet with BSB and get feedback then approach City Council regarding official ordinance. Gerardo reminds Board that there are probably logistics involved (such as auditing and other requirements). Are there any state rules to consider?
- Steve officially asked Gerardo (seconded by Susie) to make available to Board the costs for last year’s operations. Gerardo needs to make sure information is not restricted. What is the purpose? Orval reminds us we aren’t in a decision making role. Gerardo will have information about the Waste Disposal proposals in September. He can get data to the Board by June or July.
- Food waste – Steve has colleague -Leo Brito (landscaper) who has started a subscription food waste collection service. He is mainly operating in the Woodlands. Leo gave an informative presentation on his services.

9) Adjournment – next meeting April 14, 2020

At 7:47 Jerome motioned to adjourn tonight’s meeting and the motion was seconded by Rick. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.