

# **Bellaire Recycling Committee Meeting**

**January 9, 2008**

## **Members Present**

Craig Bello  
Tami Sheena  
Robert Johnson

Mike Haysley  
Maya Samardzija  
Stephanie Goldfield

## **Non-voting Members Present**

David Ritz

Todd Gross

## **Communications**

- Website email presented discussing resident disappointment at no yard waste recycling and requesting information about where to obtain composting equipment.

## **Committee Business**

- Stephanie Goldfield's holiday recycling article in SW News shown
- 2 carbon credit articles passed around questioning the quality of such an investment.
- Follow-up article on RecycleBank shows dozens of NE cities joining
- Article showing Vista Fibers opening a large complex in Dallas area. Will this effect our Houston facility?
- Article showing Halton City as another Texas city making recycling mandatory
- Article showing that Angelton changed curbside from WM to in-house because they were getting low (approx 10%) participation.
- Grant writing workshop on January, 15<sup>th</sup> from the Environmental Institute of Houston
- Arbor Day celebration at Houston Arboretum & Nature Center on Sat., January 19th

## **Public Works**

- Stephanie Goldfield interested in comparing last years holiday recycling versus this years for writing an article.
- Committee is interested in hearing about the Christmas tree recycling totals for newsletter/website.
- Public Works reports they have sold/given away quite a few bins and may need to order more shortly. Is this translating into higher participation rates?
- Craig Bello produced a Houston Chronicle article stating that Houston was implementing yard waste collection in the SW of the city again after a successful pilot program. They have found a local vendor to take the yard waste for mulching. DPW said they would look into the possibility of Bellaire getting in on it.

## **Parks and Pools**

- Mike Haysley broached with Parks and Rec. Though they are interested in the concept there are issues with keeping the collection barrels free of debris, storing recyclables until they can be picked up, and manpower to empty cans for pickup by DPW.
- Feel like debris issue can be handled with using good recycling bins.

- Decided that maybe we should focus small at first – stick with new Bellaire pool and surrounding park area.

### **Recycling Education**

- Computer crash prevented showing the draft presentation, but it is complete.
- Work group meeting needed to refine...end of January?

### **Citywide Garage Sale**

- Brief description of the project and demonstration of previously prepared documents and advertising for the event.
- Request for all members to consider being a co-host of project with Craig Bello.

### **Centennial Celebration**

- Craig Bello passed around the schedule of events he obtained from Sarah Ginsburg.

### **2009 Budget Issues**

- Craig Bello presented the need to start considering what types of line items need to appear on the City's 2009 budget for Committee education and promotion.
- David Ritz reminded the Committee that detailed analysis of costs as well as schedule and personnel connected with the purchases need to be addressed before requesting.

### **Glass Recycling**

- Craig Bello followed up a contact by Reflective Industries through the website. They are interested in being the buyer for Bellaire's glass, both clear and colored. They could pay approximately \$15/ton, supply the necessary bins, and provide transportation. They are already working a similar deal with West University Place. This could bring colored glass collection back to Bellaire.
- Public Works expressed interest in the concept, but needs to investigate existing contract with current recyclables buyer to see if we can make the switch as well as some other issues before making a more formal inquiry.

### **HHW/E-waste**

- Thanks to Maya for proactively getting the coming HazWaste events on cable.
- Request for all Committee Members to consider being a co-host of project with Craig Bello.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 6, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Need to check on quorum status as too many people may be absent.

Submitted by Craig Bello, Chairperson