

Recycling Committee Meeting August 1, 2007

Members Present

Craig Bello
Mike Haysley

Sarah Ginsburg

Robert Johnson
Maya Samardzija

Non-voting Members Present

David Ritz

Todd Gross

Communications

- An e-mail was received from resident Karen Erwin regarding the amount of trash that accumulates from a building site across the street from her property
- CFL light bulbs need to be recycled and treated as hazardous waste
 - Certain stores are beginning to accept these light bulbs for free such as Ikea
- In Los Angeles, there is a program, which is helping local apartment complexes recycle. More information about this program can be found at www.larecycles.org

Committee Business

- On August 18th, the open meeting video will be shown to the four new members
- HGAC is hosting a Regional Recycling Roundtable, focusing on E-Waste and Household Hazardous Waste on August 16th from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
 - Todd Gross and Mike Haysley will be attending
- HGAC will also be hosting a recycling efficiency case study workshop on August 29th from 9 -12 p.m.
 - Todd Gross, Craig Bello, and Maya Samardzija will attend

Public Works

- Public works would like a mid-month e-mail update noting the progress of the BRC
- Black trash bags along with the BRC newsletter were distributed today
- There is an ongoing debate about what to do with the large brown paper bags that were originally supposed to be used for collecting and recycling yard grass clippings

Curbside Recycling

- There is a goal to discover new ways to promote curbside recycling to those that are currently not taking advantage of the program
 - Who is our target market?
 - One suggestion is to find out from Public Works how much activity is on each street, so we can specifically target streets that are less involved
 - Maya S. had a suggestion to limit the number of trash bags given to residents, and require them to pay more extra bags so that they will use the recycling bin more than the trash bags
 - The fact is that the more you throw away, the less you recycle and the more you recycle, the less you throw away

Newsletter

- Craig is looking for a creative idea for the December 2007 newsletter that would incorporate the residents, so we could get their feedback

Education Events

- A draft of the school presentation will be ready by the end of next week
- The list of schools to call to offer the presentation will already be compiled by the workgroup in charge of distributing the book covers
- Pumpkin Patch is in October 13th and 14th , from 11 – 4 p.m., and we need volunteers for both days as well as program ideas
- Holiday in the Park is November 29th

Household Hazardous Waste

- There is a one-day collection event for all Harris County residents on Sat., Sep. 22nd from 9 a.m. to noon, located at 612 Canino Road in Houston
- There is a HazMobile Event on Sat., Oct. 6th, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Humble Civic Center, which is located at 8233 Will Clayton Parkway in Houston
 - There is a website with more information on it, www.cleanwaterchoice.org
- The BRC would like to have a HazMobile day in Bellaire towards the end of December
 - There needs to be a 90 day lead time to be able to secure the city's permission
- There is a company called Evans Bros. Houston Computer Recycling, their website is www.houstoncomputerrecycling.com
 - They take computers of any age at no charge
 - They want to link up with the BRC website

Promotional Items

- A list of schools to contact has been compiled by Maya
 - Within the next month the BRC will be contacting as many schools as possible to try and distribute all of the Proud to Recycle book covers
 - There are approximately 10,000 book covers to be distributed

Next Meeting

September 5th, 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Sarah Ginsburg, Secretary