

MINUTES OF THE PLASTICS RECYCLING TASK FORCE
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

April 10, 1989

Room 145

Task Force Members Present: Corky Kirkpatrick, Peggy Lovell, Scott Ashcom, Bill Martin, Dave Phillips, Jeff Gage, Patrick A. Moffatt, Jerry Herrmann, Lissa Wienholt and Charlotte Becker

Others Present: K. R. Michel, Carrie Heaton and Sara Vickerman

Acting Chair Dave Phillips called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. He asked those present for approval consensus of the March 27, 1989, minutes. Acting Chair Phillips noted the March 27 meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. rather than 4:45 p.m. as recorded in the minutes.

1. House Bill 3444 - Surcharge on Nondurable Plastic

Jeff Gage said the City of Portland sponsored HB 3444. He said it was meant as a tax on plastic containers to fund recycling of plastic containers. Mr. Gage told the City of Portland lobbyist the bill would be disruptive but would be acceptable if funds were specifically raised for plastics recycling. He said it would cause conflict between those who had to pay the tax and those who did not. He said in some cases out-of-state customers would not have to pay. Mr. Gage said the lobbyist said the bill could be rewritten and made more acceptable.

Those present discussed Senate Bill 990. Scott Ashcom said SB 990 was the only bill of its type which had the chance of adoption. He said probably the Resource Conservation Trust Fund (RCTF) would become part of omnibus legislation. He asked the Task Force if they endorsed SB 3444 or the RCTF. Jerry Herrmann said the RCTF was the preferable legislation because it treated all products equitably. Carrie Heaton said the RCTF was preferable to SB 990 in terms of funding. Chair Kirkpatrick said the Task Force would add language to that effect.

2. Senate Bill 424 - Collection Program for Household and Small Business Hazardous Waste

Chair Kirkpatrick noted this agenda item was continued from the March 27 meeting. Mr. Phillips noted SB 424 applied 50 percent of a \$2 per ton disposal fee towards solid waste management and planning funds and gave DEQ funds and said the remaining 50 percent would be returned to waste sheds for recycling purposes. He said local governments were not enthusiastic about SB 424. Those present discussed general transportation issues and agreed funds should be raised from other than disposal costs. The discussion included where funds would go; if Metro would receive funds; who would administrate the program; and DEQ monitoring of groundwater testing.

Chair Kirkpatrick said the Task Force did not support SB 424.

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3. Development of Policy Statements

Recycling vs. Banning

Funding Mechanisms

Labeling and Coding

Public Education

Degradable vs. Nondegradable

Markets

Addition of Wine Cooler Containers to Bottle Bill Legislation

Chair Kirkpatrick asked if the policy statements were ready. Mr. Phillips distributed language on funding mechanisms which stated the Task Force supported bills which established funding sources for recycling which were not dependent upon fees from the disposal system which included collection, transfer and disposal. Other sources could include a packaging tax and a surcharge on disposable, non-durable goods. Mr. Ashcom said those who did not recycle should pay the costs of recycling. Mr. Phillips said such a policy would not let non-recyclers escape responsibility, but said they should not be driven to illegal disposal either. Ms. Heaton interpreted such policy to read "not totally dependent on fees from disposal." Chair Kirkpatrick said the policy allowed additional fees not dependent on disposal.

Those present discussed plastics identification, coding, and what would be exempt. Those present discussed a broad-based packaging tax. Chair Kirkpatrick said all statements could be put in presentable format and considered April 24, 1989.

Sara Vickerman distributed the LC draft of the Resource Conservation Trust Fund language. Those present discussed the RCTF and SB 990. Ms. Vickerman said the clause in SB 990 which related to wildlife was broad. She said the RCTF could not be included with SB 990 because it was a revenue measure.

Chair Kirkpatrick said the Task Force previously supported the CRTF in concept and suggested those present read the distributed draft to review at the meeting April 24. Ms. Vickerman asked the Task Force to send a letter to Representative Hugo which stated the initial position taken by the Task Force a month previously.

Chair Kirkpatrick adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paulette Allen
Committee Clerk
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