

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

July 24, 1989

Room 145

Task Force Members Present: Chair Corky Kirkpatrick, Russell Brownier, Carrie Heaton, Lissa Wienholt, Bill Martin, Gaylen Kiltow and Charlotte Becker

Others Present: Greg McMurdo and Marina Britsky Applegate,

Chair Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

1. Report on Providence Milwaukie Hospital Plastics Recycling Program

Marina Britsky Applegate discussed the Providence Milwaukie Hospital Plastics Recycling Program. She said it had been difficult to start and continue the program especially when their collector stopped collection after the first two months. She said the hospital started with Denton Plastics who collected from them as a prototype. She said recycled were internally generated plastics only. She said she called Metro for direction, but said Metro operated only as an enlarged directory assistance. She said Jerry Herrmann, John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center, saved the program because he called and asked Denton Plastics to continue with the hospital again. She said the Metro Plastics Recycling Task Force was not versed in the small business perspective, only big businesses and legislative issues. She said she had invested 60 to 80 hours of her personal time in the program.

Ms. Applegate said she received a great deal of information from Metro's One Percent for Recycling Committee but thought their grant application was excessive paperwork. She said she hoped Denton Plastics application to that committee would be viewed from a bigger perspective. She said she would like to see more information generated by Metro. She said small businesses needed more assistance. She said collection was the problem and there should be an emergency mosquito fleet. She said more than names and referrals were needed from Metro. She said small businesses must take the straight public relations approach. She said Denton Plastics had been pleased with the hospital's supply of plastics. She said the surgical department recycled intravenous bottles, chemical bottles and dietary silverware.

Russell Brownier, Pacific Resource Recycling, said their business was a start-up business and did not have a big enough truck to pick up loads such as those provided by the hospital. He said haulers could go outside their routes to pick up collectibles. He said hospitals should be targeted to begin plastics recycling programs. He said it was nonproductive to make a two-hour trip to pick up 1,000 pounds of plastics. Ms. Applegate said small business persons did not care about plastics politics. She said the hospital had not realized any savings, but were looking for convenience. She said she had expected Metro to guide her along the process, and said if she had known before starting the program what she knows now, she might not

have begun it. She said hospitals had to get their waste off-site immediately.

Carrie Heaton, Clackamas County Plastics Coordinator, said plastics recycling was three years old. She said the County's emphasis had been on residential and then commercial, but only for marketable recyclables. She said there was not much good post-plastics use. She said the County would not recommend starting a plastics recycling program unless there was proof of a guaranteed market. She said Denton Plastics should not have dropped the hospital collection. Ms. Britsky said Denton Plastics did an assessment before they began collection. Ms. Heaton asked her if they told her the market was volatile. Ms. Britsky said yes and that Denton Plastics had taken a risk for the hospital. Mr. Herrmann said one special pick-up was difficult to do. Ms. Heaton said Providence Milwaukie Hospital were one of the first entities to try a plastics recycling program and that plastic was not as easy as cardboard or newspaper. Ms. Applegate said she did not have sufficient time to fill out a grant application.

Chair Kirkpatrick said the Task Force could recommend that small businesses need assistance and recommend special grants for them. Ms. Heaton said special assistance could be set up for small businesses specifically. Mr. Herrmann suggested Metro offer advice on technical grant writing. Ms. Applegate said small businesses did not have the time to write grants. Those present discussed writing grants further.

2. Legislative Review

Greg McMurdo, Government Relations Manager, discussed legislative bills. He said SB 1083, Amended Tax Credits, passed almost in its entirety.

He said HB 3483, the Resource Conservation Trust Fund, had had several different versions. He said the fiscal bonding was removed. He said the bill as written now would be funded via containers. He said it passed without funding. He said the fund was authorized to accept gifts and/or grants in the interim. He said other plastics bills did not make it through both Houses in their original versions. Those present discussed plastics bills further.

3. Plastics Collections Problems

Gaylen Kiltow discussed plastics collections problems.

4. Recap of Clackamas County Plastics Recycling Pilot Project

Mr. Herrmann discussed the Clackamas County Plastics Recycling Pilot Project.

Chair Kirkpatrick adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paulette Allen

Paulette Allen
Committee Clerk

#1C:PRTF89.205