Advisory Committee Meeting

Day: Tuesday
Date: August 14, 2012
Time: 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Location: Lincoln/ Lancaster County Health Department

Advisory Committee:
Present:
  Mike Ayars; Gary Bergman; Eileen Bergt; Ann Bleed; Jack Coogan; Steve Hatten; Paul
  Johnson; Dan Kurtzer; Sue Quambusch; Jane Raybould; DiAnna Schimek; Jeanelle Lust;
  Adam Prochaska
Absent:
  Tim Farmer; Mike Koberlein; Casey Larkings; Sarah Murtagh; Cecil Steward; Meghan Sullivan;
  Chris Zegar

City of Lincoln/Lancaster County:
  Miki Esposito; Sara Hartzell; Karla Welding; Nancy Clark; Dan King; Milo Mumgaard

HDR:
  John Dempsey; Theresa McClure

Public:
  Charles Humble; Jacob Harms; Brian Kurtzer; Greg West; Nick Crow; Sarah Hanzel; Eric
  Bersine; Jim Klein; Dale Gubbels; Jay Kurtzer; Greg Kurtzer; Carrie Hakenkamp; Seth Harms

Agenda

1) Jack Coogan, the Committee Chair, called the meeting to order and conducted a roll call of
   attendance.
2) It was noted that a copy of the Public Meeting Law was posted on wall in the meeting room.
3) The committee approved the minutes from July 10, 2012 meeting.
4) Theresa McClure, the facilitator, conducted a Safety Briefing.
5) Follow-up items from the previous meeting were discussed.
   a. The City provided clarification on the Open Meetings Act. It was recommended that
      committee member communication be conducted in the open meeting format. Additional
      materials that committee or others would like to have shared should be
      sent to Karla Welding, at kwelding@lincoln.ne.gov. Information will be shared by
      posting it on the project website.
   b. Explanatory information regarding the Occupation Tax will be provided to the
      committee via the website.
c. The Plan Goals will be presented at a future meeting. In advance of that meeting, they will be distributed to the committee. Following distribution there is anticipated to be a facilitated committee discussion.

6) HDR provided an overview of the Plan Development process including the Assessment of Needs and Modules/Topics, and noted that when the term education is used in describing future management options it is intended to reflect a level of education that will result in behavior change.

a. A committee member asked: “What will we end up with?”
   i. It was clarified by the City that the role of the Advisory Committee is to provide guidance through plan development. Other public input will also be included in the process. Later in the planning process there will be a system definition document that will look at a consolidation of options into various scenarios, likely of increasing levels of diversion. Following committee and public input the plan will be drafted.

b. A committee member asked if the draft plan was brought back to committee for final approval after it was presented to the public.
   i. It was clarified the committee recommendations would be presented to the elected officials, who would also have the chance to request changes. The recommendations in the plan would initially be presented in draft format.

7) HDR presented a synopsis of technical papers on the topics of Source Reduction topic, Zero Waste, Product Stewardship, Universal, Special and Unique Wastes, and Yard Wastes. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department presented on the topic of Household and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (Small Business) Hazardous Waste.

a. The committee asked how the volume of yard waste in the landfill was calculated and if the total tonnage included woodchips and other heavy landscaping materials. It was noted that values are generally presented as tonnages and volumes were calculated using the density conversion rates used for all tons of waste received at the landfill.

b. The committee asked for clarification regarding the amount of yard waste in the waste stream and whether removing the 3% estimated to be in the currently disposed tonnage represented an increase in the life of the landfill by one year? HDR will examine this and provide a clarification at the next meeting.

8) HDR provided an update on public participation indicating that the Public Awareness Baseline Survey was currently being conducted.

9) Attendees were reminded that they should direct other interested parties to the website for information on past and future meetings as well as to post comments or keep apprised on progress.

10) Attendees were informed that the next Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on September 11, 2012. It will be held at the Lincoln/ Lancaster County Health Department. Meeting topics are anticipated to include the Plan Goals and the Recycling and Composting Module topics.

11) The Chairman opened the meeting for Public Comment.

a. Carrie Hakenkamp mentioned that the Green Team Roundtable for WasteCap Nebraska met recently and were asked to identify things they’d like to see in the
Solid Waste Plan 2040. She indicated she would share those comments with the committee.

i. Carrie provided additional comments regarding Zero Waste, indicating that the definition of recycling should also consider the highest and best use of a product. She provided an example that Eco Stores may take and resell a wood door at $15, versus a wood processor who would grind it up and sell it for landscape mulch. She also indicated that in some definitions of Zero Waste, waste to energy does not count. She stated communities can be considered Zero Waste if they can get to 90% diversion from the landfill. She also mentioned that food waste compost is an important approach to help a community reach zero waste.

ii. Nick Crow asked for clarification on the amount of Household and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (Small Business) Hazardous Wastes in the waste sent to the landfill. He expressed concern that by aggregating different types of materials, some “less hazardous”, tended to skew the estimated percentage, 0.3% to 0.6%, going to the landfill and make it sound worse than it is.

12) The Chairman closed the meeting.