

MINUTES OF THE RECYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY,  
REGULAR MEETING Held at Southwest Solid Waste Authority offices, 318  
Ridge Road, Silver City, NM, Oct. 8, 2009.  
(Minutes prepared by Richard Mahler)

Present: Terry Timme (Chair), Alan Archer, Ramon Arroyo, Ann Alexander,  
Deanna Mooney, Richard Mahler, Hali (of SWSWA). Absent: George  
Llewellyn, Avery Gentle, Joseph Schindler, C.J. Law.

Call to Order Chairperson Timme called the meeting to order at 4:05  
p.m.

Approval of Minutes By acclamation, minutes of the August 2009 meeting  
were approved as amended and submitted by Richard.

Public Input None

Report from SWSWA

Ramon reported that recycling volume, prices, and sales remained  
about the same. He reported that tin, glass, and plastic were still  
being stockpiled due to low demand. Ramon said CJ, who was on vacation  
on the date of this meeting, had talked to a vendor based in Florida  
that expressed interest in picking up plastics from our landfill.

The Silver City McDonald's restaurant, according to Ramon, has  
stopped recycling cardboard and asked that its green recycling bins be  
removed. This has already been done. Ramon said two loads of cardboard  
were being picked up each week prior to the decision by the McDonald's  
manager and assistant manager. Ramon's conversation was with Eva  
Garcia, the assistant manager, who gave no specific reason for the  
decision. Members of the committee expressed concern and Terry  
suggested that attempts be made to reverse management's decision. It  
was unclear who would do this.

Old Business

Pickamania Recycling - Richard said that recycling was successful  
using 14 bins set up at the Sept. 11-12 event in Gough Park. An Arts  
Council volunteer plus Terry and Richard donated their time to set up  
and take down the bins. Bags of recyclables were taken to the 12th  
Street roll-off for collection on Monday morning, Sept. 13. Ramon did  
not have a specific weight to report but Terry and Richard both noted  
only a small amount of "contamination" in the bins. When asked, Ramon  
said he would be happy to help make expanded public event recycling  
possible.

Meetings With Other City Committee - Richard said he had  
discussed recycling issues with Jim McIntosh, chair of Silver City's  
Parks and Recreation Committee and plans to attend a committee meeting  
in order to better coordinate future recycling at public events in  
city-owned parks. Richard also reported on his attendance at the  
September 16 meeting of the town's Climate Change Committee, which  
asked questions related to plastic recycling, mulching at the landfill,  
and better signage at roll-offs.

Potential Glass Recycling Project - Terry said there had been no  
new communication from an El Paso operation that is considering setting  
up a glass crushing and recycling enterprise in Silver City. He will  
continue to follow up.

New Business

E-waste Recycling - Terry reported on his research about the Nov. 14 electronic-waste event collection at the Las Cruces recycling center at the Doña Ana County landfill. A public works official told him that Silver City probably would not be allowed to bring e-waste to the collection site because it was being limited to Doña Ana County residents. The landfill there is paying \$5000 to cover expenses related to the collection event, including packaging and transport to Tucson. Terry will ask if we can bring e-waste to the Ls Cruces Nov. 14 event if we cover costs related to our donated material. It was also suggested that Silver City businesses, foundations, government, and/or individuals be asked to help pay for a rental truck to deliver local e-waste to Tucson, perhaps with material collected at a Nov. 14 Silver City waste collection event. A drop-off fee of \$5-\$10 was proposed for individuals. Terry reported that NM Environment Department rules prohibit storing of such waste for longer than six days without a permit issued by that agency. It was further suggested that a designated collection area be established either at the landfill or the old Market Street recycling center where residents can drop off e-waste for eventual recycling. There seemed to be general agreement that e-waste is a priority for the committee and our community. The consensus was that if we were unable to accept e-waste at the Nov. 14 event (see below), the committee would try to include it in a future collection effort.

Recycling Collection Event - The committee agreed to sponsor a community-wide collection event on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 8:30 am to 1 p.m. This is the weekend of National America Recycles Day. The preferred site is the old Teleperformance parking lot, now owned by the county. Terry will seek permission for such use and Ramon will arrange a truck and personnel for the day. Ramon will also try to order more recycling bins for distribution to interested Silver City residents. Richard and Terry agreed to handle publicity for the event. Deanna, Ann, and Alan agreed to join Richard and Terry in staffing it. The suggestion was made that we invite a ReStore representative to attend who can take re-sellable items to the ReStore after our event is over.

Next meeting - December 3 at 4 p.m. at SWSWA office

Adjournment - at 4:58 p.m.