



Waste Management Community
Reference Group

MINUTES

14 May 2012

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
1st Floor, Ascot Place, 226 Great Eastern Highway
BELMONT WA 6104

Telephone: (08) 9424 2222
Facsimile: (08) 9277 7598
e-mail: mail@emrc.org.au

WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

MINUTES

14 May 2012

(REF: COMMITTEES-13585)

A meeting of the Waste Management Community Reference Group was held at the EMRC Administration Office, 1st Floor, 226 Great Eastern Highway, BELMONT WA 6104 on **Monday, 14 May 2012**. The meeting commenced at **6.00pm**.

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Acting Chairman opened the meeting at 6.00pm and introduced the EMRC's new Waste Education Officer, Ms Jennifer Bennett to Members.

2 ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Committee Members

Mrs Sally	Paulin	Acting Chairman
Mr Berry	Ambrose	Member
Mr Malcolm	Barker	Member
Ms Dianne	Katscherian	Member
Mrs Tina	Klein	Member
Mr Mark	Simpson	Member
Mr David	Strain	Member

Apologies

Mr Peter Pearson	Chairman
Ms Ruth Balding	Member
Mr Trevor Brown	Member
Mr Edwin Dell	Member
Mr Anthony Fowler	Member
Mr Ray Lewis	Member

EMRC Officers

Mr Stephen Fitzpatrick	Manager Project Development
Ms Tania Wells	Waste Education Coordinator
Ms Gabrielle Grime	Community Education Coordinator
Ms Jennifer Bennett	Waste Education Officer
Mrs Annie Hughes-d'Aeth	Administration Support Officer (Minutes)

EMRC Apologies

Mr Peter Schneider	Chief Executive Officer
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3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

4 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OR PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil



Ms Katscherian entered the meeting at 6.03pm.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1 MINUTES OF WMCRG MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2011

That the Minutes of the Waste Management Community Reference Group meeting held on 21 November 2011, which have been distributed, be confirmed.

WMCRG RESOLUTION(S)

MOVED MR AMBROSE SECONDED MS KATSCHERIAN

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2011, WHICH HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED, BE CONFIRMED.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6 PRESENTATIONS

7 BUSINESS NOT DEALT WITH FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

8 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Nil



9 REPORTS OF RELEVANT RESOURCE RECOVERY COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

The Manager Project Development advised members that at the recent EMRC Council meeting held on 19 April 2012 Council approved the second stage engineering study into the feasibility of a pyrolysis plant at its Hazelmere site.

Discussion ensued

A brief discussion ensued with a range of questions.

The Manager Project Development briefed the group on the conversion of woodwaste and its use in generating power (for the wood waste grinder) and biochar along with potential carbon credits created under the Federal Governments carbon farming initiative.

The Manager Project Development also advised that stainless steel nails were a “contaminant” problem with woodwaste and that Waste Services were looking at ways to address this.

10 REPORTS OF MEMBERS

Members discussed in brief the amended licence granted to the SMRC and the impact on the local community.

A member queried if the EMRC had an E-waste policy. The Waste Education Coordinator advised that the EMRC was waiting on more advice from WALGA on preferred suppliers and that from 1 July 2012 there would be nominated drop off centres for E-waste in the region.

The Manager Project Development discussed in general with members the Local Government Reform process and its possible impact on the EMRC’s Resource Recovery Project.

11 GENERAL BUSINESS

Item 11.2 Waste Education Update was presented at this point in the meeting prior to Item 11.1 Resource Recovery Project Update.

11.1 RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT UPDATE

Item 11.1 was discussed after Item 11.2 Waste Education Update.

The Manager Project Development updated the group on the Resource Recovery Project and the Public Environmental Review process.

Discussion ensued

A member brought it to the Manager Project Development’s attention that there appeared to be plans for a future light rail system near the Great Eastern Highway Bypass and questioned if this would interfere with the EMRC’s plans for future land acquisition in the area. The Manager Project Development advised he was not aware of the plans and would research this further.

11.2 WASTE EDUCATION UPDATE

Item 11.2 was discussed prior to Item 11.1 Resource Recovery Project Update.

The Waste Education Coordinator updated the group on waste education activities.

- The EMRC’s new Waste Education Officer, Ms Jennifer Bennett started at the EMRC on 11 April 2012;
- Tours of Red Hill have commenced;



Item 11.2 continued

- Battery recycling – this is progressing with 5.66 tonnes collected since January 2012;
- Winners of the 2011 EMRC School Battery Program were:
 - Chidlow Primary School (Small School Category) – Shire of Mundaring;
 - Noranda Primary School (Medium School Category) – City of Swan; and
 - High Wycombe Primary School (Large School Category) – Shire of Kalamunda.
- A new Litter activity has been installed in the Red Hill Environmental Education Centre;
- The Green Room at the Ellenbrook shopping centre was opened in April 2012. The EMRC have partnered with the City of Swan and shop owners at Ellenbrook to provide a recycling centre for residents to drop off excess household recyclables. The EMRC and the City of Swan manned a waste and recycling information display at the Ellenbrook shopping centre during the recent school holiday period. Residents were informed about the journey of their waste and recycling once it leaves the curb side and were also informed on what items could be put into the yellow top recycling bin;
- The Waste Education Coordinator was reviewing the Annual Waste and Recycling Guides for 2012/2013. The EMRC coordinates the design, print and production of the guide each year for all six member Councils. This year 155,000 Guides would be printed and distributed across the region. Promotion of the Guide would be provided through Council websites and newsletters, community newspapers and posters in local libraries and Council facilities leading into June and throughout July 2012;
- R Gang website has been updated with new information on local waste and recycling initiatives;
- The EMRC had coordinated a number of activities over International Composting Awareness Week (ICAW). ICAW was an opportunity to teach and educate residents on reducing organic waste to landfill. Three composting and worm farming events and a tour of Red Hill had been organised for the week;
- Fluorescent globe recycling stations were installed at the City of Belmont and Shire of Kalamunda Administration Offices;
- CFL recycling - going well over 296kgs collected since January 2012;
- EMRC, WMRC and MRC Waste Education officers joined together to coordinate a waste education stall at Garden Week. The stall included information on reducing organic waste to landfill by demonstrating how to compost and worm farm at home. Earth Carer volunteers assisted with the display; and
- Responses to questions from residents using the online Q & A were provided with most questions being posted around the time a Watch Your Waste (WYW) column ran which advertised the R-gang website.

Discussion ensued

General discussion took place in relation to the recycling of plastic bags, newspapers and polystyrene. It was noted that plastic bags are currently being recycled by Amcor and polystyrene by Claw in Welshpool.

Members also discussed recycling availability for small businesses in the region and that some shopping centres were still not aware of the EMRC's presence. The Waste Education Coordinator advised that she would make contact with those shopping centres pointed out.



Item 11.2 continued

The Waste Education Coordinator and Community Engagement Officer updated the group on the preliminary findings from the research carried out by Research Solutions on Waste Education Strategies using focus groups and online surveys of residents in the region.

Discussion ensued

A brief discussion ensued with a summary made by members that the community were interested in the journey of their recyclable waste and wanted to know where and how it ended up and that Environmental stickers on recycling bins in the region would be a way of improving the non contamination of recyclable waste.

11.3 REMINDER TRAVEL EXPENSES REIMBURSEMENT

The Manager Project Development reminded members to submit any travel reimbursement claims.

The Acting Chairman, Ms Sally Paulin advised that she would be away for the 13 August 2012 WMCRG meeting.

12 FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE WMCRG

The next meeting of the Waste Management Community Reference Group will be held on Monday, 13 August 2012 at the EMRC Administration Office, 1st Floor, Ascot Place, 226 Great Eastern Highway, Belmont WA 6104 commencing at 6.00pm.

Future Meetings 2012

Monday	13 August	at	EMRC Administration Office
Monday	26 November	at	EMRC Administration Office

13 DECLARATION OF CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.55pm.