

**CITY OF SILVERTON
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

3:00 P.M.

May 21, 2019

The Environmental Management Committee of the City of Silverton met at the Silverton Community Center, Council Chambers on May 21, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. with Chairperson Smith residing.

I. OPENING CEREMONIES – Call To Order & Roll Call

Chairperson Smith called the Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present	Absent	
X		Chairperson Dana Smith
	X	Vice-Chair Chris Mayou
X		Joe Craig
X		Jaime Fuhrman
X		Dawn Hemstreet
	X	Allyson Leboeuf
X		Petra Schuetz, Public Works Director
X		Republic Services; <i>Ex-Officio Member</i>

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Hemstreet moved to adopt the minutes from the April 16, 2019 meeting as presented. Member Fuhrman seconded the motion. Chairperson Smith asked for discussion or changes and none were presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS – None Scheduled

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Republic Services Recycling

Republic Services employee KJ Lewis made a presentation regarding recycling of materials. Member Fuhrman asked if the thinner plastic containers crush easier. Republic Services employee, Jay Lawson replied yes but they take up more space. Ms. Lewis commented that commodity markets have declined. She discussed the transition of recycling locations from China to other markets but said they are now oversaturated. Ms. Lewis explained how plastic is still being made but there is not a market to sell it. She stated that when recycling was introduced it was an add-on service to encourage recycling. She explained that commodity values were high enough in the past to cover costs but now the artificially low collection prices are not covering costs. She discussed current and historical collection and commodity prices. Member Hemstreet asked for clarification of current recycling fees.

Ms. Lewis discussed options for public outreach such as a summit or recycling party. She suggested several possibilities including stickers on cans and door hangers regarding what is recyclable or not. She said there is a lack of a local market for some items. She said Republic Services is shifting to sustainable materials management for mixed use materials. Member Fuhrman asked for examples of innovative ways small communities have addressed the issue. Ms. Lewis did not have an example and said it could be Oregon-wide but would take significant investment. Mr. Lawson noted that Republic Services is not the processor in the Northwest. He said Republic is dealing with Marion County mandates and the rules of the processor, Pioneer, which is in Clackamas. Member Schuetz asked if Pioneer is not accepting (plastic) tubs anymore. Mr. Lawson said technically no; Republic Services uses Pioneer because of their efficiency and innovation.

Chairperson Smith mentioned that because Silverton has reached the 10,000 (population) threshold the City has additional recycling program requirements. Member Schuetz said she is starting to look into this.

Chairperson Smith mentioned that she thought the City was already meeting the requirements. Mr. Lawson agreed that he thinks this is correct.

Member Schuetz asked Mr. Lawson what to do with shredded material and how the City might help. Mr. Lawson clarified that he believed a call from a customer prompted the question and that they were asking about document shredding, not what to do with shredded paper. He referred the customer to Garten Services. Member Schuetz confirmed that the City does not do document shredding but there are other entities in the community that provide this service. Chairperson Smith said they do not do the events locally. Mr. Lawson mentioned that if the City reached out to those organizations they may provide the service in Silverton. He said that Garten Services can leave barrels or carts for people to fill with paper. Member Schuetz asked if there is a cost for hosts. Mr. Lawson replied that he imagined yes. Chairperson Smith asked if Republic would take shredded paper. Mr. Lawson replied that Garten is the only outlet in Marion County.

Member Hemstreet asked if there is a plan for stickers and door hangers. Ms. Lewis said Republic needs to work with City on this. Chairperson Smith said she thought process would be completed on trash day by Republic staff. Ms. Lewis and Mr. Lawson said it would be a third party on trash day.

Chairperson Smith asked about the rate study and told the Committee that they would be talking about rates soon. Ms. Lewis noted rate study would be ready end of June or July. Chairperson Smith said the rate study is in conjunction with the new franchise agreement, which comes through the EMC and they need lead time. Member Fuhrman asked if it will include a waste stream analysis. Mr. Lawson said no. Chairperson Smith replied that they have been asking for this since the Committee started. Mr. Lawson said there was a small waste stream study done in schools in top five cities in Marion County including Silverton. Chairperson Smith said this would not help in establishing residential rates.

Member Craig asked if anyone has looked at impact of graduated scale of containers; has it had any impact on collection or can sizes. Mr. Lawson noted a small uptick when recycling first became an issue. Member Craig asked if people were going to small containers. Mr. Lawson said when people start they start with small can. Chairperson Smith asked Member Craig if he was referring to the rate changes that concurred with rolling out residential composting. Member Craig said he was talking about the last rate change. Mr. Lawson said last rate change was 2016. Member Craig stated that he hopes people would recognize value and produce less garbage. Chairperson Smith said she thinks there were people who did call and switch to smaller cans. Mr. Lawson said most people are already using smaller cans. He said Republic could look back through annual reports to see how can sizes have changed over time. Chairperson Smith said it would be good to have this data when Committee talks about rates. Member Craig said the change in recycling potentially messed up what the Committee was trying to accomplish. Chairperson Smith clarified that rate changes were focused on residential.

4.2 Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities

Member Schuetz presented information about the HEAL Cities program which the City is a member, including grant possibilities for active transportation and healthy eating. She would like the City not to miss another grant cycle. Chairperson Smith asked when the next grant cycle ends. Member Schuetz replied sometime around February. She said the program is a Keizer Permanente partnership with League of Oregon Cities. She further explained the program and said she would like to solidify participation of committee to participate in establishing goals.

Chairperson Smith asked if the farmer's market has approached the City about change in venue. Member Schuetz said yes, that official request was to close Fiske Street and this is not an option due to emergency services. She said options from City have been to move to Eugene Field Commons property once developed, or behind the pool. Chairperson Smith asked if there are other cities that close street for market. Member Craig said Salem does. Member Fuhrman asked for clarification of where Fiske Street is. Member Schuetz said residents have commented that existing set-up is an issue for access to properties. Chairperson Smith asked if neighbors were supportive would it be an option. Member Schuetz said police and fire are not in favor. Member Hemstreet asked to confirm it would be a temporary barrier.

Member Schuetz said tents would close access. She said they have an option to utilize lawn at existing location. She noted the pool area as an option but said parking would still be a problem. She said Coolidge McClaine Park is an option. Chelsea Starner, City of Silverton, said events scheduled on Saturdays at Coolidge McClaine Park and limited parking are issues. Member Schuetz reiterated the parking issue.

Member Hemstreet asked if the high school fields would solve parking and space issues. Member Schuetz agreed. Chairperson Smith talked about the street closure fee offsetting the grant. Member Schuetz asked if the City has a street closure fee. Ms. Starner confirmed the City does have a street closure fee and the market may be charged if they are not non-profit.

V. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Chairperson Smith asked for committee communications. Member Fuhrman said there have been four gleaning harvests this year. Member Craig asked about Styrofoam block recycling at the juvenile detention building on Center Street in Salem. Mr. Lawson said there are no other local options for this. Member Craig asked what they do with it. Chairperson Smith explained that the process supports juvenile programs. Member Craig said he was interested in volunteers hosting collection of Styrofoam at Saturday recycling at the City shops. Chairperson Smith noted the challenge is reliability of volunteers; that two women are planning block collection event in conjunction with farmer's market this summer and she suggests Member Craig contact them. Member Craig said people already go to City shops to recycle. Ms. Starner noted similar programs have been a challenge due to lack of coordination. Mr. Lawson asked if the juvenile program would pick the Styrofoam up and said Republic Services would staff the drop-off.

Member Schuetz said Ms. Starner has taken over for Kathy Franz. She said the City Clerk will be drafting bylaw amendments to change her from a member to ex-officio and Ms. Starner will take over as staff support. She noted there will be room for recruitment of two additional members. Member Hemstreet asked if anyone is being retired. Chairperson Smith noted that Member **Leboeuf** is retiring from the committee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Chelsea Starner, Public Works Administrative Assistant