

# Plan Implementation Advisory Committee Minutes

12/5/22 | 9:00AM

Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:** Stone, Ohren, Bukowski, Seegert, Williams, Weinert, Simmons, Mason

**Members Absent:**

**BPW Liaison:** Smith

**Public Present:**

**Staff Present:** Eggermont, Porta, DeLeeuw, Naud

**Stone called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.**

## Roll Call

*Todd Bukowski is present and attending remotely from City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.*

*Sarah Mason is present and attending remotely from City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI*

*Joe Ohren is present and attending remotely from the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.*

*Dave Seegert is present and attending remotely from Salem Township, Washtenaw County, MI*

*Chris Simmons is present and attending remotely from City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, MI.*

*Lauren Smith is present and attending remotely from Ypsilanti Township, Washtenaw County, MI.*

*Nancy Stone is present and attending remotely from the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.*

*Bryan Weinert is present attending remotely from City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, MI.*

*Marc Williams is present attending remotely from City of Chelsea, Washtenaw County, MI*

## Public Comment

None

## Approval of Agenda

Approval of agenda without amendment moved by Ohren, seconded by Bukowski. All in favor.

## Approval of 9/26/2022 Minutes

Approval of minutes without amendment moved by Ohren, seconded by Bukowski. All in favor.

## Reports and Updates

### *County Updates*

Eggermont provided an update on the new drop-off station project, noting that PIAC members will be invited to a targeted stakeholder outreach session once the date is set. The session seeks general feedback and input on three concepts prior to a public engagement session at Pittsfield Township.

Eggermont shared he is working on revising the Solid Waste Ordinance that the committee discussed in September and will be sending an updated version to the group when it is completed.

Eggermont shared that the members who have expiring terms in December have been contacted and that they would like to continue. Eggermont will move their renewal through the appropriate channels. He also noted that outreach to gain new members will be done with a goal of adding new members in March.

Porta shared that the Solid Waste Division is co-hosting a second annual tractor tire collection event with Washtenaw County Conservation District in December at Freedom Township Hall. The event in 2021 had two semi-trailers and this year's will have three semi-trailers, one of which is sponsored by Farm Bureau.

Porta provided an update that the Home Toxics Center has continued to have high attendance this Fall. Weekday attendance continues to remain high and the two Saturday collection events in November each had over 200 vehicles, with one event reaching nearly 300 vehicles.

Eggermont shared that the Solid Waste Division hired Eric Mayo for the Solid Waste Specialist position. Mayo was previously an intern with the Solid Waste Division.

Porta shared that the School Recycling Program has been able to resume single stream recycling in carts in four school districts by adding the schools to nearby residential routes. Single stream recycling in carts, with cardboard separated into dumpsters, is how the program has operated for many years and is preferred by the schools for student participation in collecting recycling. The committee discussed the challenges of collecting recycling and trash metrics at schools and provided ideas on how to gather best estimates.

### *Member Updates*

Williams shared that WWRA conducted a second recyclables audit after sending out a mailer and posting educational signage at the drop-off locations. A final report will be shared with PIAC when it is available.

Bukowski shared that he recently had a discussion with Great Lakes Tissue in Cheboygan, which is a company that recycles paper products, including paper hot cups with plastic liners, into tissue papers. The company gets much of their feedstock from Canada's EPR programs, but they are looking to get more from Michigan. Stone asked if the company takes aseptic containers. Bukowski responded that he believes they do. Naud added that Emmett County has kept their curbside recycling dual stream specifically for that outlet of paper and cartons.

Seegert provided an update on the progress of the Household Hazardous Waste building and that it will be completed soon. Weinert asked if this group can tour the new facility as well as the landfill and compost sites. Seegert responded that PIAC could hold one of its meetings at the facility and do a tour. Seegert added that he also plans to have an open house for the entire community in late spring or early summer.

Weinert shared that he is retiring from RAA on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, and is resigning as a member of PIAC after this meeting. He added that he plans to collaborate with RAA, Washtenaw County, and PIAC to submit a name for his replacement.

### *Subcommittee Updates*

Stone shared that the Education Subcommittee added new members including Becky Andrews, the Resource Recovery Manager at Washtenaw Community College; Ann Hubbard and Aubrey Lopatin, co-chairs of the Washtenaw Food Policy Council's Food Waste, Packaging & Composting Action group; and Lydia McMullen and Ann-Marie Torresen with Live Zero Waste's composting blog. At the subcommittee's November meeting, members discussed what each of their organizations has done related to food waste, food container management, and composting.

Ohren shared that the Metrics Subcommittee has been working on the ordinance that PIAC discussed in September. Eggermont shared that he will send an updated draft to PIAC for input and will also share it with those most impacted such as transfer stations, recycling drop-off sites, haulers, and municipalities. The goal is to compile all input together and then PIAC will conduct another review before it goes to the BPW. Ultimately it will go to the BOC, with the goal of getting it to them in the next 6 months.

*Simmons joined at 9:31 a.m.*

### **New Business**

*2023 meetings calendar discussion and vote*

The committee discussed the calendar and made amendments to include tours of member sites.

Motion to approve these dates and revisions Williams, seconded by Simmons. All in favor.

### **Washtenaw County Climate Action Plan Presentation and Discussion**

DeLeeuw shared the Resilient Washtenaw: Washtenaw County's Climate Action Plan presentation provided in the packet. The plan is going to the BOC for final approval on Wednesday. If it is approved, specific recommendations for next steps will be provided in March. The presentation included an overview of the plan followed by a focus on the Circular Economy actions within the plan. DeLeeuw noted that waste is not a huge component in the emissions breakdown for the specific assessment shown in the presentation. Eggermont added that if we look at scope 3 emissions, then consumption and waste together is 45% of emissions. DeLeeuw walked the committee through the background and circular economy portion of the plan. Stone shared with DeLeeuw that community partners for Circular Economy actions could include Conventions Bureau for connecting with food service and hotels. Weinert inquired about construction and demolition waste since it was not explicitly mentioned and added that it is in the Solid Waste Plan and is a huge and distinct waste stream. DeLeeuw responded that this is the higher-level view and there is room within this to include C&D. Bukowski pointed out that reuse is not mentioned explicitly and that it might be an area to consider and highlight.

*Mason joined at 10:15 a.m.*

### **Next Steps**

Porta will make the necessary revisions to the 2023 meeting calendar and post the meeting calendar. Eggermont will work on the updated version of the ordinance and send it to the group.

### **Public Comment**

None

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m. moved by Ohren, seconded by Williams. All in favor.

Minutes prepared by Angela Porta

Minutes approved by *Nancy Stone* 01/25/2023  
Nancy Y. Stone, Secretary