

February 1, 2024

The February 1, 2024 meeting of the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chair Ellen Nerbak and was conducted at the Warren County Commissioners meeting room. SWAC members present were Ellen Nerbak, Emilio Lois, Robert Stock, Gregory Gaertner, Linda Gabel, Frank VanHorn, Lynn Rutkoski, Joseph Watters, Donald Niece, Peter DeBoer, Jan Lee, James Smith and Rob Colontrelle. Also attending were David Dech, Chris McCormick and Brendan Bowers, alternate. Excused was Kathleen Miers. The Chair confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a schedule of regular meetings of the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council to the Warren County Clerk and The Star-Ledger and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board in the office of the Board of Commissioners. Formal action may be taken by the Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Council at this meeting. Public participation is encouraged. In order to assure public participation, those individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting should submit any requests for special accommodations one week in advance.

MINUTES

It was MOVED by Mr. Niece to accept and approve the minutes of the November 1, 2023 meeting; seconded by Ms. Gabel. With one abstention, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Solid Waste/Recycling

Mr. Dech reported receipt of a letter from DEP that issued renewal for the recycling of concrete at Tilcon Quarry in Oxford

He reported that he received a copy of the letter and Municipal Tonnage Grant Guide from the NJDEP stating that the municipal tonnage reports will be due by April 30.

He also reported that Grand Falloons is doing outstanding presentations of recycling needs and sustainable solutions to Warren County students.

NJ Association of NJ Recyclers, ANJR, sent an email message regarding the status of the bottle bill; this has not yet been introduced but municipalities were asked to take action against it. Mr. Dech suggested that no action be taken until more is known about it and questions are clarified. The bottle bill could replace funding. Clean Communities program could also be affected by the bottle bill; it is unknown how much could be collected.

Mr. Smith asked if deconstruction of the burner at the landfill has begun; Mr. Dech replied he did not know for certain.

REHS

Mr. McCormick had nothing to report, and no questions were posed by the audience. Ms. Nerbak reported she heard an odor complaint about the landfill.

PCFA No one present.

Warren County Commissioners No one present.

OLD BUSINESS

Corporate Recycling Solutions: Mr. Dech reported the subcommittee has met and has toured the facility and it is recommending that Corporate Recycling Solutions be included in the Solid Waste Management Plan as a Research, Design and Development facility. Utilizing the truck route (Heckman Street to the facility) will be limited to the de-manufacturing with no destruction of panels, etc. An application packet was distributed to SWAC members which explains the attachments. Members had no further questions or comments. It was MOVED by Mr. Finke to accept the application as presented, seconded by Mr. Lois. One question was asked, do we know where the used panels go, to which Mr. Dech replied they will go to other markets, other places for processing. There should be no waste generated (glass, aluminum frame, diverter) all are set to be recycled; the pieces are to be removed and sent away. Mr. Watters asked if approval is for one year; Mr. Dech replied that with an RDD project, the NJDEP issues the Certificate of Authority to operate for one year and can be extended for a period of five years if more time is needed. The vote on this motion showed all in favor, no opposition, no abstentions. CRS will now need to apply to the NJDEP for a Certificate of Authority to operate. When asked what is the standard life of a solar panel, Mr. Dech replied 20 years. This recycling is not free, there is payment for the process. With no abstentions nor further questions, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Reorganization of SWAC will cover one year. Mr. Watters nominated Ms. Nerbak to serve again as Chair, seconded by Mr. Finke. All in favor with no opposition or abstention.

Mr. Finke nominated Mr. Niece to serve again as Vice Chair, seconded by Mr. Finke. All in favor with no opposition or abstention.

Ms. Nerbak nominated Mr. Finke to serve as secretary, seconded by Ms. Gabel. All in favor with no opposition or abstention.

Mr. Finke MOVED to approve a calendar of four meeting dates for the coming year: May 2, September 5, November 7, 2024 and February 6, 2025; seconded by Mr. Stock. All in favor with no opposition or abstention. The motion carried.

It was MOVED by Mr. Smith to appoint Ms. Panté as Clerk to SWAC, seconded by Mr. Finke. All in favor with no opposition or abstention. The motion carried.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ms. Gabel asked if a card and note of condolence might be sent to the family of SWAC member Thomas Fey; the Clerk will send a card with condolences from the Commission.

The next meeting will be May 2, 2024. Ms. Nerbak wished good tidings to all for the coming Spring and all the holidays therein.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté, Clerk

Next meeting date: May 2, 2024