

Athens-Clarke County
Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the
Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 17, 2016

Location of Meeting:

Solid Waste Administrative Office
725 Hancock Industrial Way
Athens, Georgia 30605

Present at Meeting: Commissioner Jared Bailey, Larry Dendy, Jared Harper, Michael Brugger, and Suki Janssen.

Guest Present: Christy Tweedy

On August 17, 2016, the quarterly meeting of the Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Committee of Athens-Clarke County was called to order at 5:40 p.m. and welcomed by Commissioner Jared Bailey.

I. Public Input Section

1. Public Comments:

Larry Dendy asked for clarification to a statement made at the last SWCAC meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 in reference to “new businesses in the downtown area, including our first fast-food restaurant (Zaxby’s), producing quite a bit more waste and that presents more challenges for the Solid Waste Department”.

Suki Janssen responded that with the increase in new businesses downtown and buildings being built higher and at greater density and with the “first fast-food” restaurant downtown, there is more trash downtown, which means, future challenges for the solid waste 2nd shift (2:00 – 10:30 PM). As of the meeting date, staff is alright but going forward the growing trash and recycling collection will be an issue.

Mr. Dendy questioned if there was an opportunity to work with the Athens Downtown Development Authority (ADDA) and the subcommittee of ADDA with the possibility of coordinating a partnership with them for solid waste need support.

Suki stated that she will discuss ADDA assistance later in the meeting when she gets to the Collections Division report. However, there is a committee that has been created that includes Suki Janssen, David Fluck, Andrew Bielecki, Pam Thompson, Stacey Farrell, Mike Ratti, Richard Odum and more. The committee holds quarterly meetings to discuss downtown communication and beautification. The meeting discussions are about trends seen downtown and things staff need to address stay pro-active.

The Zaxby’s issue is one of the businesses staff is working with internally to see how to encourage them to produce less waste and use more reusable. Staff anticipates this will be difficult for Zaxby’s because of their location and lack of space.

Larry stated that he felt with there being more residents located in the downtown area, he thought that there should be more revenue. Suki explained that most of the

residential customers' downtown use compactors serviced by private haulers, therefore doesn't impact ACC services, however, commercial businesses do.

Christy Tweedy requested more information about the Let-Us Compost program such as "how are they using the facility" and "how's the program going?"

Suki explained that Let Us Compost is a private company and the only community composting company that is in Athens, Georgia. ACC Solid Waste Department/Landfill staff agreed to work with the company as a pilot program and in return give them free landfill tipping-for a 6-month trial period with the understanding that they would be charged a tip fee for depositing the food scraps for composting after the trial period. Compost has also been sold back to the company that they sell and/or give to their customers.

Let Us Compost is now paying regular tipping fees to use the ACC Commercial Compost Facility at the landfill and will start bringing approximately 15 tons of food scraps from Atlanta, Georgia Convention Center a month.

A question was asked "does ACC pick up UGA Recycling?"

Suki responded that ACC does not service UGA for recycling pickups. UGA pick up the recycling during the week and the Athlete Associated collects during football home games.

2. **Committee Comments:**

No comments from Committee.

II. Approval of Minutes

With the exception of correcting who motioned at the February 19, 2016 meeting, Commissioner Jared Bailey requested a motion to approve the minutes of May 18, 2016 meeting. A motion was made by Jared Harper to approve, with a second motion by Michael Brugger, the committee unanimously approved the minutes with the omission of who made the motions in February.

III. Reports

1. **Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful (KACCB)**

Suki Janssen read an overview of a report by Stacey Farrell, Executive Director of KACCB. **See Attachment 1ⁱ.**

Upcoming events include:

- 2016 Annual Rivers Alive - Saturday, September 24, 2016. Invitation to assist with cleanup will be sent to the Solid Waste Citizens Advisory Committee and Mayor and Commission.
- KACCB Dirty Dancing Party – Fall fundraiser on Saturday, August 27, 2016, 5 PM to 9 PM, at the Little Kings Shuffle Club. **See Flyer Attachment 2.ⁱⁱ**

- ACC Recycling Division Shred Event – Saturday, September 3, 2016, 9:00 AM – 12 PM, at the Georgia Square Mall, Front Parking Lot. **See Flyer Attachment 3.**ⁱⁱⁱ

2. Recovered Material Processing Facility (RMPF) (Recycling Division)

The Recovered Material Processing Facility will celebrate its birthday of 21 years of services this month.

Suki Janssen gave an overview of the ACC Recovered Materials Processing Facility Monthly Tonnage Comparison report. **See Attachment 4.**^{iv}

There were 20,531.21 tons brought in last FY16. Tonnage is currently down because at the end of the year the market started to fall which impacting the haulers and other communities, therefore, some had to pay more processing fees and didn't make any revenues so they chose not to bring material to the RMPF.

ACC tonnage remains the same. However, some of the private haulers and other communities surrounding ACC probably chose to use the landfill if their processing fees were exceeding the ACC landfill tip fees.

Tonnage is also down in July of FY17. To date as of last June, ACC has paid a little over \$100,000 in processing fees over revenues received. This is the most we ever paid to-date. Staff has planned to set aside \$100,000 in next year's budget for processing fees.

3. Collections Division Report

Suki Janssen gave an overview of a report given by Andrew Bielecki.

The Collection Division is exploring equipment to further enhance the sidewalk cleaning and scrubbing operations in the downtown district. A demo was given, of two smaller pieces of sidewalk scrubbing equipment by Tennant, Inc. A problem is occurring with the larger equipment missing some areas because of the size of the machine it can't get around light poles, get up against buildings, and streets such as Jackson Street where the sidewalks are too small to scrub are missed. Staff is considering the purchase of additional equipment with more flexibility to get the job done all over the downtown area.

The ACC Transportation and Public Works Department purchased the sidewalk scrubber for the downtown area and gave it to the Solid Waste Department to operate. The Recycling Division will be meeting with the downtown businesses to discuss ways to reduce the amount of waste in the downtown area.

Additionally, the ADDA was a big help with getting the Solid Waste Department's 3rd Litter Tech position for downtown approved by M&C. Mayor and Commission approved the budget to add a Litter Tech position for the Solid Waste Department in the downtown area as part of the FY17 package. Plans are to use the Litter Tech Wednesday through Sunday, 40/hrs. week. The Litter Tech will be responsible for picking up litter on the ground and maintaining the solid waste infrastructure in the downtown areas (pedestrian trash cans, recycling bins, cigarette receptacles and downtown event staffing.) Staff is

working with ACC Transportation and Public Works on providing pet waste containers downtown because staff is seeing more pets in the downtown area possibly coming from the increase in residential housing downtown.

In addition to the report, Suki reported as follows:

The Solid Waste Department/Billing Office is in its busy time of the season called RUSH. Rush is a time when Solid Waste Staff gets ready for students to return and sign up for new services (i.e., delivery of trash/recycling roll-carts, requesting level of service changes, input new customer information into the computer systems, high volume of phones calls, etc.). Rush begins the last two-weeks in July and runs through the 3rd week in August. During this time approximately thousands of roll-carts are being delivered and/or switched out.

Football season is the next busy time that impacts our weekend shifts that must use overtime to cover the downtown district appropriately for the volume of visitors.

The ACC new Assistant Manager, Mr. Jestin Johnson, has been assigned to oversee the Solid Waste Department and Suki Janssen reports directly to him. Mr. Johnson has been spending his time working with the Solid Waste Department. He first visited the ACC landfill and worked with staff, and within the same week, he rode with drivers of the automated truck's and roll-off truck.

4. Landfill Report

Suki Janssen and Brad Rickard presented the Odor Management Plan education session about "how to handle odors" detected in the landfill area and beyond at the Mayor and Commission July 12 work session.

Mayor and Commission were given a samples of bio-solids, trash, leaf and limb material, finish bio-solid compost and chicken litter to get a sense of what various materials at the landfill smell like, and they took a small quiz before going over the landfill odor management plan. The plan covered how odor complaints are logged, and how odor is monitored, and what nasal rangers are and how we use one at the landfill.

The landfill has been averaging about 300 tons of trash per day. In FY16 the landfill received about 94,000 tons come in. About 19,828 tons of that was recycled.

The landfill is in its last 4 years in Phase 7 to deposit trash in ACC. This year, staff will propose some options on what we are going to do with our trash after Phase 7 section of the landfill is closed. One option staff may present is the option that the Mayor and Commission approved the purchase of 79 acres in Oglethorpe County to use for a landfill expansion. Another option staff may present is using a transfer station. Staff will give Mayor and Commission ideas of what can be done with waste and what the costs associated with each method.

A report of the methane gas power generation will be presented at the next meeting and added to future agenda items.

5. Other Business

The CHaRM is doing great. However, one problem is the current site might be sold this fall and staff is waiting to hear about the future of the CHaRM. CHaRM received a grant for \$28,000 to buy a densifier for Styrofoam. The grant was received from the Foam Packaging Institute. The money will be used to help with the recycling of extended polystyrene.

CHaRM will be added on the next meeting agenda for report and discussion.

6. Schedule Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2016 at the Solid Waste CHaRM Building located at 1005 College Avenue, Athens, Georgia at 5:30 p.m.

A tour of the ACC Landfill Gas System will be given at a later date. Suki Janssen will notify committee of the date.

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful Update
August, 2016

May

The KACCB Board of Directors held the Annual trash 2 Treasure Yard Sale at the CHaRM site. Partnering with the ACC Landfill, and Junk South, KACCB raised over \$8,000

The Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful Board of Directors and KACCB staff cleaned up the Loop 10 Ramps at Hwy 441 North.

KACCB staff tabled at the UGA Sustainability Semester in Review Event. Staff shared information on KACCB projects and volunteer opportunities with attendees.

The KACCB staff/Board purchased and distributed the book "Compost. A Family Guide to Making Soil From Scraps" to 23 area schools and youth programs.

KACCB helped organize and host a Monarch's Across Georgia Workshop for area educators. The event reached 16 educators and took place at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia.

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful staff participated in the dedication ceremony for a bench from the MLK Day of Service Committee presented to outstanding community volunteer Phil Caskey at Oglethorpe Road Elementary School.

June

KACCB staff attended the Keep Georgia Beautiful Annual Conference

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful staff conducted 4 Smart Lunch, Smart Kids program for ACC youth

The KACCB Board of Directors tables at the Farmers Market

KACCB staff distributed 1,100 pocket ashtrays to 4 local bar/restaurants and 1 vender table for AthFest in an effort to curb cigarette litter at the festival

July

Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful staff conducted 4 Smart Lunch, Smart Kids program for ACC youth

KACCB began planning for the 2016 Annual Rivers Alive Event

ii

The keepin' It Clean...

Dirty Dancing benefit

Family Dance Party
Little Kings Shuffle Club

5pm to 9pm
with
DJ Les Litter
and sidekick
A. Little Les Litter

- *Buck's Litter Hotline photobooth
- *Groovy raffle packages
- *Local dance performances
- *King of Pops for sale
- *Treehouse Kid & Craft project
- *Face painting

DINNER AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

\$5 adult / \$3 child
purchase tickets at door



Attachment 2.

Saturday, August 27, 5-9pm



Little Kings Shuffle Club
223 W. Hancock Street
Downtown Athens



All proceeds benefit Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful



SHRED EVENT

Saturday September 3rd, 2016

9 AM – 12 PM

Georgia Square Mall
Front Parking Lot

The Lindsay Group will provide secure destruction of your confidential and sensitive materials for FREE with their mobile shredding unit that destroys materials onsite under your supervision. The ACC Recycling Division will recycle the shreds.

Area residents and small businesses can shred up to 2 boxes (size of a bankers box) of documents for free. Additional boxes can be shredded for a \$5.00 fee per box, payable in **CASH**.

***New at this event: The Lindsay Group now offers hard drive destruction for \$25.00 per hard drive. Cash Only.**

For more information, please call the ACC Recycling Division at (706) 613-3512 or visit www.athensclarkecounty.com/recycle



AAA certified ON-SITE Document Destruction
Record Storage Management • GO-BIND STORAGE UNITS Commercial
and Residential Storage

Athens-Clarke County Recovered Materials Processing Facility (RMPF)
Base Fiscal Year 1996 vs. FY10 Goal Setting Year and Subsequent Years
Monthly Tonnage Comparison

Month	FY96	FY10	FY15	FY16
July	123.73	1,127.61	1843.78	1793.46
August	258.41	1,200.60	1775.79	1923.44
September	409.62	1,286.29	1848.33	1837.49
October	344.98	1,301.78	1863.39	1188.55
November	379.78	1,215.17	1640.21	1777.97
December	415.82	1,360.16	1949.06	1866.41
January	448.54	1,210.22	1907.75	1677.14
February	421.87	1,128.10	1607.3	1629.06
March	347.19	1,238.54	1953.08	1761.82
April	367.34	1,197.08	2029.27	1761.82
May	415.38	1,195.70	1768.78	1612.18
June	356.88	1,290.94	1810.34	1701.87
6 month totals	1,932.34	7,491.61	12,828.31	15,455.34
Yearly Totals	4,289.54	14,752.19	21,997.08	20,531.21
% increase over FY10			49.11%	39.17%

