



INNER WEST COUNCIL

Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes Thursday, 6 June 2019

6.30pm – 8.30pm

Petersham Administration Centre

2-14 Fisher Street, Petersham 2049

Attendees

- Chrissie McIntyre
- Clare Donovan
- Diego Bonetto
- Emily Prentice
- Golda Dela Cruz
- Janet Sparrow
- Jo Blackman
- Justine Langford
- Mary Stewart
- Nicole Boyd
- Robert Helstroom
- Sarah Mandelson

Apologies

- Adam Cook
- Liz Locksley
- Patrick Medley

Staff

- Jon Stiebel
- Helen Bradley
- Jean Brennan
- Kate Jackson
- Claudia Cowell

Welcome, meeting overview

- Overview of meeting agenda

Inner West Reusable Coffee Cup Pilot

- Kate Jackson gave a presentation about the upcoming reusable coffee cup pilot with Green Caffein and Responsible Cafes. The pilot is launching at the end of July and aims to recruit 40 cafes.

Action: Provide a progress update to the Environment Advisory Committee following the launch.

Zero Waste Strategy

- Mark Mitchell (Micromex) and Helen Bradley (Inner West Council) provided a presentation followed by a facilitated discussion about the Waste Management Community Research. Summary of Environment Advisory Committee responses to facilitated discussion below.

Question: How do we convert caring into action?

Incentives/disincentives:

- Smaller garbage bins
- Less frequent garbage collection (fortnightly)
- User-pays/weight and pay (potential issues with dumping and using other bins)
- Reusable nappy rebate

Education & Information:

- School - kids bring message home to parents
- Educate/information about problem wastes – the out-of-the-ordinary items.
- Recycling stickers on the bin
- Fridge magnet calendars with more info
- Good feedback received on the new waste app

Community:

- Community composting opportunities
- Collection points for household batteries, globes and corks
- Bottle return points – like in Germany – a 2 euro deposit and glass bottles are washed and reused.

Question: What key messages do we need to get across?

- Consumption – Buy less and question whether you really need something. Change your shopping habits. Consumer behaviour and pre-packaged foods – often more than you need.
- Lobby Aldi and other supermarkets around unnecessary packaging
- Disposal – If we were to have local landfills it would become more of an issue.
- It's worth the effort – explain the benefit of taking batteries to CRC and what happens to the item (like the case study on TVs and computers)
- Your home is more than the property you live in – it's our community and our planet – thinking outside our little box.

Question How do we engage people in the need to act?

- Clear images and visuals.
- Competition – suburb by suburb or ward-based competition or other LGAs – if you save x tonnes landfill we'll spend the savings on something beneficial for the winning community.
- Have an indicator on the website of how well we are doing
- Give people positive feedback and information about their good behaviours. Success works (norming).
- The emotional angle – focus on making the community feel good about doing the right thing (waste is an emotional thing) – and the feedback loop (take compost to a community point where you not only get feedback from an expert but you come away with a seedling, so the circle is complete.
- Setting targets and goals for both council and the community to work towards collectively to make a positive impact.

Next steps: The community research will inform the Draft Zero Waste Strategy

Action: Further engage Environment Advisory Committee on the Draft Zero Waste Strategy at upcoming meeting in November 2019

Introduction to Urban Ecology Strategy

- Jean Brennan provided a presentation on the scope of the Urban Ecology Strategy in development

Action: Upcoming Workshop in August to engage Environment Advisory Committee

Next Meeting:

Thursday 29 August 2019 Petersham Service Centre