

OKRA

Oklahoma Recycling Association

Board Meeting Minutes

10:00 a.m.
December 19, 2008

230 S. Knoblock Street
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Present: Traci Phillips, Linda Sturman, Ilda Hershey, Mike Hixon, Garmon Smith, Susie Shields, Ellen Bussert, Michael Patton, Ande Reed,

Absent: Trudi Logan, Kathy Moore, Heather Schmuki, Kole Kennedy, Chris Daniels

Traci Phillips opened the meeting by reporting that two board members were resigning. Linda Sturman, former membership chair, resigned due to increased work responsibilities. Richard Chapman, Advocacy Chairman, also resigned due to his work responsibilities. Chapman agreed to remain as an Advisory Council person.

Review of the minutes for the October meeting was tabled. They will be presented in the future after they are finished.

There was no membership report. Bussert volunteered to work on membership tasks until another chair person could be recruited.

Patton passed out finance statement. He said that he had nothing to report on the status of obtaining the 501 (C) 3 certification. He reported that there were problems with pay pal that needed to be resolved. The address is dues@recycleok.org.

There was no report on the money brought in from the October 30, 2008 Community Recycling Seminar. Invoices should be sent out before the February meeting.

As discussion was held regarding spending OKRA money for events. It was decided that a budget of some type must be approved by the board before money can be expended.

Patton reported that OKRA owes the National Recycling Coalition \$1,600 in a flat fee for last year. A brief discussion was held on the benefits of remaining a member of NRC at this point.

There was no report from the advocacy workgroup.

Ilda Hershey reported that she is working on enhancing the education trunks and displays. She is in the process of finding a student to help with this activity.

Kole Kennedy was unable to attend the meeting, but set the following written report for the Materials Exchange Workgroup.

I was granted the administrative rights to the Renew Waste Exchange. Each state in region six does not have its' own exchange. Instead there is one huge waste exchange. I am in charge of accepting new applications for the site and confirming their posts, and determining whether they have a legitimate post or it is false. There is no state separation; I think three other people and I have control over the entire system. Now I must simply promote the network. I have

already begun incorporating it into my Site Assistance Visits and bring it up whenever I can at conferences. It will just take people hitting the pavement and promoting it whenever we can.

Ilda Hershey gave me some great ideas:

- Get a link on the OKRA website (Last I checked it was on the DEQ website)
- Write a story about it for the next OKRA newsletter and ask readers to help promote use of the Exchange.
- Ask the Oklahoma Dept of Commerce to promote use and possibly partner with DEQ & OKRA in some way.
- Check with military bases and school districts. (I often have contact with Altus Air Force Base and will check with them at next opportunity)
- Contact specific large industries in Oklahoma about using the Exchange (Dept of Commerce may be helpful here). ((I have already begun mentioning it to every company we visit.)
- Find out how Texas promotes the site to Texas industries (I will be in touch with Thomas, the lead designer of the exchange and get his information).
- Ask OKRA board members to help promote use of the Exchange. (WELL CAN YOU HELP ME???)

It is already in full swing in Texas and some other states. I can only hope that we can be the next state with a healthy Waste Exchange Program.

Thank you ALL for you time and help. Have a MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!! ☺

The Communications workgroup had 3 items of business. First, kudos were given to Susie Shields for the marvelous job she did planning, organizing and implementing the OKRA Community Recycling Seminar. Everyone expressed their appreciation to Susie for all of her work.

Shields reported that the seminar cost approximately \$1,100.00 of that amount, \$150.00 was paid out to the facility kitchen coordinator. The rest paid for food. Dianne Wilkins of the DEQ provided the pastries for breakfast. The DEQ Green Team donated the coffee. There were 92 people in attendance. Each was given a hard copy of the tool kit and a CD of the tool kit with an appendix. Shields said the tool kit needed more specific Oklahoma information before she uploads it to the web site. She would like to get it done soon. She will also upload 3 more speeches on the website after she gets them from the speaker. If you have anything for Susie, you need to get it to her before February 1, 2009.

Traci Phillips sent out a survey to the seminar attendees. She said that she got 33 responses. One hundred percent of those who responded said that they walked away with what they expected.

It was suggested that legislators be added to the invitation list next time. Mike Hixon will consolidate the results of the survey into an article for the OKRA Newsletter.

(Survey information inserted here.)

Ande Reed said that she is shooting for an OKRA picnic in May, 2009 in the Tulsa metro area. Her reasoning is that it would be a good event to have after the March fundraising drive. Next steps, she plans to come up with a budget and reserve a location. She hopes to get sponsors to off-set the costs. She said that she would welcome any help!

The development of 2009 goals was tabled until the next meeting.

Mike Hixon volunteered to work on fundraising and asked for suggestions from the group.

The meeting will be held in Stillwater on February 12, 2009. The Board will tour the Stillwater Recycling facility and conduct the business meeting afterwards.

The meeting was adjourned.