

Organizing Committee Minutes

Western Electronic Product Stewardship Initiative (WEPSI-NW)

January 30, 2002, 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Oregon DEQ, Portland

Attending: Shirli Axelrod (Seattle), Betty Patton (Project Team), Wayne Rifer (Project Manager), Viccy Salazar (EPA R10), Tanya Schaefer (RA), Dick Schmidt (City of Portland), Lisa Sepanski (King County), David Stitzhal (NWPSC), Lori Stole (RA, Project Team), Larry Chalfan (ZWA), George Lundberg (Epson Portland), Cate Gable (MFF), Scott Klag (Metro)

1. Feb. 6 M-S meeting:

- a. Agenda: No changes were made to the agenda. The Market Drivers subgroup status report will focus on group discussion. Then, an off-site speaker will discuss LEED. Wayne is still trying to confirm an Energy Star speaker. The Design subgroup will present a status report, followed by a presentation by Frank Marella (Sharp) and Mark Sharp (Panasonic). Craig Lorch, Shawn Dumpy (WMI) and Barbara Johnson will briefly introduce themselves and help answer questions with audience participation.
- b. Logistics: Address and room information will be added to the agenda. Tanya will request the speaker phone A/V equipment for the entire meeting to enhance sound quality for those who may call in. Tanya will send a third reminder to stakeholders requesting RSVPs. This will include the option to call-in (noting that lines are limited, and those who wish to do so must contact her or Wayne for the phone number). She will send those who have RSVP'd an e-mail with some more specific meeting information, such as lunch costs. Tanya will coordinate carpooling from Portland; we likely will meet at 6 a.m. at the Jantzen Beach Safeway.
- c. Last Minute Invite Contacts?: Current number of confirmed attendees is 31. Tanya is following up with several people who usually attend. Heather Bowman, David Thompson and Joe Johnson will be contacted. There are no retailer headquarters in the Pacific Northwest – Lisa has made several efforts to talk to Best Buy and Staples, but the local people do not know about headquarter efforts. She also has talked to individual recyclers, and PC Salvage will attend for the first time.

2. NEPSI Debrief:

- a. Design workshop: David coordinated a design workshop held the afternoon before NEPSI began. Sony, IBM and Panasonic presented. Viccy will send her notes from the workshop to the OC.
- b. Overall: The NEPSI meeting was dominated by subgroup activity. The meeting's key objective was to come to a consensus about the financing mechanism (front end fee vs. back end fee), but the group failed to do so. In so far as the group positioned the discussion so it can come to a resolution, the meeting was successful. Participants were asking the questions to which they need to know answers in order to make a decision.

Two assignments resulted from the meeting: 1) The infrastructure subgroup (led by Wayne) is to develop a document or a sense about what base level of service (frequency, service area, etc.) would be paid for by the financing mechanism. The group is assuming all products will flow through the same infrastructure. Some OC members noted that CRTs are fundamentally different from other e-scrap. 2) An ad hoc group formed to develop the costs of this base level of service.

A significant number of WEPSI participants are pushing for including reuse as a part of the system, and for local communities to have a voice in what their local infrastructure looks like. They do not want a one-size-fits-all national program.

3. Funding:

WEPSI I: We do not have funding wrapped up for WEPSI I. We are working to get the CPG grant developed, and it will be discussed at the Feb. 7 NWPSC electronics committee meeting. Even with that grant, we are still short. We are requesting that those in a new budget cycle investigate the possibility of granting funds at the same level as before. City of Portland has committed another \$4,999 to WEPSI I.

WEPSI II: This project is similar to WEPSI I in terms of staffing, structure and the notion of EPA being the core funder. EPA R10 has released an RFP, and pre-proposals are due on February 1. Each grant is limited to \$20,000 and an organization can receive only one grant. Wayne is submitting three proposals: 1) Recycling Advocates: implementing WEPSI I's action plan; 2) Portland State University: modifying the Mid-Atlantic computerized infrastructure simulation model for the Pacific Northwest; 3) Zero Waste Alliance: implementing the Market driver's subgroup's DfE rating system. The Regulations subgroup may develop an economic development proposal for separate funding.

EPA is committed to supporting WEPSI to the best of its ability. Region 9 has not released an RFP and they may not. GFF has been trying to present to foundations and will follow up again with Region 9.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 20, 2002, 9 to 11 a.m.; Call in # 206-553-4602.