

Organizing Committee Minutes

Western Electronic Product Stewardship Initiative (WEPSI-NW)

November 19, 2001, 9:30 – 10:50 a.m.

Oregon DEQ, Portland

Attending: Larry Chalfan (ZWA), George Lundberg (Epson), Betty Patton (Project Team), Wayne Rifer (Project Manager), Tanya Schaefer (RA), Dick Schmidt (City of Portland), Lori Stole (RA, Project Team), Cate Gable (GFF), Patricia J (WA DOE), Scott Klag (Metro), Kathy Kiwala (Clark County), Vicky Salazar (EPA R10), David Stitzhal (NWPSC)

1. Minutes from the last OC meeting (10/24) were approved via e-mail.
2. 12/12 multi-stakeholder meeting
 - a. Meeting place and logistics: WTC, Mezzanine 5 from 9:30 to 4:30. Larry will look into reserving two conference rooms for the subgroup meetings. Tanya is ordering food, and will solicit donations for coffee and snacks. Epson gave \$500 to support this meeting. Tanya will send a second meeting notice/invitation this week with the revised agenda, and communications ground rules along with detailed social and tour information.
 - b. Review draft agenda: Agenda was approved with minor modifications. Cate will revise and send to Wayne.
 - c. Subgroup presentations and speakers: The Reuse and Recycling subgroup is finalizing their speakers today. The Regulations group will do so shortly.
3. SWOT process: Vicky expressed concern that the subgroups have narrowed their foci too quickly without performing a full situational analysis, especially concerning the range of possible focus topics and an analysis of which areas WEPSI can focus on to be most effective. The Regulations and Reuse & Recycling groups have been doing more of a situational analysis since they are still considering several options, more so than did the Market Drivers and Design groups which selected a focus early on.

The OC discussed this issue at length, and how the subgroups worked toward the final desired outcome. They agreed to devote an extra hour during the next OC meeting to talk about the desired outcome of the WEPSI process and strategies.
4. Subgroup progress reports:
 - a. Reuse/recycling: They will have at least two speakers at the 12/12 meeting, addressing foreign markets and monitor/TV issues. They also are addressing software for the reuse market, which also has been addressed through the MFF stakeholder process. The emphasis to date has been on open source solutions. The current barriers to using Microsoft in the reuse market are that Microsoft does not support old OS version, its new version doesn't fit on old computers, and licensing costs are prohibitive.
 - b. Regulations: It has taken them some time to narrow their focus. They need better representation from the recycling community; Lori will post a request on the reuse/recycling listserv. They will present CRT and EPA rules on 12/12. They also are addressing certification for recyclers and EPP. George is leading NEPSI's regulations subgroup, and he and Lori will try not to duplicate efforts.
 - c. Design and Market Drivers activities were mentioned during the SWOT discussion.
5. EPA/EPA-Grantee meeting tentatively on 12/11 in Portland: This meeting will address how the work in Regions 9 and 10 will come together and address EPA's challenge of a joint effort. At least two representatives from EPA Region 9, and hopefully representatives from MFF and SVTC will attend.
6. Report on 12/13 tours and 12/12 social event:
 - a. Tours: Computer Drive Connection, HighTech Now, Lunch, Free Geek, StRUT from 8:30 to 3:30. We have an eight-person van from the City of Portland and others will drive.
 - b. Social: Bridgeport Brew Pub reserved section for 30 people from 5:30 to close.
 - c. Hosting: OC members are hosting attendees who need free lodging.
7. Recycler certification opportunity for WEPSI: Through his work on a TV recovery project in Seattle, David spoke to Pete Muscanelli from the International Association of Electronics Recyclers (IAER). IAER developed a certification program that went dormant after certifying one recycler. They are interested in revamping it, and they have addressed some very important concerns raised by EIA and others during the first iteration. IAER is looking for ways to partner with other organizations in order to bring the project to fruition. They specifically mentioned partnering with WEPSI. They have

retained an independent, ISO14001 consulting firm to do independent audits, and are willing to share proprietary documents with potential partners. The OC members did not have any concerns, so Lori and David will talk later today and David will follow up with Pete.

8. WEPSI in light of latest NEPSI meeting: NEPSI has formed subgroups; George is leading Regulations and Wayne is leading recycling/collection/transportation infrastructure with the support of David. NEPSI is focusing on financing issues, with the elimination of government pays all as an option. The next meeting is January 23-25. All subgroups will present in January.
9. Financial Report: The project team is not ready to present detailed information yet, but it has been working on breaking out tasks and projecting expenses. Snohomish County came through with \$5,000. The CPG grant also was awarded to the City of Seattle. Some of that money will be apportioned to the WEPSI process. Even given these new funding sources, we do not have all of the funds we need to get through the end of the project and we will discuss the budget again.
10. Next meeting: Wednesday, December 5, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Conference Call #: 206-553-4602.