CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. in the Worksession Room of Anoka City Hall.

ROLL CALL Board Members present: Chair Marijo Hain, VC Cheryl Knapek, Susan Dergantz, Jan Call, Eileen Rathbun and Diane Grinde. Absent: Vicki Violet. Staff present: Pam Bowman, Recycling Manager. Others Present: None.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 12, 2020 MEETING MINUTES
Member Grinde made a MOTION to approve the February 12, 2020 meeting minutes, SECONDED by Member Call, all in favor, MOTION carried.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 10, 2020 MEETING MINUTES
Member Grinde made a MOTION to approve the June 10, 2020 meeting minutes, SECONDED by Member Dergantz, all in favor, MOTION carried.

OLD BUSINESS
Recycling Events Updates. Ms. Bowman reviewed the following events and updates were provided accordingly.

• Paper Shred Event. Ms. Bowman thanked Members Dergantz and Grinde for offering to help at the event, but said that one to two Public Services crew members will be there and therefore volunteers are not needed. She reminded the members it is on Saturday, July 18th from 9 a.m. - Noon at Rick Sorenson Park.

• Book Exchange Event. Ms. Bowman reported that the Parks staff decided to hold the event, but do so in collaboration with the WRRB’s Pumpkin Smash. She said book collections will be held at City Hall and at the Fall Recycling Event to start collecting, then people can still bring books to the event or just come and take a book or more. Members agreed to combine the two events.

Member Rathbun asked if reusable bag could be purchased and sold at the event. Ms. Bowman said this has been done in the past at other events and it would be possible to hand them out for free. VC Knapek suggested an imprint for the bag. Member Rathbun asked that the message be positive vs. “don’t”…Ms. Bowman said she would provide examples at the August meeting. She said there would be sufficient time to order the bags and have them in time for the Pumpkin Smash/Book Exchange event.

• Fix-It Clinics Update. Ms. Bowman said she had not yet heard if the August 1 event at East Bethel Senior Center had been canceled. She said she will keep members informed if she receives information.

• Pumpkin Smash. Ms. Bowman reminded members that this item was tabled at the last meeting and that a date for the event must be determined at this meeting. She said the three dates to choose from are: Sunday, Nov. 1, Monday, Nov. 2 or Saturday, Nov. 7.

Members Call and Grinde said Nov. 7th is too late. After much discussion (including what might be best for the Book Exchange) it was determined to hold it on Sunday, Nov. 1 from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. in the afternoon. Ms. Bowman said the only downside is having an empty dumpster vulnerable to contamination over the Halloween weekend, but that she will plan accordingly in case cleaning of the dumpster that morning is necessary.

Member Grinde asked if signs could be placed around the dumpster noting it is for the Pumpkin Smash in hopes that people will not use it as a garbage dumpster. Chair Hain said signs were put up last year around the
dumpsters. Ms. Bowman said signs would again be placed around it this year. Members inquired about a cover. Ms. Bowman said the type of dumpster that is used does not have a cover and a tarp would not necessarily prevent people from dumping into it.

**RAW Newsletter.** Ms. Bowman said she would like to switch back to the original distribution time of the newsletter which is late August/early September. She said this will be better timing for the fall recycling event and the pumpkin smash.

Member Call asked if Member Dergantz’s organics information will be included. Ms. Bowman confirmed it will be included.

**Marketing Materials Update.** Ms. Bowman said the insert that she had planned to put with utility bills for September was halted because she noticed that “glass” was not an acceptable item listed. She said Republic Services has two versions of the insert because some states they operate in do not allow glass for recycling. Ms. Bowman said she was able to obtain the correct piece and it will still make a late fall billing cycle.

**Joint Meeting with Park Board Update.** Ms. Bowman said a joint meeting has been put on hold and will not occur this year. She said it will be discussed again next year. Members agreed there is no immediate need to meet.

**Subcommittee Reports.**

- **Multi-Family** – Chair Hain said she, Member Grinne, and Ms. Bowman met recently to discuss the next steps. Member Grinde said they determined the next step is to mail a letter to all MF property managers/owners to offer recycling resources, a visit, or a presentation. She said a different (follow-up) letter will be mailed to the 5 or 6 buildings they had already visited. Ms. Bowman said they realized with COVID-19, it may be difficult to enter buildings based on their safety measures, etc., primarily senior buildings.

- **Organics** – Nothing new to report.

- **Crayola ColorCycle Program** – VC Knapek said she and Ms. Bowman learned through various sources that while Crayola may be collecting these for recycling, they may not actually be recycling them, but possibly burning them; therefore, they recommend not moving forward with this program. Ms. Bowman added that they also learned that the program is only available in schools.

- **Anoka Halloween** – Member Rathbun said due to the uncertainty of Anoka Halloween activities, this item needs no further discussion and could be removed from future agendas if also approved by Member Violet.

**Residential Recycling Contract - Request for Proposals.** Members reviewed the information and made the following suggestions:

- Member Grinde asked to better define “bi-weekly”. Chair Hain said to include it in the definitions of the contract.
- Chair Hain also noted that plastics #1 was missing throughout the document.
- Member Dergantz said something needs to be included indicating that the label on the top of the containers must be durable and weather-resistant and should be replaced as needed.

Ms. Bowman said she will include these suggestions and the corrections and provide an updated draft to them prior to the next meeting so they have additional time to review it allowing them to finalize at the August meeting to stay on track.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Bowman requested two items be added to the agenda that came up after the agenda was prepared. All agreed to add the following to items for discussion.

**Can Collection Trailer.** Ms. Bowman said she received an email from personnel at Anoka High School that they would
like to cancel the contract with the WRRB for the collection trailer, noting that they do not have any volunteers to help transport it when it needs to be emptied.

Having notified the WRRB members prior to the meeting, she explained this situation to them and asked for ideas of how to keep this program running. Two suggestions were having it placed at the Anoka County Fairgrounds or asking the Anoka American Legion if they would like to utilize it an possibly have it placed at Rick Sorenson Park, adjacent to the property. Ms. Bowman said she inquired with the Public Services Department if the trailer could be placed there. Discussing that, a new idea was suggested by Public Services Administrator, Lisa LaCasse - to use the collection cage for the City’s Waterfowl for Warriors (WFW) program which is seeking ways to raise money to support the hunts and lunches for the participating veterans, each fall. After discussion, the WRRB members agreed to move forward to benefit the WFW program.

**Garbage Collection Program.** Ms. Bowman shared information about a garbage clean-up program Councilmember Skogquist suggested the WRRB look into which has been successful in Brooklyn Park and organized by a resident. She said it provides/organizes volunteers to clean up city streets where there are public sidewalks, supplies are donated by a local store, safety vests are borrowed from the city, and collected materials are deposited in garbage containers within city parks. At the end of the year, the city is presented with a tonnage report of collected garbage.

During discussion, Member Grinde said that this type of project is not part of the WRRB’s mission or 2020 goals and believes the WRRB should maintain focus on recycling efforts. She also said that the WRRB has participated several times in a similar program, Adopt-A-Park, which appears to be a successful program.

VC Knaepk said she and her neighbors have long cleaned up their neighborhood and other trails within the city during their walks. She said adding more garbage to city parks containers through this project might be problematic in that those containers are filling up more frequently and tend to overflow. She said she has called the Parks Department occasionally to inform them of the overflowing containers. She also said that she uses her own garbage bags for this task and wondered if she could receive some from the city. Ms. Bowman thanked her for her efforts and said she would get some bags to her.

Ms. Bowman said she had spoken with Public Services personnel and they feel the programs and events they already have in place are filling the need and do not see a need to add a similar one at this time.

From the discussion, the WRRB members decided to pass on this project and focus on recycling initiatives.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**2020 Meetings & Activities Schedule.** Ms. Bowman said no major updates were made to the schedule. She reminded the members they will need to determine if they wish to move their November meeting to the 18th (instead of the 11th which is Veterans Day) or canceling the November meeting. Chair Hain said this decision can be done at a later date.

VC Knaepk noticed errors in the dates on the schedule. Ms. Bowman said she would make those corrections.

**Solid Waste Abatement Advisory Team (SWAAT) Meeting Notes.** Ms. Bowman said she added these notes to the agenda as a source of information. She said she will continue to include them as a resource because the notes might spark some new ideas or answer some general questions. Chain Hain said she found them interesting and this set answered some questions for her.

**General Recycling Questions.** Member Call inquired if a small pill bottle and an Ensure carton were recyclable. Members said no to the pill bottle noting of its small size and were unsure of the Ensure carton, although cartons are recyclable, it has a metal-appearing coating on the inside.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m. on a MOTION by Member Grinde and SECONDED by VC Knaepk. All in favor; MOTION CARRIED.