



**A Meeting Of The IPM Task Force  
Minutes  
Wednesday, May 23, 2007  
Albany Senior Center  
846 Masonic Ave.  
7:30 p.m.**

- 1. Call to Order:** 7:42 p.m. Task Force Members present: Chair Wishner, Linden, Piller, Mattson, Thomas, and Carlsen. Excused Glasner and Fabian

Staff present: Richard Cunningham and Robin Mariona

**2. Review of Minutes: April 18, and April 23, 2007:**

**Motion:**

Approval of the minutes of April 18 made by Member Mattson and seconded by Member Thomas. Motion carried 5 in favor and 1 abstention.

Approval of the minutes with corrections of April 25 made by Member Mattson and seconded by Member Thomas. Motion carried all in favor.

**3. Public Comment**

**4. Announcements/Communication:**

**5. Discussion and possible action on matters related to the following items, which could include reports and/or proposed resolutions if any:**

**5.1 Latest Draft of the IPM policy & related correspondence from IPM consultant Steven Ash:**

Chair Wishner stated that the intention from the last meeting was to review and revise sections 1 and 3. Member Carlsen suggested that in order to work on section 1, the Task Force would first need to deal with fertilizers and it may be best to start with section 3 page 8. He further stated that there needed to be a way to develop a preferred fertilizer list. He proposed adding a section or modifying an existing section that would adopt language directing the oversight committee to develop a preferred fertilizer list.

Chair Wishner questioned whether the list should be a preferred list or a reduced risk list. Member Carlsen stated that there should be verbage describing the need for a preferred list, and the oversight committee should be tasked with developing the list based on toxicological review and assessment.

Chair Wishner summarized what Member Carlsen had suggested; that the ordinance/policy needed to include a reference to a preferred fertilizer list that paralleled the reduced risk pesticide list, the document needed to refer to fertilizers where they were currently omitted, to be sure that difference between fertilizers and pesticides was clear and that the oversight committee needed to come up with the list in consultation with an expert advisor meeting specific timelines.

Member Mattson stated natural fertilizers should be used first and what situation could occur that would make it necessary to use a non-natural product. Member Carlsen stated that a natural fertilizer may not be sufficient, and the oversight committee should be tasked with making those choices.

Member Linden stated that there were many risks in using both synthetic and organic fertilizers and that it was too great a task to leave to the oversight committee. She further stated that fertilizers needed to be addressed specifically and strongly by the Task Force and that the Task Force needed to have the integrity to favor natural and organic fertilizer to feed the soil.

Member Carlsen stated that procedures for using fertilizers needed to be written into the policy, and was the Task Force going to use National Organic Standards or would there be provisions for exceptions

The Task Force agreed that there needed to be a fertilizer list, that there should be a timeline established for the development of the list and there was a need to develop criteria for the list. It was further agreed that the drafting committee would draft sections 9A and 14A adding positively stated criteria with regard to fertilizers and promotion of soil and plant health, waterways and run off, air pollution and production of fertilizer products. The drafting committee would also add fertilizers into sections where it was missing.

Member Piller stated concern about how the drafting committee could complete it's task when the Task Force had a disagreement among the members about the use of organic only fertilizers and a mix of organics and synthetics. He further stated that even though addressing fertilizers had never been a charge given to the Task Force by the Commission, that it would be a mistake and an omission to leave them out.

Member Linden stated that the Task Force needed to look into all the possibilities and needed to state a strong intention at the beginning of the policy with regard to the precautionary principle.

Member Piller stated that the precautionary principle was not appropriate when applied to fertilizers, and a ban on anything but organics would be a big change from the current procedures and products the City was using. There had been past discussion on phasing in an organics only policy for the ball fields and anything else would be difficult and costly for the City. He further stated that adopting a policy that the City could not fund should be something that the Task Force keep in mind.

Manager Cunningham stated that Public Works was currently using slow release synthetics that were applied twice a year and the principle cost was in labor.

Chair Wishner proposed that a draft for sections 9A and 14A be worked on by the drafting committee based on the evenings discussion. The Task Force agreed to bracket fertilizers, in section 1 paragraph 1, for further discussion of the section. Chair Wishner suggested that the Task Force read through alternative 3. Member Linden questioned the use of the wording 'to the maximum extent feasible' in alternative 3 and stated that this language was not specific enough.

Chair Wishner stated that Steven Ash suggested not using language that entirely banned any alternatives, and that the possibility of exceptions should be allowed.

Member Linden stated that the introduction to the policy needed to be more positive. Member Piller stated that the drafting committee would work on a more positive introduction and Member Linden would work on a more positive introduction as well.

**6. Adjournment: 9:25 pm. Next meeting Wed. June 13, 2007**

