

**Arizona Recycling Coalition Legislative Committee Meeting
November 12, 2008
Hudson Baylor offices**

Attending: Matt Snyder, US Airways
Les Miller, City of Avondale
Janet Stewart, City of Avondale
Denette Dunn, Hudson Baylor
Gina D'Abella, Environmental Concerns Organization
Julie Stanton, SitePlus

Denette opened meeting and said that she, on behalf of ARC, was invited to make a presentation to the Arizona Inter-Tribal Council on November 12 and welcomed some help. (Note: Presentation has since been cancelled until 1/09).

Then, everyone who had researched topic areas presented their findings.

The Variance Issue – Gina

AZDEQ says they won't enforce the code, which is counter-intuitive. The areas that are trying to comply are penalized.

It's very difficult for the outlying areas.

One idea is to make it the waste hauler's responsibility.

Or change the code.

The question becomes: who benefits from the inspections? No one!

The original reason for inspections was to prevent fly larva from developing.

Denette added: we need to get legislation going to get the outlying areas to do recycling in addition to waste pickups.

We need to educate the right people at the legislature and at the cities.

WM and Allied are closing landfills to get higher prices and that's causing more illegal dumping.

2. Events Recycling - Janet

Avondale has been a leader in this, and is preparing to put language requiring recycling at major events into their City contracts. It is working, and she will share the specific language with the committee.

Les talked about recycling efforts at PIR. 120 cans were filled. The race fans were really into it and did a good job. They would have filled up more cans if they were available.

Basha's helped out as a sponsor and gave out some freebies.

3. Haz Waste Recycling – Les

Les talked about the new Arlington Recycling Center, which is taking HHW, batteries, and tires.

Also the County is opening the Hassayampa Tire Recycling Center.

Christmas Tree Recycling – All

Janet said they used to take them to 99th Ave and I-10, then 35th and Broadway.

Gina said she takes them out to her sheep farm.

Janet said Kiwanis Park puts them in the lake to provide additional nutrients

Bottle Bill – Matt

Matt would like to see if this could be implemented in some way here in Arizona.

HB2760 tried to address it.

Gina said it failed because grocers have to spend so much labor on it. Other states have buy-back centers.

Gina mentioned Kate Blevins, founder of Sedona Recycles and now with Verde EarthWorks – she recently got a \$350 million grant

Plastic Bags – Gina

In LA, only 5% of population recycle plastic bags; there is big opposition from the bag manufacturers.

Suggestion to get legislation that promotes recycling the bags rather than an outright ban.

Some stores are taking it upon themselves and not providing plastic bags.

Suggestion to have a station at store entry where people can leave used bags and if they come in and take one of those and use it, they get the 5 cent discount as if they brought their own into the store. That's probably the easiest to pass, since currently it's an all-volunteer effort.

Conclusion: Continue refining each of the issues for presentation to the ARC Board.

Denette: State Mandatory Recycling Bill

Gina: Variance and Plastic Bags

Matt: Bottle Bill

Janet/Les: Event Recycling

Denette urged everyone on this subcommittee to formally join ARC and also mentioned that there are two Board positions open and members of the group are urged to consider running for a spot.

So proposed next meeting: January 14, 10am, Hudson Baylor University Facility