



Advisory Council Minutes
October 25, 2007
Regional Health District
Environmental Health Conference Room

Members Present:

Mark Roberge
Ray Kelleher
Chet Jahns
Jana McDonald
John Livingston

Staff Present:

Lisa Woodard
Mary McDermott

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m.

1. Introduction of Mark Roberge:

Lisa Woodard introduced Mark Roberge to the present Advisory Council Members.

2. Approval of the September 27, 2007:

Chet Jahns moved to approve the September 27, 2007 minutes and Ray Kelleher seconded it. Minutes approved.

3. Wood Stove Change-Out Program – Lisa Woodard:

Lisa presented an overview of the “Wood Stove Change-Out Program”. To reduce smoke impact from wood heating, the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (Spokane Clean Air) is offering “instant rebates” to change-out non-Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) certified wood stoves and inserts for new certified wood, pellet and natural gas stoves and inserts. The program is funded with a grant (\$100,000) that Spokane Clean Air applied for and was awarded from the U.S. EPA with additional funding from Avista, The Northwest Hearth Patio & Barbecue Association, local woodstove retailers and Spokane Clean Air. The grant has three components: education and outreach, low income whole replacement and an instant rebate program.

Lisa showed some components of an EPA CD still in draft format. The four components viewed by the Advisory Council were the “Wood Stove Change-out Overview, Health Effects of Wood Smoke, Clean Burning Technologies and Tools for a Change-out Program”. Lisa then gave an overview of the wood stove change-out/rebate voucher program and answered questions.

Woodstoves that are 1990 or older devices more than likely are uncertified devices. There are nine woodstove retailers in Spokane that perform installations. We have come up with a \$400 instant rebate for someone trading out their old, uncertified wood stove and \$550 if they choose to go to gas. The retailers are asked to solicit additional rebates from their manufacturers. To qualify for a rebate voucher you have to be a homeowner, reside in the smoke control zone and have an old wood stove or insert that is used as a main source of heat. This program will be launched December 26, 2007 with a three week media promotion. Spokane Clean Air will accept applications for the rebate program from January 2 to February 29, 2008, and it will be on a first come – first serve basis. When this period ends, we will wait a couple of months and then have a second application period. With current funding there should be between 100 and 150 rebates available.

The average cost for the low income wood stove replacement is \$2,300 which includes the purchase and installation of the device and there will be enough money to do approximately 25 low income upgrades. SNAP does the screening for the low income individuals who would like to switch out there old devices for EPA approved devices. Spokane Clean Air has the individual get two bids on the device and installation and then we decide who gets the bid based on the lowest bid from the retailers.

The retailers agree to photograph the old device before it is removed, install the new device and take a photograph of the new installed device, take the old device to a recycling center and have it destroyed and provide Spokane Clean Air with the documentation that it was destroyed. The retailers are also provided the opportunity to buy into our advertising.

The program will be publicized by applications and flyers being available at all of the retailers that are participating; there will be TV and maybe print and radio depending upon dollars raised for co-op advertising; Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency's web site; the City of Spokane's utility billing in December will include a flyer; there will be ads in the Community Center papers; Avista will put an article in their newsletter; and it will be in the news. The Advisory Council thinks other power companies would be interested in promoting the program.

4. Other Items of Interest:

The dates for November and December's advisory council meetings were mentioned.

John Hjaltalin moved to adjourn the Advisory Council meeting and Chet Jahns seconded it. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

LISA WOODARD, PUBLIC INFO SPECIALIST