



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 29, 2011

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Thomas F. Taylor	Chair	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Vice Chair	Absent	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Absent	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Thomas Pasquarello	Chief of Police	Present	
David Lutes	Environmental Programs Manager	Present	
Eddie Nuzzo	Supt. of Inspectional Services	Present	
Matt Buckley	Asst. City Solicitor	Present	
Ray Zonghetti	Chamber of Commerce	Present	
Stephen Mackey	Exec. Director, Chamber of Commerce	Present	
J. J. Williams		Present	

189880 - That the Environmental Programs Manager investigate creating a paper/plastic recycling initiative at fast food establishments.:

The committee discussed the recycling of paper and plastic at fast food restaurants and Mr. Lutes noted that the City does not regulate fast food establishments.

Private haulers could be hired by these establishments to remove the recycled products, however the City would have to create a licensing process for the haulers since most communities regulate the haulers rather than the establishments. There was some discussion about how broad the approach should be regarding this issue and what effect it might have on various establishments. Some restaurants have initiated a voluntary recycling program and are asking their customers to participate.

Chairman Taylor's resolution *that the Environmental Programs Manager and the City Solicitor work with the Somerville Chamber of Commerce to develop a voluntary initiative encouraging fast food establishments to recycle*, was approved.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

190686 - That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance requiring properties of a certain use and size, to obtain a permit before using an amplified sound system, and be soundproofed.:

The committee discussed the problems being experienced by residents in RB zones due to noise emanating from some churches that use sound amplification systems and suggested methods to deal with the issue. The committee would like the Law Department to examine the possibility of establishing an ordinance to deal with the problem and Mr. Buckley informed the members that he would also examine a permitting process.

Chairman Taylor's resolution *that the City Solicitor, the Chief of Police and the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (ISD) draft amendments to the city's noise ordinance to deal with organizations using enhanced sound systems in RA and RB districts and report back to the Committee on Legislative Matters at its April 26th meeting*, was approved.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE
