

## Foam-Free Seattle

Minutes 3/22/07

- 1) Debrief first meeting with city officials –  
It was agreed that the meeting went well, and we are looking forward to meeting with Vicky Beaumont on 4/3 to hear about city progress on their study and to discuss outstanding questions Vicky had for us.
- 2) Brief updates on research tasks –  
Progress was reviewed on the research tasks, particularly on Eric's work on the ramifications of paper alternatives.
- 3) Preparation for upcoming city meeting with Vicky –  
We discussed our motives in pursuing a styrofoam ban, including that styrofoam is a petroleum product and not renewable, the negatively impact on wildlife, as styrofoam and plastics do not breakdown. We are investigating PLA which is a commonly used food container made of corn, but still it is a plastic. The market will play an important role in shaping those changes to specific alternatives. Our effort will forward a shift in the thinking of the public and the business community.

Our goal for the meeting with Vicky is to learn about the status of the consultant's zero waste studies. What is the second phase of the study? We will provide as we can answers to her questions. We will articulate exactly what we are asking for, and in this we will be using flexible language. Basically, we want a ban on the use of polystyrene in food serviceware in Seattle, and also that any alternative be compostable and recyclable. We will make the point that it be mentioned in the writing of the legislation that Seattle is working towards becoming zero waste. Also, styrofoam has high public visibility as litter. What are the city's next steps?

We want to enlist more support from the business community. Ideas were discussed about the types of businesses we want to reach out to, and how to best generate a list of contact information.

- 4) Other business –  
Sarah will wait until after the city meeting to work on the sign-on letter.

We will request permission from PCC to post on our website and to reprint their upcoming article in the April 2007 issue of Sound Consumer on Foam-Free Seattle and the case for banning polystyrene.

Our website is finally listed on Google!

The next meeting is set for April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm at the Capitol Hill Library.