

**PROP ORGANICS COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2004
7 AM TO 8:30 AM
MANUFACTURED SOILS CONFERENCE**

Those in attendance: Nadine Davitt, John Frederick, Bill Toffey, Dan Eichenlaub, Dave Zwicky, Patti Olenick, Bob Graybill, Mike Guiranna, Sue Snyder, Robert Graves, Jan Arnold, Kris Howdyshell, Ann Wolf, Jeanne Weil, Lyle Bollin, Terry Stancill, Chris Smith, Doug Orner, Amy Cicchillo, Rick Stehouwer

PROP PLANNING RETREAT – The PROP board of directors and committee chairs participated in a strategic planning session held Monday, November 16, to address objectives and goals. John Frederick stated that the concern as to how the Organics Council fits into PROP was discussed. The Organics Council's objective and goals were distributed to each person in attendance. Nadine reminded everyone that objectives and goals should address organics processing as a whole (mulch, soil manufacturing, etc.) not just composting.

COUNCIL ORGANIZATION –

Dan Eichenlaub, chair of the Government Committee, said there was no report. Jim Bednarsky, chair of the Markets Committee, reported that their committee had recruited members but that they need additional members. Cary Oshins is the Education Chair. It was mentioned that conference calls could replace traveling to meetings.

NEXT MEETING –

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 19, 2005 at the Rachel Carson Building in Harrisburg. After some discussion, it was decided that there would be no time for a facility tour. Bob Graves commented that this would be a beneficial time to learn about the PA-DEP structure regarding composting and organics. Dan Eichenlaub added that he would appreciate the opportunity to speak with them about how DEP is restructured, the new administrators, and their vision. Nadine Davitt charged Dan Eichenlaub and the Government Committee to identify specific individuals and departments within DEP to visit with at the April meeting. Patti Olenick will make the reservations for April 19th.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS –

A copy of the "Permit Proposed under the Solid Waste Management Act and the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act" was distributed. The deadline for comment is Wednesday, December 22. Patti Olenick discussed some of the issues and gave an overview of the Permit By Rule, General Permit, and Municipal Waste Composting Permit. Nadine Davitt questioned whether or not it would be good for Organics Council's members to make general comments that would be submitted by PROP on behalf of the Organics Council. Nadine Davitt questioned the idea of forming a sub-committee to study the proposal. Dan Eichenlaub recommended that Council's comments should be sent to the PROP office and that his committee will assess those comments into a statement. Individual comments would also be accepted. Bob Graves suggested that some form of advertisement should be done to inform people that the document exists and to request personal response from them. It could also be used as a marketing tool for this group. John Frederick agreed and added that it would further assimilate PROP and the Organics Council. Dan Eichenlaub will work with John and set a deadline for submitting comments to PROP. There was some discussion in

regards to the “applicant” and “generator” as noted on the Permit Proposal and the possibility that these could represent two different individuals. This is something that will be looked into.

Patti Olenick followed up on the recent request for input to changing regulatory and permitting issues presently being reviewed by DEP. These discussions are currently internal and DEP is interested general concerns from industry. Patti indicated this process would be ongoing and there will be opportunity to make public comment on proposed changes.

Patti Olenick said that a “Best Practices for Mushroom Soil” is being developed.

Rick Stehouwer recommended that a decision should be made soon regarding next year’s Soil’s Conference. He added that he would only be available as an interim committee chair since he will be gone from January to June.

John Frederick questioned how the PROP conference in July fits into the Organics Council. After some discussion it was decided that this committee would present a formal position on this to John to take to the PROP Board.

Dan Eichenlaub suggested alternating the manufactured soils and composting portions in even/odd years. Bob Graves volunteered to coordinate a committee to work on this.

Cary Oshins will help to compose a survey of the Organics membership.

Rick Stehouwer suggested that the Council investigate which way to go: have a manufactured soils or organics processing topic and that it could be tied into regulatory reform (i.e. new waste streams, etc.). It was recommended that the conference be kept a week apart from the PLNA. The conference committee will have a follow up conference call to evaluate the Manufactured Soils Conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Arnold
Secretary