

**City of Cambridge Recycling Advisory Committee  
March 8, 2007 Meeting – Minutes taken by Kelly Dunn**

**Members Attending:**

Cornelia Herzfeld, Cambridge resident; Adam Mitchell, Save That Stuff; Judy Nathans, Cambridge resident; Paul Schlaver, Cambridge Consumers Council

**Guests Attending:**

Jim Ardolino, Superintendent of Solid Waste; Kelly Dunn, Recycling Program Manager; George Gannon, Cambridge Housing Authority Facilities Director; Randi Mail, Recycling Director

**Cambridge Housing Authority Building Update**

Kelly gave a brief overview of recycling at CHA buildings. She discussed how DPW gives a recycling grade to all large apartment buildings with 13 units or more as follows:

- A = 20 or more pounds of recycling per week per household
- B = 10-20 pounds of recycling per week per household
- C = Less than 10 pounds of recycling per week per household

Most CHA buildings are doing well, falling in the B category. However, contamination is often the biggest problem. Toters are often mixed with trash, or paper and containers are mixed together. Paul suggested using a different color bin for paper and containers to make things easier for residents. George said that one of their greatest hurdles is staffing. They are understaffed and often find it difficult to make recycling a priority when they have more pressing issues to deal with.

George also mentioned that kids often take out the recycling and trash, which might cause problems. He also said there is a CHA newsletter, so DPW will submit recycling information to be published in the newsletter as well as the new CHA tenant guidebook. The Committee members agreed that we need to continue to work with CHA to improve recycling, and will explore some of the suggestions that surfaced in the meeting. The following list shows all CHA properties and the recycling grade for each:

GRADE	#	STREET NAME	BUILDING NAME
A	81	Clifton St.	Weaver Apartments
A	8	Jackson Gardens	Jackson Gardens
A	64	Magee St.	Putnam Gardens
A	86	Otis St.	Putnam School Apartments
B	25	Eighth St.	Harry S. Truman Apts.
B	150	Erie St.	Johnson Apartments
B	55	Essex St.	JFK Apartments
B	237	Franklin St.	Manning Apts.
B	15	Lambert St.	Millers River Apartments
B	45	Linnaean St.	Linnaean St.
B	8	Mildred Hamilton Pl.	River-Howard Homes
B	116	Norfolk St.	
B	3	Woodrow Wilson Court	Woodrow Wilson
B	34	Mt. Auburn St.	St. Paul's Residents
B	42-58	Willow St.	Willow St. Homes
B	2050	Massachusetts Ave.	Russell Apartments
C	30-50	Churchill Ave.	Burns Apartments
C	1000	Jackson Place	Jefferson Park
C	8 to 10	Lancaster St.	
C	19	Lincoln Way	Lincoln Way
C	14	Roosevelt Towers	Roosevelt Towers
C	131	Washington St.	Washington Elms
C	100	Thingvalla Ave.	Corcoran Park
C	131	Washington St.	Newtowne Court

## **School Update**

Kelly also gave an update on school recycling. Overall, the schools are doing well and communication with custodians has greatly improved over the past year. There has been an increase in requests for Drop-off Center tours and classroom presentations. Schools that have taken advantage of resources include: King-Open, Baldwin, Peabody, and the Graham & Parks. Private schools requesting presentations/tours include: German School, Matignon High, Shady Hill, Cambridge Ellis, Buckingham Brown & Nichols, and the Community Charter School of Cambridge.

DPW finalized the [CREATE brochure](#) last year and presented it at an assistant principal's meeting in the fall. With the help of Carolyn Turk, assistant superintendent, and Justin Martin, school PIO, we aim to distribute the brochure to all teachers.

Recyclemania is underway in the public schools, a contest running from January through April that will recognize the school recycling the most paper. The ranking changes monthly with the top two schools currently as Peabody and Cambridgeport, in that order. DPW will continue to publicize the contest and the school numbers (pounds per student) and look forward to see who wins this year! Anna Johansson, the Brooklyn-based artist that made the [trophies](#) last year from recycled content has agreed to make them again this year. Stay tuned for the contest results.