

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING NOTES

SMYRNA AREA REST STOP CONFERENCE ROOM

October 16, 2012

Members Present: Chairman Pelham, LaVaida Owens-White, Pamela Meitner, Marvin Thomas, Robert Frederick & Dr. Jay Julis.

Members Absent: Dr. Bethany Hall-Long and Marvin Thomas.

A quorum was met with six members present and two members absent.

I. Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Pelham called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

II. Meeting Protocol Review

Chairman Pelham read the protocol.

III. Review/Approval of Meeting Notes

MOTION was made by Ms. Meitner to approve the minutes and a second was made by Ms. Owens-White. All in favor and the motion carried.

IV. 2013 CEPF Funding Cycle

Mr. Brunswick reported that the Fiscal office reconciled the CEPF spreadsheet and there is a \$98,672.58 balance. He said that half of his salary benefits and travel come out of this reserve. He also said there will not be a 2013 funding cycle because the fund is under the \$100,000 reserve buffer and he will put out a public notice, a press release and post it on the website informing the public.

Mr. Emory said he has not seen anything in the pipeline regarding a large settlement for the next year. He said the commercial entities are doing a better job with compliance and much of the industry up north has been shut down.

Mr. Brunswick said that Claymont Steel is ahead of schedule on their required pollution control measures costing \$30 million. He had a conference call with the city manager of Main Street DE City about restructuring their project along with what Claymont Community project is monitoring. He asked the Council about forming a subcommittee to look at the application and to schedule a meeting in January.

Mr. Pelham said Mr. Truxon received a letter from the Delaware Human Relations Commission telling him that he will be recognized at their 50th Anniversary Recognition and Awards Luncheon on November 3, 2012 at the Dover Downs Conference Center from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. for his contribution and commitment to civil rights and justice in Delaware.

MOTION was made by Mr. Julis to record the letter in the minutes and second was made by Ms. Meitner. All in favor and the motion carried.

V. CEPF project Update

DE City Environmental Coalition Grant Award

Mr. Brunswick said that DE City had a difficult time getting their contract together after Sarah Bucic resigned with no one willing to sign the contract. Ali Mirzahalili had a conference call with Main Street DE City who was going to be the fiscal sponsor for DE City Environmental and they want to take over the project. The DE City manager and Mayor are very concerned about initial reports and they want to strengthen it so there are more DE City residents involved. The leadership after Sarah Bucic resigned is now comprised of community volunteers, the Sierra Club and Main Street DE City. Mr. Brunswick said that the Sierra Club members do not live there, but DE City is comfortable with project involvement from people who do not live in the City. He said the grant award letter is addressed to DE City Environmental Coalition and he has asked the Secretary to reward the grant to Main Street DE City. They have board members who have agreed to step forward and lead the project and they want DE City residents at the head. DE City gave a copy of their report to the Air Quality Division. The report showed there were no quality control measures for the last findings with no scientific basis and limited samplings. He said the report did show enough to justify a 2nd year of the project though. Barbara Dardy will be taking responsibility for rewriting the quality assurance and doing another 24 particulate matter test. Mr. Brunswick said the Coalition will rework quality controls and invite the Division of Public Health to help with the study design.

Mr. Pelham said he thinks they should come to the Council and request the money.

Ms. Meitner said she thought the Council did not give money to companies that were not certified.

Mr. Brunswick answered the Council is allowed if the applicant is not incorporated.

Ms. Meitner said since the Council gave the grant award to DE City Environmental and it is not a 5013c, should it be withdrawn until someone comes in and provides a justified presentation.

Mr. Brunswick said that BETA who did the monitoring came up with their own monitoring plan which did not meet our regulations.

MOTION was made by **Mr. Julis** that since the **DE City Environmental Coalition** was not a **5013C** that money be withdrawn by the Secretary and second was made by **Mr. Truxon**. All in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Brunswick said that very often small environmental groups do not have that organization.

Ms. Meitner said that should be determined on a base to base basis. The initial hurdle is that they are a 501C and then it should go to a higher level of scrutiny of who is in charge.

Mr. Frederick said the Coalition is floundering from lack of leadership and they are not optimistic that it will be strengthen any time soon.

DE Center for Horticulture

Mr. Brunswick said that DE City had made a commitment to the maintenance of the 700 perennials. He spoke with Gary Schwetz regarding the Councils concerns of the maintenance of the 700 perennials. Mr. Schwetz said he wants to go ahead with the planting of the 700 perennials but said they would only be planting 10 trees instead of 60 and two demonstrations gardens.

Mr. Julis said he was not convinced the maintenance will be maintained and he would like to see a breakdown of the cost.

Ms. Meitner said she would like for DE Center for Horticulture to come back before the Council and explain how the budget was changed.

Mr. Brunswick said that during 1st year of the application, Air Quality said it was not their project, and that it needed more citizen involvement. Sarah promised she would get the rating and Air Quality division approved.

Ms. Meitner asked with limited oversight is the Council vetting these organization before we fund them.

Mr. Pelham said it is not a perfect process.

Mr. Brunswick said the Council received 22 applications this year and since the Secretary reduced the funding, the applicants had to revise their projects. He said it was a difficult process for the Council to hear 22 applications in two meetings.

Mr. Frederick said he would volunteer to be on the application subcommittee.

Ms. Owens-White asked what a DNREC sponsor does.

Mr. Brunswick answered to provide technical support and to be the subject matter expert. He also said there are contract controls in place such as the applicant has to provide receipts, invoices and cancelled checks.

Ms. Meitner said the money spent on the last years' project was wasted since the data was not certified.

Mr. Brunswick said there should be specific guidelines for Air Quality monitoring projects including quality assurance controls and the applicants should have to take risk management training.

Mr. Pelham asked Mr. Brunswick to bring a complete breakdown to the next meeting for the DE Center for Horticulture tree project.

2011 Duffy's Hope

Mr. Brunswick said that Duffys Hope is a 2011 urban agricultural project. The applicants negotiated with the City of Wilmington for a site and the City changed the terms of the agreement. The City now wants Duffys Hope to pay for the installation of a garden, wants a fence built, and wants \$5000 for the site they were going to give Duffys Hope free of charge. Duffys Hope has settled on a different site and they are asking the Council if they can spend \$2000 for acquisition of the new site which is on East 10th Street.

Ms. Meitner said it might be appropriate for them to come in and present the program since there have been many changes and a full review is warranted.

Mr. Julis said if the same people are in place and they are just asking for additional money he suggests that Mr. Brunswick just bring in a revised budget.

Mr. Brunswick said Duffys Hope is just asking for the line item for the \$2,000 and not asking for any additional monies. He said he will ask them if they have another source for the \$2000.

VI. Ombudsman Report

Mr. Brunswick said the CEPF Annual Report did not print because it was too large.

Ms. Meitner asked Mr. Brunswick if he could send the written report to all the council members.

Mr. Brunswick said that nine projects we funded in 2011. Claymont Community Coalition has made over 30 million dollars in improvement to the facility. The Clean Air Council and Trinity Trucking were outstanding projects that have eliminated hundreds of tons of emissions. The City of Seaford still has about 9 months left on their project. They are using effluent from waste water treatment plants to fertilize. He said the Claymont Community Coalition will have annual meeting on October in which they will present the results of their air monitoring.

WILMAPCO Traffic Study

Mr. Brunswick said the study was done on traffic within 10 miles of the port. The study found that trucks will stop in the neighborhood and idle. WILMAPCO is taking a look at the feasibility of places for the trucks to park and idly. He said that one possible staging site is Piles Lane which runs behind Eden Park and there are 245 to 547 trucks that go down Pyles Lane. Wilmapco has to time the entering and existing of this possible staging area. He said that alternative power units would be used instead of their truck motors. Mr. Brunswick said he wend the slides from Wilmapco to the council members.

Mr. Pelham said his concern is that the average wind speed is 12 miles per hour from the northwest and if you look at the map, the 9 acre side is northwest of Southbridge. He fears that a lot of exhaust will blow into Southbridge when the motors and turned off and on.

Mr. Brunswick said he would like to keep it on the agenda for the next meeting and he will bring a large map that will show Southbridge.

West End Grows Initiative

Mr. Brunswick said that he went on a tour on Thursday and the project has a couple of hundred community workers with the involvement of many urban agricultural experts.

VII. Open Forum

Mr. Emory said that Kim Chesser, Small Business Ombudsman, will be leaving soon.

MOTION *was made by Ms. Owens-White to adjourn the meeting and a second was made by Mr. Julis. The motion carried with a unanimous vote at 11:37 a.m.*