

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 17, 2010**

**SMYRNA AREA REST STOP**

**Members Present:** William Pelham, Robert Frederick, Jay Julis, Vaida Owens-White, & Brian Lewis. **The Quorum was not met.**

**Members Absent:** Bruce Allison, Douglas Corey, Dr. Bethany hall-Long, Pamela Meitner, Marvin Thomas and Harold Truxon.

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

Mr. Pelham called meeting to order at 9:49 a.m.

**II. Meeting Protocol Review**

The protocol was mentioned as in evidence on the backside of members' nameplates.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

*MOTION was made by Ms. Owens-White with a second by Mr. Julius to approve the meeting notes of June 15, 2010. All in favor, and the motion passed.*

**IV. Community Ombudsman Report**

**Mr. Brunswick** stated that David Small filled him on the Department's transformation. He will be a part of a group of ombudsmen and enforcement people who will be under the Division of Community Services. This should provide coordination between ombudsmen. This group will contain Small Business Ombudsmen, Outreach Ombudsmen, and Enforcement Officers. The Division of Air & Waste will be separated into two divisions, the Division of Air Quality and the Division of Waste Management. Watershed Assessment has moved from Water Resources to the new division of Watershed Stewardship. Also, all the financial offices are combined into one section. The Energy Office along with a new Division of Climate and Coastal Services is now a part of the Office of Secretary. Also, the Energy Office has a new director, Carolyn Snyder. The previous director, Charlie Smission, retired. The weatherization assistance program will become part of DNREC.

**V. Community Environmental Project Fund**

**Claymont Evraz Steel Consent Order**– Dee Williams thanked the council for the grant and said they will come in for a grant application in January. The pollution controls have

to be in place by 2013. Evraz will stop monitoring in October and compile the results of the sampling done to date. **Mr. Pelham** asked why a phased approach was not negotiated.

**Mr. Brunswick** stated the Consent Order lays out a timeline for emission control measures. Evraz had to agree to the timeline and stiff penalties from \$1,000 per week to \$50,000 are in place for failure to comply. Penalties are also in place from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for failure to implement pollution controls.

### **South Wilmington/New Castle Fugitive Dust Meeting,**

James discussed the follow up on the March 29, 2010 meeting on fugitive dust with New Castle and South Wilmington civic associations. Representative JJ Johnson, New Castle County Councilman Jay Street, David Small, Paul Foster and James Brunswick met with Paul Lester, the facility manager at Diamond Materials to discuss long-standing community concerns about dust from his facility. AQM inspections found that Diamond Materials is actually in compliance with air quality regulations. The facility has implemented a set of voluntary dust control measures following a meeting with local facility operators as a result of concerns raised by the Hamilton Park Civic Association a few years earlier.

As a result of the meeting, DNREC's Air Quality Section is inspecting all facilities in the area for fugitive dust and has proposed that facilities in the area that contribute to fugitive dust might be required to develop dust control plans. Paul Foster, Director of the Air Quality Compliance Unit, agreed to help convene a meeting with the facility operators including Representative JJ Johnson and County Councilman Jay Street. Councilman Jay Street is going to recommend an ordinance regarding dust control. A Land Use Ordinance will only apply to new facilities that come into the area with no grandfathering of existing facilities.

The elected representatives plan to meet with civic associations in the area to report on the agreements that are negotiated in the meeting with the facility operators. Air Quality Management will prepare a report for the meeting that includes all of the follow up completed by, AQM, DELDOT, and New Castle County following the March meeting.

### **Northeast Recycling Council Deconstruction Training Workshop**

The Northeast Recycling Council (NERC) will be submitting an application to the EPA to fund a training session on deconstruction for construction and demolition contractors in Delaware around January 2011. The training workshop will be a practical demonstration of how to take apart a building that is scheduled for demolition and sell or re-use recyclable materials.

James has referred SHWMB Recycling Program Manager, Jim Short, to his contacts within the Wilmington Job Corp, Local Unions 55 and 199 to ask them for written letters of support for the application. The training workshop will further the Secretary's effort to expand recycling efforts throughout the state. A lot of waste is going into landfills from construction and demolition projects. The Department recently convened a meeting between state agencies to discuss collaboration on recycling efforts. DNREC is trying to lead an initiative to bring them together to recycle and produce significant savings. State agencies could potentially offset hundreds of thousands in costs by recycling. DNREC and DELDOT could re-use sand from road construction projects for beach replenishment, for example.

The Department's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Branch is helping to sponsor the NERC EPA application.

### **2009 Annual Report**

James provided the General Assembly with the 2009 Annual Report. The projects make a significant contribution to enhancing the environment and reducing pollution when we look at them overall.

One of the outstanding projects was the Sussex County Correctional Center project. They purchased the bailer and are recycling the materials. All of the grants are making a substantial difference.

### **Contract Extensions**

#### **Asthma Action Partnership**

Global Community Monitor (GCM) is proposing to extend the Asthma Action Partnership air monitoring to conduct air monitoring around the Port of Wilmington. The extension would document the diesel exhaust exposure of community residents, and support WILMAPCO's proposed plan to create staging areas for diesel vehicles that service the Port. The staging areas would reduce diesel traffic through communities and reduce exposure to diesel exhaust fumes. GCM would coordinate the monitoring with WILMAPCO and they hope to recruit people from the community to conduct the monitoring.

#### **Friends of Wilmington Parks**

The heavy snowfall this winter hampered the Friend's of Wilmington Parks from conducting the hands-on, outdoor instructional courses. The class schedule was reduced by about one-third. They still have enough money to conduct workshops for 300 kids.

The Secretary agreed to extend their contract through all of next season.

### **DE Ecumenical Council on Children and Families**

DECC would like to amend their grant since there have been delays in getting the project started and it was not under way until September. Their recruitment of civil associations was not successful.

### **The Clean Air Council**

The Clean Air Council Port Diesel reduction was successful. Their executive director sent James a proposed work plan which would focus on recreating elements of their port project. The Clean Air Council worked well with the Port of Wilmington in applying for a stimulus grant. They retrofitted their fleet with electric vehicles which replaces sulfur diesel fuel. They focused on a collaborative port project with the port and facilities within the port to begin doing some diesel reductions. They will hold one or two more meetings with the facilities they identify to develop a hierarchy and ask for additional funding. They have an idle free Delaware campaign with materials on fuel costs related to idling. They have 2 staff people who work out of Philadelphia to do diesel reductions.

### **Bear Babe Ruth Little League**

The Secretary is interested in supporting this project. The council wanted an audit to be completed and James met with the president of the board who said the audit would cost \$22,000 and they cannot afford it. The second issue is their pursuit of the land lease. The County is considering giving Bear Babe Ruth the title for the land and Rep. Longhurst is meeting with them. They hope to submit a financial plan and the council will reconsider the grant. If the Capital Campaign projects are done they will identify a potential list of donors but they did not have any structure to their campaign. James put Greg Panchez in touch with Jane Vincent. They are looking into getting some help from the DE Community Foundation in putting together a capital campaign project. The DE Community Foundation manages other state funds. Since the Division of Parks manages and invests in a fund, they want to see how Parks does it. James met with the Division of Accounting for financial reporting and looked at 2008 and 2009 which showed that it is well managed. The State Auditor recommends that any organization receiving a contract for professional services provide proof of their financial stability. We have an obligation to check out the financial stability of any organization we give monies to.

**Ms. Owens-White** said anything over \$100,000 should require an audit and Mr. Pelham agreed.

**Mr. Lewis** said the Bear Babe Ruth league requested \$74, 000 and did not produce what the money was spent on. The Council should wait until they provide the Secretary what he wants.

**Mr. Pelham** said as far as further requests, what guidelines are there regarding their annual budget? Should we say any organization wanting funding, must submit an audit or financial statement if their annual budget is 100,000 or more regardless of what they ask for.

**Mr. Julius** said he is OK with \$100,000 or more.

**Mr. Pelham** said he is sensing that the council is in agreement with the \$100,000.

**Mr. Brunswick** will revise the application and the booklet for the October meeting.

#### **VI. OPEN FORUM**

**Mr. Lewis** proposed changing the meeting dates to Thursday or Friday because he is off on those days.

**Ms. Owens-White** said she can only meet on Tuesday or Thursday.

**Mr. Julius** said he would be OK with Tuesday and Thursday morning.

**Mr. Pelham** said Thursdays and Fridays are tough and would be more difficult to make but he would be willing to change his schedule.

#### **VII. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Henderson  
Administrative Specialist II, DNREC

*The notes of this meeting are not intended to be a verbatim record of the topics that were presented or discussed. They are for the use of the Community Involvement Advisory Council members and the public in supplementing their personal notes and recall of presentations.*