



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, November 17, 2010

The meeting started at 8:10 AM and was held in Room 901 City Hall.

Commissioners Attending: J. Gardella, A. Robinson, D. Hahn-Baker, J. Bauda, C. Grieco and J. Hackney

Not Attending: F. Armento

Others Attending: Dennis Sutton (COB support staff), James Brem (Councilmember Franczyk's staff)

Minutes

The October 2010 meeting minutes were approved.

TIP Sheet

The November TIP SHEET discussed the USEPA's Technical Assistance for Sustainable Growth grant program. Art Robinson proposed to present information at one of public meetings for the new zoning plan. D. Sutton was requested to obtain the 2009 progress report for the Sustainable Growth grant program.

SEQRA/Sustainable Development

J. Brem presented information regarding the advantages and disadvantages of a single stream recycling program. He provided information on split totes that could be used to keep two recycling streams separate and asked the BEMC to consider approaching Public Works to see if their use would be feasible.

There was a general discussion regarding recycling methods, economics and public participation. J. Brem was requested to obtain more information regarding recycling trucks and glass recycling.

LED Streetlights – J. Gardella to contact S. Stepniak regarding follow through on LED street lights.

Brownfields Update – updates were given regarding the Union Ship Canal Open Space, 1318 Niagara Street, 59 Memorial Drive and 90 Hopkins Street projects. The Lehigh Valley property was also discussed.

Pest Management Board – no discussion this meeting

Green House Gas Inventory and Report – no discussion this meeting

City Web Page – no discussion this meeting

Membership

Joe Gardella has been communicating with the Mayor's office to encourage appointments and renewal of Commissioner Armento's term. J. Gardella to submit Mr. Cammarata's name to the Mayor's Office for consideration.

Urban Farming

J. Gardella continues to work toward a joint meeting with UB Baldy Law Center, Cornell University, the Environmental Justice Action Committee, the BEMC, the City of Buffalo and other interested parties regarding land use and zoning in connection to urban farming and gardens. A February 2011 date is being proposed.

Other

- Gary Carrel from NYSERDA will be attending the next BEMC meeting.
- D. Hahn-Baker provided information about a press release regarding settlement funds from the Attorney General's Office that will be used to upgrade the City's housing stock. The amount was approximately 5.5 million and will be managed through the Community Action Organization. Mr. Hahn-Baker will keep the BEMC informed on this topic and find out who the contact will be for the CAO.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM. Next scheduled meeting is to be December 15, 2010.