



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, November 21, 2007

Commissioners Attending: Joseph Gardella, Michael Sendor, Charles Grieco, Frank Armento. The meeting started at 8:15 AM and was held in Room 920 City Hall.

Not attending: David Hahn-Baker, John Hackney

Others Attending: Dennis Sutton (staff), Anthony Gensicki – Riverkeepers volunteer

Minutes: There was no a quorum. The minutes for the August, September and October 2007 meetings were not submitted for approval.

TIP Sheet

November's TIP SHEET featured City financing of energy efficiency programs and use of biodiesel in municipal fleets. Mailing list to include Common Council members, School Board, Wellness Institute, and Bus Transportation. J. Gardella requested that a copy be sent to John Fahey. There was a general discussion regarding past TIP SHEETs and how to get a better response for implementation.

SEQRA/ Sustainable Development

The BEMC has recently been receiving Part 1 EAFs for review and comment from the Planning Department. J. Gardella is to draft a letter to Tim Wanamaker regarding the EAF for the purchase of the Steelfields property.

Hickory Woods

No report this meeting

Brownfields Update

The cleanup at 858 East Ferry has been completed. The reinitiated cleanup 90 Hopkins and property assessments at 59 Memorial and 240 Kensington were also discussed. There was a general discussion regarding the South Buffalo BOA. The project had been started and J. Gardella requested a schedule of activities for the project. He also suggested that a link from the City's web site to a site that presented the status of the BOA activities be formatted by the consultants for the BOA. F. Armento indicated that he would follow up.

Pest Management Board

J. Gardella stated that the PMB still needed to hold a reorganization meeting.

Greenhouse Gas

No report this meeting.

City Forestry, Parks, Vacant Properties

No report this meeting

Membership

All current commissioner terms have expired except C. Grieco. J. Gardella to petition Common Council to reappoint those that it can and request tat the Partnership appoint a new Commissioner to replace M. Sendor. Interim Chair will also remind mayor of vacant positions for his appointment.

Other

Anthony Gensicki mentioned that he was looking into in having solar panels installed on the Broadway Market. He has been researching NYSERDA and other sources of grant capitol for the project.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM. Next scheduled meeting is December 18, 2007, 8:00 AM.

To do before next meeting

- Send copy of Tip Sheet regarding LED street lights to Andrew Goldstein of Erie County and follow up with M. LoCurto regarding City actions;
- Schedule joint meeting with PMB,
- Query Erie County Forestry Dept. regarding use of pesticides on City Parks;
- C. Grieco and F. Armento summarize issues regarding the City's SEQRA regulations, with input from G. Burnas, so a submission to the Common Council can be prepared; and,
- D. Hahn-Baker request the County to address the Commission on County pesticide use on City parks and the County's forestry plan for the City of Buffalo.

Awaiting Response or Follow up Action

- Awaiting response to J. Gardella's letter to Mayor regarding update on Environmental Management Commission appointees. Letter copied to R. Tobe and T. Wanamaker;
- Awaiting response from Mayors office regarding green house gas issues;
- Awaiting feedback from Council Members Kearns and LoCurto regarding information from National Grid and Erie County's forestry practices, including planting, trimming and maintenance;
- J. Gardella to receive BEMC files from B. Coleman's widow;
- J. Gardella to draft letter for April's Tip Sheet, send to Partnership, ECEMC, Common Council, UB Green Office, Waterfront Redevelopment Corp, UB Planning Office.