



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, March 17, 2010

The meeting started at 8:10 AM and was held in Room 920 City Hall.

Commissioners Attending: John Hackney, Charles Grieco, Frank Armento, Joseph Gardella, John Bauda and Art Robinson

Not Attending: David Hahn-Baker

Others Attending: Dennis Sutton (staff), Sean Myers, Steve King (Logan Clay Products), Julie O'Neill (Riverkeepers)

Minutes

The notes for the April 2009 meeting were taken by J. Gardella and not yet transcribed into minutes. The February 2010 minutes were approved.

TIP Sheet

March's TIP SHEET featured information about California's statewide green building code. Mailing list included Common Council members.

SEQRA/Sustainable Development

Art Robinson informed the Commission about a proposed Eagle Street gypsum wallboard recycling facility. He indicated that he had requested a 30 day extension to review the matter more closely. The recycled material would be used for fertilizer. Initial impressions did not indicate any health or environmental concerns.

LED Streetlights – no report

Brownfields Update – no report

Pest Management Board – no discussion this meeting

Green House Gas Inventory and Report – no discussion this meeting

Urban Farming

There was a general discussion regarding a Department of Agriculture grant received by the Community Action Organization for education focusing on pilot studies and composting.

The Cornell University has been assisting with a grant to assess urban farm soil quality and there will be a lecture on soil testing March 27th at the Wilson Street farm.

The Massachusetts Avenue hoop house has been raising tilapia fish and will soon have fish ready to sell.

Clay sewer pipe

Mr. Steve King from Logan Clay Pipe was in attendance to present information regarding the Logan Clay Products Company. Logan manufactures clay sewer pipe that is considered a natural, green, sustainable, energy efficient and economical alternative for sewer systems. His company guarantees their clay pipe products against abrasion for 100 years.

J. Gardella to provide Mr. King with contact information for the Public Works and Buffalo Sewer Authority.

City Web Page

The Commission should work with Frank Honrado and Janet SanFillipo to develop the additional space. There was a discussion regarding having a link to urban farming activities on the City's web page.

Membership

Awaiting paperwork regarding appointment of Art Robinson and John Bauda. Art Robinson has been appointed by the Mayor and indicated that the appointment notice would be received in the near future. J. Gardella has been communicating with Emily Bauer and the Mayor's office to encourage Commissioner appointments.

Sean Myers was present to observe and would like to be considered as a candidate for a Commissioner position.

Other

There was a general discussion regarding the RFP that was issued for the rezoning work that the City is undertaking. J. Gardella will send a letter to Brendan Mehaffy requesting that a meeting be arranged to meet with the selected zoning consultant.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 AM. Next scheduled meeting is to be March 17, 2010.