



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, February 18 July 15, 2009

The meeting started at 8:15 AM and was held in Room 920 City Hall.

Commissioners Attending: Charles Grieco, Joseph Gardella, John Hackney, Frank Armento, David Hahn-Baker and John Bauda.

Not Attending (with prior notice): Art Robinson

Others Attending: Dennis Sutton (staff), Commissioner Stepniak

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

TIP Sheet

July's TIP SHEET featured information about the Alberta's waste to biofuels facility and Australia's Sort and Safe recycling Center program. Mailing list included Common Council members and Mayor's office.

SEQRA/Sustainable Development

No discussion this meeting

Community Gardening

A general discussion was conducted about aspects of urban gardening. This included environmental concerns at the 59 Memorial Drive location, and the layout and necessary analytical parameters for the Wilson Street farm. J. Gardella stated that he would be offering technical assistance to Mark Stevens, who is starting the farm, and that many volunteers have helped in the effort to get the farm started.

LED Streetlights

The LED Streetlamp pilot study was discussed with Commissioner Stepniak. The Commissioner will follow up with the manufacturer to keep project on track while D. Hornung is on leave. Chip Grieco provided contact information. Commissioner Stepniak also mentioned the possibility of hiring a lighting design manager.

Brownfields Update

An update was given regarding progress of the South Buffalo BOA projects.

Pest Management Board

It was noted that Jeff Brett is the City contact with regards to pesticide use.

Green House Gas Inventory and Report

No report this meeting

Other

There was a general discussion regarding BEMC activities – pesticide use, sustainability and energy efficiency issues held for Commissioner Stepniak’s benefit. The Commission also held a dialogue on NYSERDA grants, efficiency grants in general and grant application efforts. D Hahn-Baker mentioned the possibility of matching funds from the Community Grant program.

J. Gardella will draft a letter to Commissioner Reilly regarding zoning, planning, SEQRA issues and BEMC actions.

Membership

Awaiting paperwork regarding appointment of Art Robinson and John Bauda

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM. Next scheduled meeting is to be August 19, 2009.