



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, November 18, 2009

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

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

Not Attending:

Others Attending: Dennis Sutton (staff), Dave Hornung, (Public Works)

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

TIP Sheet

October's TIP SHEET featured information about sustainable urban food systems in Milwaukee, WI and Buffalo, NY. Mailing list included Common Council members.

SEQRA/Sustainable Development

There was a general discussion regarding UB's proposed EOC project and the sequence of activities under SEQRA. Dr. Gardella will resend the EAF and query the Commission for comments. Dr. Gardella requested that Brendan Mehaffy be invited to the next BEMC meeting to discuss the City SEQRA ordinance.

LED Streetlights – Dave Hornung to obtain project progress for next meeting

Brownfields Update

An update was given regarding progress of 90 Hopkins and Franczyk Park projects and the delisting of the 858 East Ferry property. Art Robinson informed the Commission that the demolition of the former Buffalo Color facility on Elk Street is approximately 25% complete.

Pest Management Board – no discussion this meeting

Green House Gas Inventory and Report - No report this meeting

Urban Farming

J. Gardella informed the Commission about the progress of the Wilson Street Farm and the recent soil sampling that had taken place. Results of the sampling are due by December 2009. He indicated that raised beds have been constructed and vegetable crops are being cultivated. David Hahn-Baker stated that another Hoop House had been constructed in the City, the second of 10 proposed throughout Erie County. He indicated that there was high community interest and that CAO intended to develop procedures and plans for additional urban farming.

City Web Page

The Commission should develop what they wanted to have on the site and work with Frank Honrado and Janet SanFillipo to develop the additional space. There was a question as to how material could be presented on the City's front web page.

Membership

Awaiting paperwork regarding appointment of Art Robinson and John Bauda. Art Robinson had spoken with the Mayor and indicated that the appointment notice would be received in the near future. Council appointees to the Commission were reappointed in March of 2009.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:40AM. Next scheduled meeting is to be December 16, 2009.