



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Commissioners Attending: Joseph Gardella, Charles Grieco, and John Hackney.

Not Attending: David Hahn-Baker, Frank Armento

Others Attending: Dennis Sutton (staff), Dave Hornung (Public Works), Dana Bobinchek (Mayor's Office)

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

Minutes: The minutes for the May 2008 meeting were tabled, there was no quorum.

TIP Sheet

June's TIP SHEET featured information about green roof technology and applications. Mailing list included Common Council members, Mayor's office and Public Works.

SEQRA/Sustainable Development

The Commission requested SEQRA information regarding the Target store expansion on Elmwood and the Battaglia Construction expansion on Seneca Street. A question was raised regarding the Phase II Assessment that was included with the 210 Ohio Street (Riverfront Park) as to whether the Planning Board was aware of the potential environmental concerns and if the Phase II was reviewed by City staff.

LED Streetlights

Lumicon has offered the City 10 LED streetlights free of charge to be used in a pilot study. J. Gardella and D. Hornung are to follow through with a proposed location for the pilot and to communicate with national **grid** regarding their requirements. J. Gardella will draft a letter to national **grid**. Public Works was requested to provide a list of potential sites for the pilot study. J. Gardella indicated that the Mayor is in support of the study.

Brownfields Update

An update was given on the cleanup at Franczyk Park. J. Gardella gave an update of the South Buffalo Brownfield Opportunity Area Stakeholders meeting held May 23, 2008. A general discussion followed, regarding the Elk Street Corridor Plan, and the Tonawanda Street Corridor and Buffalo River BOA projects. The new brownfields legislation was also discussed.

Pest Management Board

No discussion this meeting

Greenhouse Gas

No discussion this meeting. Statewide information regarding energy use and conservation efforts, climate protection and brownfield activities is available on the PlaNY website.

City Forestry, Parks, Vacant Properties

No discussion this meeting

Membership

All current commissioner terms have expired except C. Grieco. Interim Chair will also remind mayor of vacant positions for his appointment. J. Gardella to request that the Partnership appoint a new Commissioner.

Other

Dana Bobinchek indicated that the Mayor would be establishing a Sustainability/Environmental Department to address energy conservation, green house gas, and recycling issues. A full time director for the new office is expected to be in place in 2009-2010. She requested that J. Gardella submit names of people that may want to serve as interns during the summer, starting July 2nd, to staff the new department. The two (2) positions will be for 20 hours a week at a rate of \$10 per hour. The interns will be managed under the Public Works Department.

D. Hornung was requested to invite David Comerford to the next BEMC meeting to address issues regarding combined sewer overflows.

J. Gardella is making efforts to secure historic BEMC files.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM. Next scheduled meeting is to be determined.