

**Community Advisory Council
October 10, 2024
Action Items/Notes**

Final

Note: This was a hybrid meeting, held virtually through Zoom and in-person in Berkner Hall, Room B.

A video recording of the Zoom meeting is available.

These notes are in the following order:

1. Attendance
2. Correspondence and handouts
3. Administrative items
4. Annual Lab Plan (2nd half)
5. Site Environmental Report
6. Common Cause Analysis Results
7. Community Comment
8. Agenda setting

1. Attendance

Members/Alternates Present: See Attached Sheets.

Others Present: B Barth, B Dorsch, F Craner, R Dineen, A Emrick, A Engel, W Fischer, P Genzer, J Gettler, K Green, T Green, J Hewett, A Klein, S Kohler, D Manning, R McKay, J Milligan, A Morocho, A Ozelis, D Paquette, C Polanish, A Rapiejko, J Remien, D Samuel, J Wanless, T Welty, K White

2. Correspondence and Handouts

Items numbered one and two were e-mailed to Members on October 3, 2024. Items numbered three and four were e-mailed to Members on October 10, 2024. Copies of item number five were brought to the meeting and handed out to those attending in person. (file was too large to email).

1. Draft agenda for the October 2024 meeting
2. Draft notes from the September 2024 meeting
3. Copy of presentation: Environmental updates
4. Copy of presentation: Common Cause Analysis Results
5. Copy of presentation: Annual Lab Plan

3. Administrative Items

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Ken White, Facilitator, welcomed everyone. He reviewed the ground rules, draft agenda, and meeting logistics.

Director Hewett welcomed everyone to the CAC meeting and expressed the importance of these meetings.

All those present, both in-person and virtual, introduced themselves.

Amy Engel, Manager – Community Engagement, explained that those participating online can either raise their virtual hand, and wait to be called on, or they can enter their questions into the chat. She will call on online participants and read questions from the chat. She said after several attempts to contact Gordon Heights Civic Association about their interest in continuing membership, and receiving no response, the organization has been removed from CAC membership. She also said that Colonial Woods/Whispering Pines has resigned their membership due to the current member moving out of the community and being unable to find a replacement. She then said that because of a full agenda this evening, the CAC survey results discussion has been postponed to next month.

Ken White reminded everyone that there is a process for discussion that will be followed, as outlined in the CAC guidelines.

Approval of minutes:

The September 2024 CAC Action Items and Notes were approved as written with none opposed.

Member Israel requested that Arnold Moodenbaugh be added as a second alternate to the Brookhaven Retired Employees Association.

4. Annual Lab Plan (2nd half), JoAnne Hewett – Laboratory Director (see presentation)

JoAnne Hewett, Laboratory Director, presented the second half of the Annual Lab Plan.

Topics covered:

- The Lab's four strategic initiatives:
 - Building blocks of the universe
 - Leading in discovery with light enabled science
 - Developing next-generation information science and technologies
 - Addressing environmental and societal challenges
- Questions/Answers:
 - Member Esposito asked for more information on quantum communications.
 - White said that could be a future agenda topic for the CAC.
 - Hewett said we could ask Gabriella Carini to give the CAC a presentation.
 - Member Sprintzen asked for additional presentations on each of these initiatives and a copy of the charts included in the presentation.

***ACTION ITEM:** Resend a copy of the Annual Lab Plan to CAC in pieces since it is too large to email in whole.

5. Site Environmental Report, Jason Remien – Manager, Environmental Protection Division (see presentation) *note: due to time constraint a decision was made and the CAC agreed to split this presentation into two. The second half will be presented at the November CAC meeting.

- Remien explained the purpose and high-level overview of the Lab's 2023 Site Environmental Report.
 - He went over chapters 2 – 3.

- Questions/Answers:
 - Member Esposito asked for clarification on the amount of waste reported that is being diverted from the landfill. She said for the record, you don't usually consider waste that is sent to the waste energy facility and then has to be disposed of as ash as counting toward the goal of net zero.
 - Remien said we are able to take credit for that, but we will take a closer look at that. We understand what you are saying.
 - Member Esposito asked if Suffolk County is inspecting the Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) at BNL.
 - Remien said they are not, inspections of the USTs are primarily performed by the DEC and EPA, but they did not perform any inspections in 2023.
 - Esposito said we want to prevent problems, not clean up after them. Why were there no inspections done in 2023?
 - Remien said he agrees, the Lab is submitting regulatory required information to the State and was recently told that they will be inspecting this fall. The EPA and DEC typically alternate with their inspections. The Lab doesn't control how often they come onsite but welcomes them whenever they come. The Lab also does its own internal assessment and oversight.
 - Esposito said for the record, either the health department or the DEC need to coordinate better on these inspections. It's important even if the Lab has a good record.
 - Remien agreed.
 - Donette Samuel, EPA, asked how the one permit excursion for oil and grease was addressed.
 - Remien said absorbent pads were placed in the catch basin and at the outfall and it was all captured. Final samples were taken, and they were below the limits. We continued to go out and test the area.
 - Member Keenan asked if the recent tritium leak will be reported in next year's SER.
 - Remien said yes it will.

*Manning suggested the CAC take a break and go outside to see the Northern Lights which have just become visible in the area.

6. Common Cause Analysis results, Sharon Kohler – Associate Lab Director for Environment, Safety and Health (see presentation)

- Kohler said it was determined that additional evaluation was warranted for the recent tritium leak. Seven events were included in the common cause analysis, and all were similar in nature to the recent one in January 2024. She said the team identified several common causes:
 - End of life failures
 - Defective or failed parts
 - Maintenance less than adequate
- Kohler spoke about the mitigating actions that have been completed or are planned. Short and long-term recommendations were identified.
- Member Esposito thanked Kohler for saying the Lab will share the final report with CAC. She asked if there is a timeline for when the report will be ready.

- Kohler said we do not know for sure, but hopefully we will have that information by the next CAC meeting.
- Member Esposito said since you are still having conversations with the various agencies, will you report that information back to us too, so we have a better understanding.
 - Kohler said yes.
- Member Esposito thanked the Lab for taking this so seriously and tightening up procedures.
 - Director Hewett stressed the importance of flushing the system.
- Member Israel asked about the causes that were identified. He thought these causes could affect other areas across the Lab.
 - Kohler said the common cause analysis focused on the tritiated water systems. The short- and long-term actions will be focused on tritiated water because that is where the biggest risk is.

7. Community Comment

- Member Esposito asked when the last time was that the USTs at BNL were inspected.
 - Remien said he wasn't sure but will find out and email Member Esposito.

***ACTION ITEM** – Find out when the last time the USTs at BNL were inspected and notify Member Esposito.

8. Agenda Setting

Engel said at the November CAC meeting, there will be a discussion on the CAC survey results, the second half of the Site Environmental Report that Remien shared tonight, and the Annual Groundwater update. She asked if there are any other suggestions.

Ken White asked members to review the CAC Guidelines prior to the discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58.

Next meeting: November 14, 2024.

X = Present	2024	Affiliation				Jan No mtg	Feb No mtg	Mar	Apr	May	June No mtg	July No mtg	Aug No mtg	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec No mtg
ABCO – Civic		Member	Ray	Keenan				X	X	X				X	X		
		Alternate	Michael	Madigan				X									
Brookhaven Coalition of Chambers of Commerce – Business & Labor		Member	Ron	Trotta										X	X		
		Alternate	Carmine	Inserra													
Brookhaven Retired Employees Association- BNL Affiliation		Member	Mark	Israel				X	X	X					X		
		Alternate1	Eena-Mai	Franz													
		Alternate2	Arnie	Moodenbaug										X			
Brookhaven Village Association – Civic		Member	Reinhardt	Schuhmann				X	X	X				X			
		Alternate	Chris	Ciervo													
Citizens Campaign for the Environment – Advocacy & Environment		Member	Adrienne	Esposito				X		X				X	X		
		Alternate	Maureen	Dolan-Murphy													
Cornell Cooperative Extension – Health based		Member	Chris	Pickerell				X		X					X		
		Alternate	Lorne	Brousseau										X			
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – BNL Affiliation		Member	Noel	Blackburn				X	X	X							
		Alternate	Menzel	Smith-Jones													
East Yaphank Civic Association - Civic		Member	Robert	Feinman				X	X	X							
		Alternate	Laura	Reid													
Emeritus		Member	David	Sprintzen				X	X	X				X	X		
FOREST - Advocacy & Environment		Member	John	Pavacic				X	X	X				X			
		Alternate															
Foundation for Economic Education – Education, Science & Technology		Member	Craig	Pratka				X	X	X					X		
		Alternate						X									
Individual		Member	James	Freeman				X		X					X		
Individual		Member	Jane	Corrarino					X								
Individual		Member	Karen	Blumer				X	X								
		Alternate	Michael	Madigan					X	X				X			
L.I. Pine Barrens Society – Advocacy & Environment		Member	Richard	Amper				X	X	X				X			
		Alternate	Travis	Cutter				X	X	X				X	X		
Longwood Central School Dist. – Education, Science & Technology		Member	James	Crenshaw				X									
		Alternate															
Middle Island Civic Association – Civic		Member	Martin	Filler				X	X	X				X	X		
		Alternate	Margaret	Malloy													

X = Present	2024	Affiliation				Jan No mtg	Feb No mtg	Mar	Apr	May	June No mtg	July No mtg	Aug No mtg	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec No mtg
National Grid – Business & Labor			Member	Brian	Sapp			X	X	X							
			Alternate														
New York League of Conservation Voters – Advocacy & Environment			Member	Casey	Petrashak				X	X				X			
			Alternate 1	Alexis	Hidalgo												
			Alternate 2	Lea	Gibbins			X									
NSLS-II User Committee – BNL Affiliation			Member	Jean	Jordan-Sweet			X	X								
			Alternate	Matthew	Whitaker			X	X	X				X			
Ridge Civic Association – Civic			Member	Scott	Wood				X						X		
			Alternate														
Stony Brook Hospital – Health based			Member	Erika	Karp				X	X				X	X		
			Alternate														
Suffolk County Legislature 1st Dist. – Government			Member														
			Alternate														
Teachers Federal Credit Union – Business & Labor			Member	Jashmin	Futch			X						X	X		
			Alternate	Sandra	Young												
Town of Brookhaven – Government			Member	Karen	Dunne Kesnig												
			Alternate 1	Patricia	Kaloski				X								
			Alternate 2	Kathryn	Kollegger			X						X			
Town of Riverhead - Government			Member	Bob	Kern			X	X	X					X		
			Alternate	Frank	Mancini									X			
Wading River Civic Association - Civic			Member	Henry	Perez			X	X								
			Alternate	Linda	Rundlett					X							