

Community Advisory Council
April 11, 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. Environmental update
5. Sustainable Purchasing & The GreenBuy Award Program
6. Small Business and Procurement Opportunities at the Lab
7. Agenda setting
8. Community comment

1. Attendance

Members/Alternates Present: See Attached Sheets.

Others Present: D Bauer, M Cowell, A Emrick, A Engel, S Gandhi, S Gandhi, S Gonzalez, R Gordon, K Green, T Green, J Haskins, B Jankauskas, A Juchatz, A Klein, S Kohler, D Manning, R McKay, J Milligan, Nandita, C Polanish, D Pocze, J Remien, M Rogers, K White, J Williams

2. Correspondence and Handouts

Items numbered one and two were e-mailed to Members on March 7, 2024. Items numbered three and four were e-mailed to Members on March 14, 2024

1. Draft agenda for the April 2024 meeting
2. Draft notes from the March 2024 meeting
3. Copy of presentation: Sustainable Purchasing & The GreenBuy Award Program
4. Copy of presentation: Small Business and Procurement Opportunities at the Lab

3. Administrative Items

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

David Manning, Director – Stakeholder Relations office, welcomed everyone to the April CAC meeting. He said this is the second CAC meeting utilizing an internal facilitator and said if anyone has any feedback to please let him know. He spoke about several recent visitors to the Lab, the Solar Eclipse event, and funding for the Electron Ion Collider.

Ken White, Manager - Office of Educational Programs (OEP) welcomed everyone. He reviewed the ground rules, draft agenda, and meeting logistics.

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

Amy Engel, Manager – Community Involvement, 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, and she will call on online participants and read questions from the chat.

Leadership Update:

Ann Emrick, Deputy Director for Operations, welcomed everyone to the CAC meeting and spoke about the busy week and many visitors to the Lab. She also mentioned a recent visit to SUNY Old Westbury to talk about workforce development.

Approval of minutes:

Member Schuhmann asked for an edit to his comment on the Southern Pine Beetle in the March CAC draft notes.

The March 2024 CAC Action Items and Notes were approved as amended with none opposed and four abstentions.

4. Environmental updates

Jason Remien, Manager – Environmental Protection Division, provided an environmental update which included the following:

- Drinking water standards for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
 - The EPA finalized new limits.
 - NYS already had standards and the Lab has already taken action.
 - BNL's drinking water supply wells have treatment in place, as necessary, and effluent concentrations are non-detect for regulated PFAS.
 - We are continuing to monitor.
- Passing of William (Skip) Medeiros, former BNL employee and frequent presenter to the CAC, who was instrumental in the success of the Peconic River cleanup.
 - Member Jordan Sweet said he was one of the favored presenters to the CAC. He had an infinite amount of patience.

5. Sustainable Purchasing & The GreenBuy Award Program - Debbie Bauer and Suhani Gandhi (See presentation)

Topics covered:

- Sustainable purchasing
- EPA Comprehensive Procurement guidelines
- Construction design considerations & Process
 - Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle
- Lab's Pollution Prevention Program
- Awards and Accomplishments
 - GreenBuy Award
 - GreenSpace Award
 - EPEAT Purchaser Award
- BNL Award winning purchases
- Future Goals

Questions/Answers:

- Member Schuhmann – what happens to BNL waste that can't get out of the waste stream.

- Bauer said some things will go to landfills and/or be incinerated. A lot is diverted before it gets to that point. Between 65-80% of our waste is diverted before it gets there.
- Member Madigan asked if there is any thinking that precludes products from being used that can't be recycled.
 - Gandhi said in construction the interior walls are steel and are recycled. Construction waste is separated into dumpsters. The Lab looks for recycled content when purchasing materials. It is part of the job planning.
- Member Madigan said some architects want to start processing centers to reuse items in the future.
 - Gandhi said the Lab is ahead of the curve, following DOE orders.

6. Small Businesses and Procurement Opportunities at Brookhaven National Laboratory – Mary Rogers (See presentation)

Topics covered:

- BNL's engagement with small businesses in FY23
- BNL's overall small business engagement
- Small business eligibility requirements
- What the Lab buys and doesn't buy
- Small business reward & recognition initiative
- How you can help

Questions/Answers:

- Member Sprintzen asked for a clarification of the criteria. He asked if it is based on size or on if a group is disadvantaged.
 - Rogers said the Federal government determines the criteria. It is based on the number of employees and a dollar threshold but also focuses on the disadvantaged.
- Member Jordan Sweet asked if this is also required when using the Lab's discretionary budget.
 - Rogers said it isn't mandated, but it is encouraged.
- Member Israel asked if the Lab assists small business with writing their proposals.
 - Rogers said sometimes, but there are also outside organizations that provide this type of assistance.

7. Community Comment

There was no community comment

8. Agenda Setting

Engel said next month there will be a presentation on Cultural & Natural Resources. A decision has not been made yet on a science presentation for the May meeting. In the Fall there will be a presentation on the remedial investigation feasibility study for PFAS at Operable Unit10. She said if anyone has any other ideas, please let us know.

Manning encouraged everyone to attend the Lab's Open House events this summer and asked if the CAC could have a presentation on that topic. He explained that this year they will not be on four consecutive Sundays, but rather one a month for the months of July-September. He then said one day in the near future the CAC will be meeting in the new conference in the SUSC building.

ACTION ITEM: Send information on the 2024 Open House events to the CAC.

Emrick said there will be a tour of the Science User Support Center (SUSC) on a future agenda.

Member Kern asked for a presentation on nanoscience.

Remien said next month, Tim Green and Kathy Schwager will present on Cultural and Natural Resources and in the fall there will be a presentation by Bill Dorsch on the Site Environmental Report. He then said Brian Jankauskas, NYSDEC project manager, is moving to a new position and Alex Klein will be the new project manager representing the NYSDEC to the CAC after this month's meeting.

Member Blackburn asked for a presentation on Artificial Intelligence (AI). He also asked how BNL is leveraging the CAC to assist with the hiring concerns. He said, perhaps there can be a presentation from the Human Resource department.

Manning said the Lab is not known for AI research.

Member Jordan Sweet asked if any AI research is being done at Computational Science Initiative (CSI).

Manning said there is some, but AI is mainly worked on at Argonne National Lab.

Member Filler said the bird flu is making a return. He asked if the Lab is addressing that.

Manning said the Lab is not doing any investigation on its own, but our users at the light source may be.

Member Israel asked for a follow-up on battery research.

Member Madigan asked if any research is being done on garbage for solutions, ex. food scraps being used to make jet fuel.

Manning said the concern we have is the closure of the Brookhaven landfill, but the Lab doesn't have a direct role.

Member Kern asked for a presentation on sodium ion batteries. Engel said she will look into it.

Engel said if anyone would like a Speaker's Bureau presentation to your group, please reach out to her.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54PM

Next meeting: May 9, 2024

X = Present	2024	Affiliation		First Name	Last Name	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								
			Alternate	Michael	Madigan			X									
		Brookhaven Coalition of Chambers of Commerce – Business & Labor	Member	Ron	Trotta												
			Alternate	Carmine	Inserra												
		Brookhaven Retired Employees Association- BNL Affiliation	Member	Mark	Israel			X	X								
			Alternate	Eena-Mai	Franz												
		Brookhaven Village Association – Civic	Member	Reinhardt	Schuhmann			X	X								
			Alternate	Chris	Ciervo												
		Citizens Campaign for the Environment – Advocacy & Environment	Member	Adrienne	Esposito			X									
			Alternate	Maureen	Dolan-Murphy												
		Colonial Woods Whispering Pines – Civic	Member	Jane	Koropsak			X									
			Alternate														
		Cornell Cooperative Extension – Health based	Member	Chris	Pickerell			X									
			Alternate	Lorne	Brousseau												
		Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – BNL Affiliation	Member	Noel	Blackburn			X	X								
			Alternate	Menzel	Smith-Jones												
		East Yaphank Civic Association - Civic	Member	Robert	Feinman			X	X								
			Alternate	Laura	Reid												
		Emeritus	Member	David	Sprintzen			X	X								
		FOREST - Advocacy & Environment	Member	John	Pavacic			X	X								
			Alternate														
		Foundation for Economic Education – Education, Science & Technology	Member	Craig	Pratka			X	X								
			Alternate					X									
		Gordon Heights Civic Assoc. - Civic	Member														
			Alternate														
		Individual	Member	James	Freeman			X									
		Individual	Member	Jane	Corrarino				X								
		Individual	Member	Karen	Blumer			X	X								
			Alternate	Michael	Madigan				X								
		L.I. Pine Barrens Society – Advocacy & Environment	Member	Richard	Amper			X	X								

X = Present	2024	Affiliation		First Name	Last Name	Jan No mtg	Feb No mtg	Mar	Apr	May	June No mtg	July No mtg	Aug No mtg	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec No mtg
			Alternate	Travis	Cutter			X	X								
		Longwood Central School Dist. – Education, Science & Technology	Member	James	Crenshaw			X									
			Alternate														
		Middle Island Civic Association – Civic	Member	Martin	Filler			X	X								
			Alternate	Margaret	Malloy												
		National Grid – Business & Labor	Member	Brian	Sapp			X	X								
			Alternate														
		New York League of Conservation Voters – Advocacy & Environment	Member	Casey	Petrashek				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								
		Ridge Civic Association – Civic	Member	Scott	Wood				X								
			Alternate														
		Stony Brook Hospital – Health based	Member	Erika	Karp				X								
			Alternate														
		Suffolk County Legislature 1st Dist. – Government	Member														
			Alternate														
		Teachers Federal Credit Union – Business & Labor	Member	Jashmin	Futch			X									
			Alternate	Sandra	Young												
		Town of Brookhaven – Government	Member	Karen	Dunne Kesnig												
			Alternate 1	Patricia	Kaloski				X								
			Alternate 2	Kathryn	Kollegger			X									
		Town of Riverhead - Government	Member	Bob	Kern			X	X								
			Alternate	Frank	Mancini												
		Wading River Civic Association - Civic	Member	Henry	Perez			X	X								
			Alternate	Linda	Rundlett												