

Community Advisory Council
March 12, 2015
Action Items/Notes

Final

These notes are in the following order:

1. Attendance
2. Correspondence and Handouts
3. Administrative Items
4. Environmental and Deer Management Updates
5. April Agenda Setting
6. Membership Vote
7. Membership Proposed Revision to Guidelines
8. Community Comment

1. Attendance

Members/Alternates Present: See Attached Sheets.

Others Present: J. Anderson, J. Carter, M. Chikushi, B. Dorsch, D. Feldman, L. Garber, P. Genzer, M. Giacomaro, B. Gordon, T. Green, R. Howe, S. Johnson, T. Kneitel, D. Manning, M. Maraviglia, G. Mattson, R. McKay, R. Murdocco, D. Paquette, A. Rapiejko, R. Reeder, J. Remien, N. Sundin, R. Turk, M. Wooley

2. Correspondence and Handouts

Items numbered one through three were mailed to Members with a cover letter dated March 4, 2015. Item number four was available as a handout at the meeting.

1. Draft agenda for March 12, 2015
2. Draft notes from the January 8, 2015 meeting
3. Action Item responses from January meeting
4. Presentation – Environmental Updates

3. Administrative Items

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM. Reed Hodgins, facilitator, welcomed everyone and reviewed the ground rules and the agenda. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

Member Peskin said he was surprised, given the intense exchange of emails, to see nothing on the Agenda about the Stony Brook Bio Safety Level 3 Lab. He asked for clarification on the issue during the Administrative section.

Jack Anderson, Deputy Director for Operations, said we did follow some of the emails and understand that several of you have expressed interest in the Bio Safety Lab at Stony Brook and whether there is any Brookhaven Lab or BSA involvement or engagement with the facility. I can tell you that the Laboratory and BSA have no involvement in the facility or program now or moving forward in the future. He did not know why the Lab's name was used in the Stony Brook grant which was prepared in 2009. Cold Spring Harbor and BNL are major research facilities on Long Island, so perhaps that is why they are mentioned. Stony Brook agrees that there is no involvement on the part of the Lab and has said if anyone would like more information, they can contact Elaine Crosson directly. Her email is elaine.crosson@stonybrook.edu

Nora Sundin, liaison to the CAC, invited the CAC to the Science on Screen presentation of "The Day After Tomorrow" at the Huntington Cinema Arts theatre on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7:30 pm. BNL's Alistair Rogers will be leading the discussion afterward on the claims made in the movie and his research. If anyone is interested in attending, tickets can be purchased online. There will be three additional films screened in the coming months.

Member Henagan reported on Pi Day and why this year was significant – once every 100 years on March 14 at 9:26.35 we will have the first ten digits of Pi – 3.141592635.

Approval of Minutes

Hodgin asked for corrections, additions, or deletions to the January 8 draft notes. The notes were accepted as written with none opposed and one abstention.

Member Sprintzen noted that Member Castro had been promoted to Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Instruction at Longwood Central School District. The CAC congratulated her.

4. Environmental & Deer Management Updates, Tim Green, Environmental Compliance and Jason Remien, Manager, Environmental Protection Division

Tim Green reported on the deer cull which took place at the Lab from February 7th to 10th. Three hundred deer were taken and processed. He said 7,340 pounds of meat was produced and picked up for the Hunters for the Hungry venison donation program. Sixty batch samples were taken and tested for Cesium-137. The values ranged from non-detect to 0.89 pCi/g wet weight. The average of all samples was 0.26 pCi/g wet weight. The NYSDOH criteria is consumption of 65 lbs./yr at 6.9 pCi/g wet weight. There were also 50 environmental samples taken and sent for analysis. Surveys will be conducted to see the impacts of population reduction and winter mortality and the Lab will once again deploy the 4-Poster tick management system. This summer, plans for another deer cull in November will begin. If there are delays, it will take place in March 2016.

Member Esposito asked what the highest level of Cesium seen in previous samples was.

Green said 3 pCi/g. We are seeing a downward trend.

Member Shea asked if testing for other radionuclides was done.

Green said we tested for Potassium-40, but Cesium is the only one seen. Sr-90 is not found in meat, but only bone, so we don't test for that.

Member Chaudhry asked what deer population density is desired.

Green said onsite we would like to get down to 30 deer per square mile. We should be at 10 per square mile. The objective is safety, ecological health, and deer health. The on-site population is still too high.

Member Corrarino asked if Cs-137 is stored in fat. She also said when artificial food sources are put out it can affect the composition of the herd.

Green said Cs-137 is stored in muscle tissue. The most aggressive of the herd tend to be the ones coming after the food source so they usually are the ones that are taken.

Member Kaplan asked if the 300 that were taken were the healthiest in the group, will the weaker ones then become stronger.

Green said almost all the deer are weak, but they are stronger here than elsewhere because they have been fed through the 4-Poster system.

Member Kaplan asked why the frozen meat wasn't given out locally.

Green said it was mainly a timing issue. It was written into the contract that the management of processing the deer and the distribution of the meat was incumbent on the contractor. The contractor already had a relationship with the organization upstate and they already had everything in place. In the future, we would like to distribute the meat locally, but there isn't a processing facility on Long Island that can handle that many deer and store the meat. In reality, there are hungry people all over.

Member Sicignano asked how healthy the meat was if the deer were thin and sickly.

Green said the meat is just fine, it's the size of the deer, during the winter, they look like they are all starving.

Member Heil asked if there was a preference for male vs. female.

Green said we try to get the does. One buck can impregnate all the does. Twenty-five percent of the deer taken were bucks.

Member Shea asked if the deer are tested for disease. She said the females are needed to take care of the young.

Green said no, the NYSDEC has not documented any issues with disease among the deer. Deer are weaned at about two weeks.

Member Blumer asked if Cs-137 is normally found in vegetation and if it is radioactive.

Green said Cs-137 is radioactive and is not found naturally in very high quantities. Higher concentrations on-site have been found due to past practices. We've done a lot of cleanup of Cs-137, mainly in the Former Hazardous Waste Management Facility and the landscape soils. The average on-site level is 1 pCi/L. There is a one in 4,000 chance of getting cancer from those levels of Cs-137. The results of the environmental samples will be in the 2015 SER.

Member Esposito asked if the results of the environmental sampling could be given to the CAC when they are available.

Green said yes.

Member Martin asked how the density was defined.

Green described the method used for estimating the number of deer onsite.

The deer population issue onsite is an ongoing problem. The 4-Posters will be deployed, the summer interns will conduct ecological studies, and a population study will be conducted from July into September. That data will be used to help determine the number of deer that need to be taken in the next round of culling in November or March 2016.

Member Kaplan asked what comments, if any, were received from the community regarding the deer cull.

Green said there haven't been any comments from the community. The only input has been from the CAC.

Member Blumer asked how the number 300 was arrived at and how the cull is done.

Green said 300 is what we asked for. It's 40 percent of the total we've estimated to have onsite. There is one sharpshooter.

Member Sicignano asked how many times this method has been used before.

Green said this is the first time onsite, but it will be ongoing until we get the population down to a sustainable level and can then consider another method. We want to get down to where we can see ecosystem recovery.

Green next reported on the supplemental sediment sampling in the Peconic River. He said one of three on-site Peconic River sediment sample locations detected elevated mercury concentrations in 2014. In November, the regulators agreed with a plan to collect four samples from the surrounding area. This process will continue until an average mercury concentration below 2.0 mg/kg is achieved. This data will continue to be reviewed with the regulators. Of the four samples, two were above the 2 mg/kg and two were below the 2 mg/kg of mercury, with an average of 2.6. In January, another six samples were collected. Three were above the 2 mg/kg and three were below, with the average remaining at 2.6 mg/kg. In the spring, we plan to take five additional samples, with another nine to be collected and stored. Following the averaging of the 15 samples, the need to analyze some or all of the additional nine samples will be determined. We will continue to brief the regulators on the results.

Member Esposito asked about the width and depth of the area and why the area is not just excavated.

Green said it is about 35 feet wide. We are still in the process of defining the area. To go back in with heavy equipment would be damaging to the river. We stopped discharging to the river and this area is dry a good portion of the year. The depth we've gone by has been 0 – 6 inches.

Member Garber asked how it migrates.

Green said we don't think it's moving, we think if it has moved, it was when we re-contoured the river bank.

Member Esposito asked if this area is always dry.

Green said it is intermittent, based on rainfall.

Tim Green told the CAC that Jason Remien was no longer the Interim Manager; he had been promoted to Manager of the Environmental Protection Division.

Remien reported on the last phase of the Former Hazardous Waste Management Facility Perimeter area soil cleanup. One hundred cubic yards of soil was extracted to achieve levels below the cleanup goal of 23 pCi/g of Cs-137, confirmatory sampling and the final status survey have been completed. ORISE performed an independent verification of the data and a Closeout Report was submitted to the regulators for review in February. The area is under Institutional Control.

Member Sicignano asked why the Solar Array was not placed there since the area can't be built on.

Green said that was proposed but the investors did not want to build there.

Remien then gave an update on the Bldg. 452 Freon-11 groundwater remediation. He said 95 pounds of Freon have been removed to date from the extraction well that has been in operation

since March 2012. Pulse pumping was initiated in February 2015 and we will be evaluating it for shutdown later this year.

Member Garber asked if there was any indication of what happened.

Remien explained that the spill had occurred in an outside area where Freon was stored and it was estimated that about 100 pounds spilled.

Member Kaplan asked how the mode of operation of the extraction wells is determined and who makes it.

Remien said the Groundwater Protection Group staff constantly collects samples and evaluates the data and then makes recommendations to the regulators. It's all done by our staff.

Member Kaplan said that it was nice that the expertise exists here to do that.

Remien reported on the routine inspection of the former reactors. Seventy-six office windows were replaced in the BGRR in February. The BGRR building is part of the cap. Repairs are planned for the HFBR north air lock and former machine shop roof once the weather permits, and safety enhancements are planned for the HFBR stack platforms.

Building 811 operated as a waste processing facility from 1947 to 2008. In the past, under CERCLA, underground storage tanks, the D-tanks and the AB waste lines were removed from this facility. As part of the Lab's risk reduction program, plans are underway for demolition and soil removal of Building 811 this spring.

Member Kaplan asked how much excavation will take place once the building is down.

Remien said it is a phased approach. We will take down Bldg. 811 this year and piping and some soil associated with that will be removed. Then we will continue to sample and characterize the area.

Member Shea asked for a large copy of the map being illustrated.

ACTION ITEM - Send a large copy of the Bldg. 811 map to CAC members.

5. April Agenda Setting

Nora Sundin, liaison to the CAC, said next month, Tim Green will return with another update. A presentation on the Peconic River Restoration has been requested and we are hoping to have Jim Misewich here with a presentation on Energy.

Member Blumer said the guard at the Main Gate told her that soon a different type of ID will be required to get onsite.

Sundin said the Federal Real ID Act requires a passport or your picture and hologram on your license. If you don't have it, they will have to write down your information.

Member Ziems said it is called an enhanced driver's license.

6. Membership Discussion and Vote

Hodgin said Richard Murdocco, Teachers Federal Credit Union (TFCU), is applying for membership on the CAC in the business category. He has met all the requirements. He will present and then you can ask questions, discuss his request, and make a decision.

Member Blumer asked if there are other members in the business category.

Hodgin said the APS is one, there are currently two vacancies.

Murdocco said TFCU is a local institution that tries to be involved in the community. We are interested in anything that affects our members and I plan to be at every CAC meeting. Martha Young, manager, for the BNL branch, will be the alternate member. We go into local schools and provide information to students.

Member Esposito asked how he plans to keep members informed of what happens at BNL.

Murdocco said we have an e-newsletter and a website with links for the community

Hodgin asked Murdocco to leave the room so the CAC could have a candid discussion.

Hodgin said that a super majority (17 out of the 22 members present) was needed for approval. A motion was made and the vote was unanimous in favor of granting membership status in the business category to TFCU with Richard Mudocco as the Primary Member.

Hodgin then said Michael Giacomaro, East Yaphank Chamber of Commerce, is requesting membership in the business category for the second time.

Giacomaro said this is a small community organization and has been around since 2002. He said they are directly affected by what happens at the Lab. Many BNL employees live in this area.

Member Esposito asked who the Chamber represents and how many of the members are active.

Giacomaro said there are about 150 businesses, many home-based, in the community. There are 14 member businesses from East Yaphank and Yaphank. The Chamber has a VP and a Treasurer. Our Charter states that we will promote what goes on in the community and promote the businesses.

Member Doroski asked what the boundaries for East Yaphank are.

Giacomaro said East of Sleepy Hollow Drive, River Road to the LIE to Forest and Oak Streets, and south to Longwood School District boundary.

Member Sicignano asked how many storefront businesses are located in the community

Giacomaro said about 50.

Member Esposito asked, of the 14 members, how many own businesses.

Giacomaro said most of them, with two or three being home-based.

Member Malloy asked if some businesses belong to the Civic in-addition to the Chamber.

Giacomaro said no.

Member Ziems asked how often the Chamber meets.

Giacomaro said there are about ten meetings a year. Attendance is about three or four people per meeting.

Member Martin asked if they have a newsletter.

Giacomaro said yes they have a monthly newsletter.

Member Henagan asked who gets the newsletter.

Giacomaro said 30 to 40 go out a month and they try to send it to every business in the community at least once or twice a year.

Hodgin asked Giacomaro to leave the room so the CAC could have a candid discussion. After a great deal of discussion, a vote was held. Hodgin reminded the CAC that a super majority was needed for approval in this vote also. A motion was made and the vote was taken on the question of granting the East Yaphank Chamber membership; a super majority was not achieved.

A comment was made that re-application for membership should not be allowed once a request has been turned down.

Hodgin said there is no process that says they cannot re-submit. We will have a discussion on the Guidelines at a later time.

Sundin said there has been no response from IBEW for over a year and the Guidelines state that once a letter is sent, they are given two months to respond before being removed from membership.

Members asked if it would make sense to reach out to the Suffolk County or Brookhaven Chamber of Commerce to see if they are interested in membership.

Sundin said she has reached out to the president of the Long Island Association and they are not interested in membership at this time.

7. Membership proposed revision to the Guidelines

Hodgin said the discussion on Guidelines revision is being deferred to next month.

8. Community Comment

There were no community comments.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

CAC Agenda Setting – May 8, 2014

PRESENTATIONS

- ~~Pros & Cons of Bringing Back Commercial Nuclear Power~~ – 12 (10/9/14 Bill Horak)
- Holographic Principles of Quantum Mechanics – 8
- Biological Research at BNL – 7
- The Gamma Forest (where was it onsite; the kind of research done there) - 7
- ~~Survey of all DOE Labs~~ – 6 (9/11/14- Frank Crescenzo)
- Climate Science & W.H. Report (Steve Schwartz) – 5
- NASA Research – 5
- ~~Waste Minimization at BNL~~ – 5 (1/8/15 Peter Pohlot)
- Update on Battery Storage – 5
- More History – 4
- Economic Impact of the Lab - 4
- Nanotech Research, Safety, Environment, Ethics – 4
- Fukushima – 4
- Update on LI Solar Farm (production, environment) – 4
- Research / Trends on Wildlife on LI – 3
- Non Proliferation – 3
- Patents & Commercialization – Pros & Cons of Science vs. Commercialization – 3
- Update of Tick-borne Diseases – 3
- Electric Grid (by J. Misewich) – 3
- Update on G-2 – 3
- Invite HS Students to Speak on Their Topics – 3
- Update on State Program for Carbon Footprint Reduction (80x50?) – 2
- Research towards Sustainability – 2
- STEM Research Update (InSynC) – 2
- Computer Facility for LHC/ATLAS / RHIC – 2
- Research by Students at NSLS – Reach Out Program – 1

TOURS

- ~~ISB~~ – 3 (6/12/2014)

				Jan	Feb cancel	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
P = Present	2015	Affiliation	First Name	Last Name											
		ABCO (Garber - 04/02)(Bevington – 6/14) (Keenan-10/14)	Member	Ray	Keenan	P									
		(Madigan -10/10)	Alternate	Michael	Madigan										
		American Physical Society	Member	Margaret	Malloy	P									
		(Schuhmann 1/14)	Alternate	Reinhart	Schuhmann										
		Brookhaven Retired Employees Association (Peskin - 09/09)	Member	Arnie	Peskin	P									
		(Franz - 12/09)	Alternate	Eena-Mai	Franz	P									
		(Shapiro-1/13)	Alternate	Steve	Shapiro										
		Citizens Campaign for the Environment	Member	Adrienne	Esposito	P									
			Alternate												
		Colonial Woods Whispering Pines (Birben - 06/09) (O'Neal 01/15)	Member	Cathy	O'Neal	P									
		(Rehbein -11/10)	Alternate	Eric	Rehbein										
		Coram Civic Association (Ziems - 06/12)	Member	Paul	Ziems	P									
		(Meade – 06/12, Jim M 10/12)	Alternate	Jim	Meade										
		East Yaphank Civic Association	Member	Michael	Giacomaro	P									
		(Feinman - 02/09)	Alternate	Bob	Feinman	P									
		Emeritus (added 12/14)	Member	Don	Garber	P									
		Emeritus (changed 3/8/12)	Member	Jean	Mannhaupt										
		Foundation for Economic Education (5/14) (Martin – 10/14)	Member	Bruce	Martin										
		(Edwards – 10/14)	Alternate	Estelle	Edwards										
		(Pratka – 10/14)	Alternate	Craig	Pratka	P									
		Friends of Brookhaven (Kaplan - 07/01)	Member	Ed	Kaplan										
		(Schwartz - 11/02)	Alternate	Steve	Schwartz	P									
		Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition	Member	Mary Joan	Shea	P									
			Alternate	Scott	Carlin										
		IBEW/Local 2230 (Krsnak 01/07) (Removed 3/15)	Member	Scott	Krsnak										
			Alternate												
		Individual (changed 3/12)	Member	Karen	Blumer										
		(added 6/12)	Alternate	Michael	Madigan	P									
		Individual – (changed 3/12)	Member	Jane	Corrarino										
			Alternate												
		Individual – (changed 3/12)	Member	Iqbal	Chaudhry	P									

P = Present	2015	Affiliation		First Name	Last Name	Jan	Feb cancel	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			Alternate														
		L.I. Pine Barrens Society	Member	Richard	Amper												
		(Murdocco - 04/11, deleted 6/12) (Muller added – 8/12)(Katie Rose Leonard added – 6/13)	Alternate	Katie Rose	Leonard			P									
		L.I. Progressive Coalition	Member	David	Sprintzen	P		P									
			Alternate														
		Lake Panamoka Civic Association (Biss - 04/02)	Member	Rita	Biss	P											
		(Grandal - 10/10)	Alternate	Bonita	Grandal	P											
		Longwood Central School Dist. (Castro -06/09)	Member	Maria	Castro	P		P									
		(Gerstenlauer removed & Sterne added 5/14)	Alternate	Phyllis	Sterne												
		Mastic Park Civic Association (Sicignano – 6/12)	Member	John	Sicignano	P		P									
			Alternate	Clara	McManus												
			Alternate	Joe	May												
		Middle Island Civic Association	Member	Tom	Talbot	P											
		(Nowak 01/15)	Alternate	John	Nowak	P		P									
		Photon Sciences User Committee	Member	Jean	Jordan-Sweet												
		(Ravel -02/11)	Alternate	Bruce	Ravel	P											
		Ridge Civic Association	Member	Pat	Henagan	P		P									
		Teachers Federal Credit Union (Murdocco 3/15)	Member	Richard	Murdocco			P									
			Alternate														
		Town of Brookhaven (Graves - 06/06) (removed 1/2015)	Member	Anthony	Graves												
			Alternate														
		Town of Brookhaven, Senior Citizens Office	Member	James	Heil	P		P									
			Alternate														
		Town of Riverhead (Doroski - 04/11)	Member	Isidore	Doroski	P		P									
		(Hulme - 04/11)(Hulme removed 4/14)	Alternate														
		Wading River Civic Association	Member	Helga	Guthy	P		P									
			Alternate	Sid	Bail												