

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP**  
***BoRit Asbestos Area***  
***Ambler / Upper Dublin / Whitpain, Pennsylvania***

To: BoRit Asbestos Area Community Advisory Group  
From: Katie O'Connor  
Date: May 28, 2009  
Subject: **Summary of the Wednesday, May 6, 2009, BoRit CAG Meeting**

**Next Meeting.**

The next BoRit Asbestos Area CAG meeting will be held as follows:

Date: Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009  
Time: 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Location: Upper Dublin Township Meeting Room  
801 Loch Alsh Avenue  
Fort Washington, PA 19034

If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming meeting or about this summary, please contact CAG Co-Chairs Bob Adams and Fred Conner.

**CAG Attendees.**

All Members were present except for Bob Adams, Lynda Rebarck, and Flo Wise. Fred Robinson was represented by Sharon Vargas and Bud Wahl was represented by Steve Ware. The Ambler parcel owner was again not present.

**Observers.**

There were approximately 10 Observers present for at least part of the meeting.

**Update on Current Removal Actions.**

- Eduardo Rovira presented an update on removal actions to date.
  - The discrepancy over the actual area of the site seems to have been resolved with the help in part of Beth Pilling's aerial mapping.
  - Much progress have been made on the streambank stabilization. Hydroseeding has begun. Even with all of the rain, little or no erosion has taken place.
  - Phase I will be completed within the next week.
- Community Outreach
  - A very successful Open House was held on April 18 from 9am-12pm at the EPA Field Office. The event provided another forum to communicate with the neighborhood about what is going on at the site.
  - The Open House was help in conjunction with a West Ambler Clean-up Day which was supported by Whitpain Township.
  - Many tons of trash, tires, and household refuse was collected and hauled away by the Township. A community garden was also planted.

**Update on Remedial Plans/Actions.**

- Joe McDowell gave the group an update on remedial planning to date.
  - The Remediation Group is working to set-up a public meeting to communicate with the community on what to expect at the site.
  - Planning continues on how to execute the remedial investigation. A contractor has not been selected yet.
  - There was an extended conversation on how sampling was to be conducted at the site.
  - The goal is to have a complete picture of the site by early summer.

**Health, Environment, Safety & Risks (HERS) Group Update.**

- An outreach effort was conducted with practitioners by Lora Werner and Barbara Allerton.
- Four medical practices in Ambler with a total of 9 practitioners were visited today. All were receptive and grateful for the information.
- Future plans include talking with Abbington's pulmonologists about patients they see that may be exhibiting symptoms of asbestos exposure and what tools are good for diagnosis that the community could utilize.

**Discussion on Next Steps for the CAG during RI/FS.**

- A discussion ensued about what is the best solution for the long term of this community?
  - Need good data from the Remedial Investigation
  - Utilize experts for guidance
- After the Remedial Investigation, what would the membership like to see happen?
  - Some CAG members were supportive of the total removal of waste from the site. Others were not and commented that making a determination at this time was premature.
  - Information must be conveyed to the CAG and the Agency in meaningful ways while incorporating the research.
  - The investigation should be able to identify the extent of the asbestos pile, the amount and if it is uniform. If material has been moved, where did it go? What are the clear boundaries and is there anything else present besides ACM?
  - There is concern about digging. The membership would like to see a clear plan before any excavation occurs.
  - All relevant technologies should be investigated to find out what is the best, long-term option for the community.
  - Many encouraged the group to keep an open mind and all sides need to communicate clearly.
  - The CAG must fully understand EPA's 9 criteria for feasibility.
  - It would benefit the CAG greatly to know the results and conclusions of each stage in RI/FS.
- All agreed that the R/R&M group would take the lead interfacing with the agency during RI/FS.

### **Observer Comments**

- Will there be sampling “outside the box”? *Answer:* If warranted by the RI.
- The community would feel better with independent sampling as there was concern raised about the distance and the depth of the sampling.

### **Presentation: “An Initial Reuse Assessment for the BoRit Asbestos Site”**

- Miranda Maupin from E2 Inc. presented on the Reuse Assessment which was developed in association with the Future Plans Workgroup.
- The purpose of the assessment was to identify a reasonable set of future uses for the BoRit site.
- The presentation is available online at:
- After the presentation, discussion ensued about how the CAG wants the Future Plans group proceed? Comments included:
  - Consider other scenarios, the transit hub scenario or other options.
  - Look at the long-term ownership of the KaneCore property.
  - Reach out to the community members who are not present.
  - The CAG should also reach out to the community members, maybe through the website
  - Many saw the greenway/open space concept as the best option.
  - A discussion over signage occurred. Apparently, no laws mandate signage to identify a Superfund Site.
  - There is concern over zoning and the different townships wanting different things.
  - Will these designs fit in with the community and will it protect the creek and the surrounding environment?
  - How can we make it safe for recreational uses?
  - There was a concern about whether new uses would increase the property values resulting in displacing current community members.
  - Consider creating a community survey with 3-4 options and get feedback from all three municipalities.
  - Have a discussion with Ambler to discuss options regarding KaneCore property.

### **Observer Comments**

- If there is no risk or chance of exposures, no signs need to be posted
- Involve ALL in the community!!!

### **Old/New Business**

- The website
  - A test site with password access to for members is to go up soon.
  - Will not go live until the CAG approves of the site.
  - The CAG documents from 2007 should go up now (in pdf form)
  - The header needs to reflect that this is the CAG website.

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- Fred Conner suggested and others agreed that the presentation he gave to his stakeholder groups (and distributed at the beginning of the meeting) would good content for the site.
- There should be an “About US” page about the CAG section
- Should it list all CAG members? (A vote is needed)
- At the bottom of the opening page needs to have a disclaimer that states that this is not an official EPA website.
- There will be a link on the website taking visitors to the EPA’s official website.
  
- Old Business
  - No old business was discussed.
- New Business
  - The next meeting will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm
  - The agenda for next week is expected to focus on a two-year assessment of the CAG to be conducted by Melinda Holland of E2. Additional input on agenda items is encouraged by the Co-chairs

The meeting adjourned at 9:30.