

## **BoRit Asbestos Superfund Site Community Advisory Group**

*Ambler / Upper Dublin / Whitpain, Pennsylvania*

**Date:** Wednesday, March 2, 2011

**Location:** Upper Dublin Township Building, 801 Loch Alsh Ave. Fort Washington, Pa 19002

**Time:** 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

**Attended by:** See attached sign-in.

### ***6:30 p.m. Executive Voting Session***

#### 7:00 p.m. Welcome & Announcements

- *Introductions / Review guidelines for conduct at meetings*
  - o *Kris Matzko: new Remedial Project Manager*
  - o *Gordon Chase was elected to Local Business seat. Michelle Naps was elected to Physician-at-Large seat. Eric Cheung was elected to serve on a new environmental agency seat for Clean Air Council. Otis Hightower is now representing West Ambler Civic Association. Greg Klucharich is an alternate for Whitpain Township.*
- *Review Agenda*
- *Approve January Minutes*
  - o Please submit any changes via email to Sal or Bob, this will allow for easier and quicker corrections
  - o Sharon Vargas is still a business member of Ambler, however she vacated the business seat, and is now serving as the alternate for the American Legion.
- *Approve January Synopsis*
  - o Add: the CAG requested to see the data from 1985 and data on lung cancers in a future presentation of the Cancer Registry's Data
  - o Synopsis – these are a very brief summary of the meeting to send to constituents of the CAG members
- *Announcements:*
  - o CBA asked: How the contamination at the old Nicolet Facilities is currently being contained now that the buildings have been taken down? Joe McDowell (EPA) promised to get information for us on that.
  - o Report: last month's vote on facilitation:
    - Facilitation desired? 11 Yes and 2 No's
    - Training in facilitation desired? 9 Yes and 4 No's
    - Facilitation Issues Ranked:
      1. Establish CAG identity and its scope of purpose
      2. Better internal communication, meeting and listening skills
      3. What information goes out to constituents

- Mike Hancox will facilitate our April CAG meeting; he is CEO of SKEO Solutions (formerly E2)
  - All questions about Mike Hancox's resume should be directed to him
  - The first meeting in April will discuss the CAG's identity

#### 7:00 p.m. Workgroup Reports

- *Rules Committee:* In Executive Session, the Rules Committee conducted the election of new CAG members. Results are as noted in the Introduction section above. In the Open Meeting, the Rules Committee issued an opinion that the CAG is not in violation of the Operating Procedures regarding the number of stakeholder seats or members, but that the wording of the Operating Procedures needs to be clearer and more consistent regarding the use of these terms. The Rules Committee is working on a suggested rewording of the Operating Procedures regarding the number of stakeholder seats and members. The Rules Committee will present a proposal to the CAG by December, for the CAG to discuss and decide on. The Rules Committee noted that it is an advisory body to the CAG, and does not make the rules for the CAG. Susan Mudambi announced that she will be leaving the CAG as an Alternate Member for Whitpain Residents Organization (WRO) as soon as a replacement is found for her on the Rules Committee.

- *Future Plans: No report. [Note: There had been a meeting January 19, 2011; no meeting minutes were submitted.]*

- *RR&M*

- Asbestos water pipes in Ambler Borough is not a pertinent issue for us right now, however it is still a matter for investigation. Citizens for Better Ambler submitted a Minority Report (posted on website) expressing disagreement with this point of view.
- The cancer registry epidemiological data last month was helpful, however, asbestos sometimes takes 30 years to show up; this data isn't helpful to reveal what the current risks to residents are, we wish for more information on present day risk statistics
- Still waiting for EPA to release November groundwater testing results (Note: EPA promised a May CAG presentation)
- Requested Executive Summaries for future data reports along with a presentation to the CAG
- Requests EPA share with us the Total Volume of ACM on the BoRit site

#### *HERS*

- DOH is looking into incorporating Cancer Registry Data back to 1985, as requested. The data was not reliably reported in those first years, and was coded differently later, so they are trying to

determine the best start date to get a most accurate image of mesothelioma rates from further back. Lung data was sent in an email last month.

- Lora will work with RPA to better describe and share information on the process for Public Health/Risk Assessment to better understand the danger of these sites
- Also discussed the Ambler Public Water questions, and BoRit groundwater sampling
- UPENN West Ambler study: Dr. Ted Emmett is away. There will be more information from him when he comes back. (Note: There was a very interesting preliminary report given at the Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> Future Uses workgroup meeting.)

### *Community Awareness*

- BoRitCAG.org Website is nearly complete: it is missing a Brief Description and History, and documents should be listed more chronologically
- Next workgroup meeting is March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. We'll approve documents to post to the website and consider posting workgroup meetings on the home page as well as the Bulletin Board
- Agenda:
  - o Gaps or desired changes in website; accuracy of EPA Data, or any submitted documents – need for disclaimer statements
  - o Community Awareness overall 2011 Outreach Plans: Postcards/Mailings; Promotion of site, etc.
  - o Minority Reports

### 7:30 p.m. Action Items Review

- Clarification of CAG desired task requirements for a TASC Consultant – Susan Curry
  - o *Michelle Benchouk is available through SKEO. She was originally assigned to us to consult on Removal actions, so EPA will need to make an administrative change if Michelle is to come back for Remediation consulting. We need an expert who is qualified to explain the data coming from EPA --someone who is unbiased and has a professional background. SKEO is the only entity that can assign people to the CAG, EPA cannot. We need an expert on air data and another on water data. HERS and RR&M both raised issues about risk assessment, so therefore it would be useful to have an expert to tell us more about the current existing risk for residents' futures. Before the CAG requests an expert, we need a clear idea of what we need advice about.*
  - o *Groundwater wells were installed in November 2010. Data started coming back to EPA in January, then it is sent out to be quality reviewed, it gets sent back for processing to a contractor. Validated data on the Phase I results was released in the 500+ page document. EPA commentary on Phase I data would be appreciated in the Phase II data report. Executive summaries are sincerely requested.*

**ACTION: CAG members should send their ideas about additional experts needed for which topics to co-chairs.**

- Benchmark dates for RIFS – Susan Curry
  - o Vance Evans passed out a handout “BoRit Superfund Site Timeline.” He is able to make changes and updates as the CAG sees fit, so he invited feedback
  - o Still under construction and able to add more detail as work happens. Talking about having a poster for each stage
  - o Ideally this timeline would be used for the whole community, and any ideas to make it more accessible and understandable would be appreciated
  - o After the proposed ROD plan – there is a public comment period which usually last 30 days (not on timeline). It can be extended another 30 days and it can even start as a 60 day public comment period. CAG requested it to be started at 60 days.
  
- Wissahickon Park Cap Failure & Future Use Scenario – Sharon McCormick
  - o A presentation was given on the history of Whitpain Park and raised questions. CBA sent the attached documents after the meeting. The issues warrant a facilitated meeting agenda
  - o CAG has not addressed the question of whether we want a full removal of all asbestos. (Note: It can be brought into the April facilitation under what is the advocacy identity of our CAG)
  - o Asbestos is very expensive to clean up. Reuse is many years away

8:15 p.m. Observer Comments

None.

8:20 p.m. Open Comment Period

8:25 p.m. Old Business – New Business – Next Steps

- Other Old Business
  
- New Business
  - o One member expressed: The threat to our local drinking water due to Marcellus Shale fracking is more dire and threatens practically all of us more than this asbestos in the air.
  - o Make sure the CAG follows through on getting Safety and Risk information
  - o Reiterated request for info about how the contamination on the K&M Nicolet site is being contained now that the buildings are down

- Next CAG Meeting – April 6, 2011

8:30 p.m. Adjourn