

# Pompton Lakes Community Advisory Group

## Draft Minutes

### December 3, 2012

The meeting commenced at 7:10 pm. Riggiola thanked everyone for coming. The CAG introduced themselves. Plowman Rubino and Meakem were not present.

Helen martens made a motion to approve the minutes. Ruth seconded. All in favor.

Riggiola went quickly through the agenda and then through the action items and provided updates:

- a. *Lisa and Pat are working on the Congressman's Presentation:* Resident Pat Corcoran has been provided with two former Citizens For a Clean Pompton Lakes presentations. Pat is in the process of working on a new presentation. She has provided some new material to Lisa R. who is in the process of reviewing with Pat C.
- b. *OPRA field sample data for from May (Vojo's request) - Sent to Ed:* Ed Meakem has taken on this task and will be OPRA this information. Meakem to submit OPRA request.
- c. *Request QAPP (quality assurance project plan) summary from EPA on air testing/Monitoring:* We heard back from the USEPA's Phil Flax via email. He said that the he was mailing the data we requested.
- d. *Conf. Call Meeting with CHEJ/Edison Wetlands/PLCAG CAG Members, Re: Property Value Plan:* – Lois Gibbs, Bob Spiegel, Dana Patterson, Mike Schade, Cheryl Rubino and Lisa participated in this conference call meeting. In order to begin taking steps to achieve a Property Value Plan for the residents, there are three important points we need to discuss tonight. 1. Are you comfortable setting up a meeting with Elected Officials in the Borough of Pompton Lakes and key DuPont Representatives? Since we have a responsibility party this is one of the steps to present our Property Value Plan that would need to take place? 2. What is fair market value and what is the time-line on the market value (ex. The amount of years to take into consideration or if/when the clean-up would be completed). 3. What area in our community will be seeking a Property Value Plan for? The Plume only, close to the plume, the whole community? Helen said we need to hear from residents. Pat Corcoran suggested having multiple prop Val plans. Riggiola added Bob Spiegel's comment about money coming in from flood and FEMA why can't it be given to residents. With a responsible party it doesn't happen easily.
- e. *Carolyn Fefferman (Senator Menendez's) office – TAG Bus USEPA:* Carolyn Fefferman - the USEPA feels from their 24 hour air sampling canister date they have taken since 2008, that the TAGA bus is not needed for further testing/analysis. There are two TAGA buses which are kept in Edison, NJ. Note: Lisa R. also received a call from Zoe Baldwin from Senator Lautenberg's office. Lisa provided an update to Zoe regarding this issue and some other additional issues of concern.
- f. *Lisa to provide a copy of all water violations - EPA Pompton Lakes Water Violations link (Rich Chapin):* Lisa provided this information to Richard Chapin [http://oaspub.epa.gov/enviro/sdw\\_report\\_v2.first\\_table?pws\\_id=NJ1609001&state=NJ&source=&population=11435&sys\\_num=0](http://oaspub.epa.gov/enviro/sdw_report_v2.first_table?pws_id=NJ1609001&state=NJ&source=&population=11435&sys_num=0) Patterson and Riggiola explained the history of the MUA and requesting the reports and it seems they are playing games with the CAG reports.
- g. *Confirm Tom Hatton for Nov meeting:* Clean Vapor and Viridian are in attendance tonight.
- h. *Cheryl Rubino update on Governor's office meeting request:* Cheryl R. followed up via email and via phone. Lisa also received a call from NJDEP's Mindy Mumford and her voicemail stated that Governor Christie's office requested for her to deal with this matter. Lisa returned her call and also followed up

with an email, both which we not responded to by M. Mumford. The PLCAG then received a letter from the NJDEP – Assistant Commissioner Sweeney dated 11/15/12 (Note: Letter was read on the record)

Riggiola introduced Tom Hatton. Hatton explained that they warranty the system for one year, then it goes to a quarterly program, and you get to choose who you want to continue the monitoring. He explained it was an option if at that point, you do not like the contractor, you choose a new one and DuPont will continue to reimburse the contractor. Hatton said for the most part they have had good results with better vacuum and quieter fans. This has demonstrated to be efficient to take vapors from sub slab in the air. He explained different houses have different levels of chemicals in their homes for all different products not listed in ingredients.

He explained that in Palisades Park, they have a site they cannot determine if it is the boxes from china or the soil gas that is causing the problem. He explained that chemicals can come from many things and show up in other places.

Hatton reemphasized the working systems that were installed in the homes. He offered questions that audience members have, and said he would answer them first.

Riggiola questioned the source of the chemicals and if it is the groundwater or not. Hatton explained that his job is soil permeability. Flint (Viridian Inc.) explained if you have a negative pressure under the home, the. There is no way it is coming in from the groundwater and is an indoor air source. Some people only have indoor air samples because they have previous sampling. 1,2 -DCE is being found everywhere and used in China to make plastic and is releasing this new product.

Hatton explained no matter what you are doing, you need a chemical reaction. The solvents are reacting polar and nonpolar chemically.

Flint explained that benzene could be coming from natural gas systems.

Patterson asked about air inversion and the possibility of contaminants going into the air. Flint explained that there may be an initial spike that pulls the buildup of the chemicals into the air but after that the rate flattens out.

Patterson asked about varying times that the samples are taking at different times.

Riggiola brought up the issue of a grid analysis. Hatton explained that this experiment would have to include wind speed, volume of air out of every air system, barometric pressure, don't know if there are many people that could design that study properly.

Hatton explained that it is not correcting the problem and just mitigating the system.

Kevin Harrison asked if the stacks were ever tested and flint said no but it would help and you can test what is coming out of the stack. Intintola explained that the density of the TCE molecule is heavier than air and in a valley. Hatton explained a lot of molecule has been done on radon which the molecule is heavier than lead and that disperses pretty evenly.

Intintola added that Chapin was saying for this plume they rated it for radon and would need a discharge permit. Hatton said no levels here are even close to needing a discharge permit and that many industries expel a lot more than that and don't need a permit. Hatton is not opposed to a study to get to the bottom of it.

Intintola brought up acid brook and how they aerate the brook for PCE and it comes out before. Hatton says that there is a technology company that will be emerging in the future and the only way to do it is sampling.

Intintola asked about the water levels rising and if it would be a problem. Flint explained that it could be a problem because the area where the gas is in the bedrock is compressed not causing. Flint said they need to come back and test during the heating season and will be making arrangements in January.

Helen asked about a house with attached garage. Hatton explained that house is heated and at a different pressure. Make sure you have a seal on the door between the house and garage and limit entrance. Be aware of what you have and make sure to keep away from your house.

Hatton said it could only happen -an evaluation - to have a sit down meeting with the senators and congressman about this and get them on board first.

Need to have enough cause for a problem. Document serious problems- have an older person whose health would be in harm but wouldn't know if something was wrong. The federal government would have to higher David Folkes folks to do an investigation. Independent contractors doing way better work. We need an evaluation and get the government to come in.

CAG will give it one more try. Now 510 that need systems and homes in the buffer zone homes can have systems. They didn't get any paperwork. Action item: Get a copy of the updated plume map from NJDEP.

CAG thanked tom Hatton for his presentation.

Riggiola moved to old business. She read letter from NJDEP to PLCAG dated November 15, 2012 in response to their request to their push for a Superfund status. She explained that this response did not address our meeting request and request for Superfund.

Riggiola urged people to show up to council meetings and explained that she can longer do it or she will burn out.

Riggiola explained there was an article about Erin Brockovich's town that was published November 22, 2012. She read it too the CAG. It discussed the contamination resurfacing and becoming an issue again. Riggiola said what they are doing here is not humane. She asked for any questions concerns or help.

Martens would like people to help have a fundraiser in the New Year, make phone calls, writing letters, etc.

Dean explained her personal issue with the mayor and council blasting person information to the public without consent. Martens explained that the council does not care and DuPont should be paying our taxes. Mayor said that because there is a lawsuit going on and they do not qualify.

Patterson gave the CAG homework to talk to 5 of their neighbors and engage them to come to meetings.

Fundraiser discussion: Patterson suggested a restaurant fundraiser where a percentage goes to the CAG from the sales. Another audience member suggested a blood drive to get recognition.

Patterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paez seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

**Action Items:**

1. Pat & Lisa continue to work on presentations to Senators and Congressmen
2. Continue discussions on Property Valuation Plan with feedback from community members
3. Meakem to submit OPRA for Vojo's field sample data
4. Phil Flax to mail additional water data and QAPP to Riggiola (received for 1/21 dissemination to Patterson/Chapin)
5. Get a copy of the updated plume map from NJDEP.
6. Ask Senators and Congressman for help with getting full evaluation, bringing in David Folkes