

**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

October 11, 2011

MEETING CONVENED: 7:05 p.m City Manager's Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Fruehstorfer, presiding, Steve Dentel, Bob McDowell, Ajay Prasad, Carol Riggs, Kass Sheedy

ABSENT: Nadine Bangerter, Cara Lampton

STAFF PRESENT: Charlie Emerson, Parks and Recreation Director

GUEST: Catherine Ciferni, Newark Resident

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2011

MOTION BY MR. PRASAD, SECONDED BY MS. SHEEDY: THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 MEETING BE APPROVED AS RECEIVED.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Catherine Ciferni, Newark Resident, encouraged the Commission members to listen to the portion of the Council meeting audio that discussed the recommended Green Energy purchase.

3. GREEN TRANSPORTATION

There was nothing to report due to Ms. Bangerter's absence.

4. COMMUNITY HABITAT

Mr. Fruehstorfer stated the application for the City of Newark to become a registered Backyard Habitat had been submitted.

Action: Mr. Fruehstorfer will forward information to CAC members regarding Community/Backyard Habitats to be held November 3, 2011.

5. GREEN ENERGY

Council decided at the October 10, 2011 there would not be any retroactive purchases of REC's. Commencing in 2012, \$150,000 would be allocated for the purchase

of REC's. Due to the City not going forward with the solar energy panel project, the CAC discussed staying focused on readdressing the Green Energy Purchase recommendation.

Action: Mr. Fruehstorfer will contact the new Finance Director in Jan/Feb 2012 to request the Finance Department report when RECS are purchased, what kind of RECS are purchased and the amount of money spent on the purchase. The Finance Director/Department will be asked to report quarterly or once every six months (to be determined by the CAC at a later date) these findings. Mr. Dentel reiterated that CAC members should make an effort to regularly attend Council Meetings.

6. ANTI-IDLING GRANTS

Ms. Riggs reported a small group of CAC members met in late September to discuss the following:

- **Anti-Idling Brochures**
- **Public Service Video**

Ms. Sheedy received quotes from First State Printing and Kinko's for an 8 ½ x 11, single sided, double fold, four color brochure. The cost averaged \$1 per brochure, which in her opinion was a little costly.

Mr. Fruehstorfer started working on purchasing signs. He contacted Rich Lapointe, Director of Public Works, who referred him to the Traffic Committee for further direction.

Ms. Riggs was working on an outline for a script and again met with University of Delaware students for the development of a public service announcement. They won't be able to work on the project until at least November. Mr. Fruehstorfer and Ms. Riggs suggested "Film Brothers," an independent company be contacted for pricing as well. Mr. Prasad concurred and in his opinion it would be advisable to go with the professionals.

Action: Mr. Fruehstorfer will attend the upcoming Traffic Committee Meeting to get further information on signs. He will contact Film Brothers to set up a meeting to discuss scripting and designing a public service announcement.

7. RECYCLING

Mr. Emerson reported Community Clean-up was a success with a very good turnout of volunteers. Over 1,200 lbs of trash was picked up with a fair amount of recyclables.

Mr. Fruehstorfer reported with regard to recycling containers the new law indicated all residents must have containers. All residents of the City have received their containers. The recycling numbers indicate that last year recycling rates were comparable to the previous year's rate with a 30% diversion rate.

Mr. Fruehstorfer advised the "pilot" recycling program continued with three new

blue recycling containers located on Main Street. The ongoing problem seemed to be when the cans were emptied daily; they were only half full and half full of trash rather than recyclables. He further reported that Mr. Lapointe stated the City has no intention of expanding at this point. It would cost the City \$35-\$40,000 to have recycling containers located around the City and an additional \$20,000 annually to conduct pick-ups.

Mr. Fruehstorfer further reported he was not aware of the current status of commercial recycling. Regarding apartment complexes, Campus Side has a pilot program in place. According to state law, apartment complexes must recycle by January 2013. Mr. Lapointe advised that dumpsters would be placed in apartment complexes by approximately April 2012.

Action: Mr. Dentel will contact Rich Lapointe and Mayor Funk and ask what the CAC could do to assist with the Recycling Program and report back at the next meeting.

8. BETTER NEWARK AWARD

Mr. Dentel suggested Wallace McCurdy's property at 98 Dallas Avenue.

Action: Mr. Prasad stated he will talk to Mr. McCurdy and report back.

9. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

There was nothing to report at this time.

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Fruehstorfer continues to work on the 2010 Annual Report and hoped to have it completed by next month.
- Mr. McDowell reported he will take the lead in 2012 for Community Day/Newark Night and asked that it be put on the agenda in the spring of 2012.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the City Manager's Conference Room.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:49 PM

Tara A. Schiano
Secretary

/tas
Attachment