

**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

February 12, 2012

MEETING CONVENED: 7:02 p.m City Manager's Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ajay Prasad, presiding, Nadine Bangerter, Steve Dentel, Cara Lampton, Bob McDowell, Carol Riggs, Kass Sheedy, Amy Smith

ABSENT: Tom Fruehstorfer

STAFF PRESENT: Charlie Emerson, Parks and Recreation Director

GUEST: Rob Uyttebroek, Finance Director
Boy Scouts, City Residents

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 10, 2012

The following amendment was made:

5. Green Energy. Action item to read: Mr. Fruehstorfer will contact the new Finance Director and invite him to attend the February 2012 CAC meeting. In addition, the CAC will invite DNREC/DART to the March 2012 meeting.

MOTION BY MS. SHEEDY, SECONDED BY MR. MCDOWELL: THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 12, 2012 MEETING BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Several Boy Scouts and their leader were present to observe. The boy scouts offered their services in the future if the CAC needed volunteer assistance for their various projects in the future.

3. GREEN ENERGY

Mr. Uyttebroek reported he had contacted DEMEC to gather information on past purchases of Green Energy. CAC will provide a copy of 05-H to Mr. Uyttebroek and the CAC's recommendation in September of 2011, to purchase \$100,000 of RECS. Upon review of the documents, Mr. Uyttebroek will purchase the REC's as deemed necessary.

Action: Mr. Uyttebroek will inform the CAC when Green Energy is scheduled to be on the Council Agenda so the members may attend the meeting. In addition, the CAC will make a recommendation to Council for a Green Energy purchase for 2013 by September/October 2012.

4. GREEN TRANSPORTATION

Ms. Bangerter reported she learned the following from WILMAPCO: After a decline of transit use from 4% in 2000 to 1.8% (averaging 2006-2008), ongoing traffic congestion, multiple transit provider and under-utilization of the Newark Transit Hub, it was Ms. Bangerter's opinion that the CAC recommend to City Council that City Council recommend a task force be convened to address long term and short term objectives to improve ridership.

Action: Ms. Bangerter will contact Mike Fortner from the Planning & Development Department to obtain further information about the Transit Subcommittee.

Ms. Schiano will forward copies of the minutes for the Transit Subcommittee to Ms. Bangerter. Mr. Emerson suggested the CAC contact Ms. Feeney Roser Assistant Planning & Development Director, to obtain further direction of City Transportation issues.

5. COMMUNITY HABITAT

Mr. McDowell reported that Greg Gagliano from the Delaware Nature Society planned to visit Newark High School in the near future to encourage students to ask their parents to build Habitat Gardens at home.

Action: Mr. McDowell will compile information to display at AG Day at UDEL sometime in late April.

6. ANTI-IDLING GRANTS

Ms. Riggs reported the suggested changes were made to the brochure that was nearing production. She further reported the video was on the schedule and would be shot on Saturday, February 18, 2012 by "Film Brothers Production." The script has been reviewed by the Police Department as well. Once completed, the video will be put on YouTube and the Newark website.

Ms. Riggs stated the initial random survey on Anti-Idling continues with a follow-up to be conducted after the distribution of the film/brochure to compare knowledge of the idling before and after. It was the general consensus of the CAC that education is needed especially with younger people to inform them of the environmental issues associated with Idling vehicles.

Action: Ms. Riggs will continue to compile the quarterly report on the grant to provide to Crystal Nagyiski at the Department of Natural Resources in Dover. Mr. Emerson will provide Ms. Riggs with the sign company the City uses and also have Tom Zaleski from Parks contact Ms. Riggs with the names of vendors the City uses

to purchase poles to mount the signs on.

7. RECYCLING

Mr. Dentel reported it was his opinion that publicity would encourage recycling; however, it would not help people who can't determine which trash cans were recycling cans.

Action: Mr. Dentel will contact Dana Johnston about promoting recycling on the City website. He has contacted other college cities to see if their recycling programs are successful.

8. BETTER NEWARK AWARD

There was nothing to report at this time.

9. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

Ms. Bangerter inquired if new construction was adhering to the LEED standards. Ms. Sheedy reported there had not been many new structures exceeding the 20,000 square feet. When they are proposed, the LEED requirements were being addressed.

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Fruehstorfer will finalize the Annual Report within the next month and forward to Ms. Schiano to finalize.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the City Manager's Conference Room.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10 PM

Tara A. Schiano
Secretary

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