

**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

April 10, 2012

MEETING CONVENED: 7:00 p.m City Manager's Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Dentel, presiding, Cara Lampton (arrived: 7:34 pm), Bob McDowell, Carol Riggs, Kass Sheedy, Amy Smith

ABSENT: Nadine Bangerter, Tom Fruehstorfer, Ajay Prasad

STAFF PRESENT: Joe Spadafino, Parks and Recreation Superintendent

GUESTS: Regina McCormack, Newark Bike Project
Thijs Lanckriet, Newark Bike Project

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD ON MARCH 13, 2012

MOTION THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 13, 2012 MEETING BE APPROVED AS RECEIVED.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Regina McCormack and Thijs Lanckriet from the Newark Bike Project were present to speak on behalf of their organization. They stated the primary mission of the Newark Bike Project is to promote biking in Newark. In addition, they offer education about biking including bike maintenance classes.

Action: Regina McCormack will provide Steve Dentel further information about their organization via email, and Mr. Dentel will contact Dana Johnston, Public Affairs Officer at the City to include information about the organization on the City website.

3. GREEN ENERGY

The CAC agreed to get clarification from Patrick McCullar on DEMEC's position on the REC program. It was the CAC's opinion that at the March 28, 2012 House Energy Committee Hearing Mr. McCullar had expressed opposition to the REC program.

Action: Ms. Smith will contact John Kowalko to obtain further information regarding DEMEC's position on REC's. Additionally, Mr. Uttiebroek will inform the CAC when Green Energy is scheduled to be on the Council Agenda so the members may attend the meeting.

4. GREEN TRANSPORTATION

The CAC members expressed concern that DELDOT's service of the Newark Trolley will be discontinued due to low ridership. The CAC members will ask Nadine Bangerter at the next CAC meeting if she would be able to attend a Public meeting that DELDOT routinely schedules to obtain further information regarding this issue.

Action: The CAC will make a recommendation to Council for a Green Energy purchase for 2013 by September/October 2012.

5. COMMUNITY HABITAT

Ms. Smith reported she was unable to attend the second of three Delaware Nature Society meeting regarding rain gardens. They have a deadline approaching for grant money for a certain number of rain gardens and were looking for a potential demo site for rain gardens as well. Mr. McDowell reported that Greg Gagliano of Delaware Nature Society will be visiting Newark High School on May 8th to speak to interested students/teachers on the benefits of rain gardens.

Action: Mr. McDowell will be attending AG Day on April 28, 2012 where he will distribute information on rain gardens.

6. ANTI-IDLING GRANTS

Ms. Riggs reported work continued on the finalization of the anti-idling video and the anti-idling brochure was completed and ready to be printed. Dana Johnston, Public Affairs Officer has offered to print the brochures in color for Ms. Riggs.

Ms. Sheedy reported she had spoken with Chris Locke, a local developer and received support for the installation of anti-idling signs on his properties. In addition, Mr. Locke volunteered to speak to the owners of the Newark Shopping Center and the Park and Shop Center on the CAC's behalf about the installation of signs on their properties as well. In addition, Ms. Sheedy contacted UDEL and they agreed to run public service announcements for anti-idling.

Ms. Smith suggested contacting the Newark Public Library to see if anti-idling brochures may be placed on their information table. Ms. Sheedy believed a total of 36 signs were needed for the shopping centers located within the City limits. Additional signs were needed for the remaining commercial properties, which would bring the total close to 100 signs. Ms. Riggs will bring a preliminary sign she had made and bring it to the next meeting if available.

Action: Ms. Riggs will continue working with Tom Zaleski in Parks & Recreation

regarding the installation of the anti-idling signs. She will also contact Dana Johnston, to coordinate the kickoff for the anti-idling campaign.

7. RECYCLING

Mr. Dentel had nothing to report at this time.

Action: Mr. Dentel will contact Dana Johnston to inquire about putting recycling information on the City's website.

8. BETTER NEWARK AWARD

Mr. Dentel suggested the CAC look for new properties for a spring/summer award.

9. PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

There was nothing to report at this time.

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Spadafino reported Newark Night will be Saturday, June 2nd from 12 noon – 5 PM and will be referred to "Newark Day."
- Mr. Dentel will contact Mr. Fruehstorfer regarding the 2011 Annual Report.
- Mr. Spadafino stated Community Cleanup was scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2012 at 9 AM. He asked that volunteers arrive by 8:30 AM.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the City Manager's Conference Room.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:44 PM

Tara A. Schiano
Secretary

/tas