

Attachment 2

AGENDA
Croton Facility Monitoring Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 15, 2007 – 7:00 PM
DEP Community Office–3660 Jerome Avenue
Bronx NY 10467 (718)231-8470

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| I. Welcome | Greg Faulkner |
| II. Comments from the Public – Sign up to Speak | 3 Minute Maximum - 30 Minutes. |
| III. Review, Consider, Adopt Minutes from 1-18-07 CFMC Meeting | CFMC Principals |
| IV. DEP/DOHMH Educational Initiative to Reduce Asthma Triggers in Residences | Daniel Kass, Environmental Public Health Director, DOHMH |
| V. DEP Report on Jobs & Training | Anne Canty, Deputy Commissioner & Rich Friedman, Esq., DEP |
| VI. CFMC Discussion about Hiring, Training Process and Set Next CFMC Meeting | Greg Faulkner & CFMC Principals |
| VII. Adjourn | |

**NYC DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
CROTON FACILITY MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007 – 7:00PM

The February meeting of the Croton Facility Monitoring Committee was held on February 15, 2007 at NYCDEP's community office, 3660 Jerome Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467. Those attending: CFMC representatives, staff from DEP, its construction manager and members of the public, are on the attached sheet. (*Attachment 1*)

The meeting began at approximately 7:15 PM; an agenda (*Attachment 2*), which had been previously circulated to the CFMC, was available.

Welcome

Greg Faulkner, Chair of Community Board #7 and of the CFMC, called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Public Session

Mr. Faulkner recognized Anne Marie Garti, Jerome Park Conservancy, who expressed appreciation for a discussion between DEP and the Conservancy held earlier today, regarding the importance of and possible design configuration for the running track at Jerome Park. She said that it had been a useful meeting and that all had agreed that discussions would continue. In the meantime, she said, the Dept of Parks and Recreation will conduct a scoping meeting for the track on Thursday, February 22. She invited all who are interested to attend. [Note: the scoping meeting was postponed to March 23rd.]

Abby Bellows, NWBCCC, expressed appreciation to DEP for funding a current total of 66 job training positions through Project HIRE. She called upon DEP to increase the number to a total of 120 positions for those primarily living near the Croton Filter Plant. She said that it shouldn't be solely DEP's responsibility to educate and train Bronx residents. Worker education positions should also be sufficiently funded to meet the borough's needs by the NYS Dept of Education, NYS Legislature and NYC Council. Ms. Bellows said that NWBCCC has heard that Project HIRE classes will be for 12 weeks instead of 20 weeks and, if the classes will operate for a shorter period, the DEP should fund stipends for all who attend. She asked DEP to clarify why a phone number for OAI on the letter sent to job applicants was incorrect. In response to her question, Richard Friedman, DEP, said the phone number had been incorrectly given to DEP by OAI and has subsequently been corrected on material sent to job applicants. Ms. Bellows distributed a handout about the Consortium for Workers Education (www.cwe.org), explaining that CWE provides pre-apprenticeship training for a variety of industries, including mechanics and building trades. Ms. Bellows encouraged DEP to investigate this organization as a potential DEP funded provider, and also said that DEP should refer qualified applicants directly to the organization. Ms. Bellows said she had consulted with John McDermott and Elizabeth Crowley from CWE to obtain the information.

Michael Leonard, NWBCCC, said he appreciates and supports open forums like this one. He is an advocate for POTS (part of the solution) thinking. Mr. Leonard said he lives and works with people who are collecting welfare. He said they are often in a revolving door situation as, once they've been hired, if cutbacks are needed the last hired are the first fired. He said he holds a seat on NWBCCC, too. He believes that sustainable employment programs, such as are being offered to residents near the Croton Filter Project, are most beneficial and justifiable because the facility will be in residents' back yards. The jobs program will reflect well on the project, Mr. Leonard added. Mr. Faulkner asked whether any of Mr. Leonard's clients have signed up for Croton jobs training. Mr. Leonard said that this issue must be approached very cautiously because welfare clients can not violate the welfare laws, but instead must be exposed to opportunities.

Chairman Faulkner thanked the speakers.

Adoption of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Faulkner asked the principals if they would adopt the CFMC minutes of January 18, 2007. Upon motion by Joe Gordon, representing Council Member Oliver Koppell, seconded by Laura Stockstill, representing Borough President Adolfo Carrion, the CFMC approved the minutes.

Dept of Health/Mental Health Program to Reduce Triggers to Asthma

Mr. Faulkner asked Daniel Kass, Assistant Commissioner, DOHMH to tell the CFMC about the program being offered in the community as a result of DEP Croton Filter Project funding.

Mr. Kass said that the areas near Van Cortlandt/Jerome Parks have been found to have a relatively high level of mice, rats, and cockroaches, in particular near the Jerome Park Reservoir. Although all of NYC contains these pests, this area will benefit from a DOHMH program to help educate residents about ways to prevent some of the triggers that can lead to asthma. Mr. Kass said that it is preferable to prevent, rather than respond, to these problems. In this newly begun program, over a three year period, DOHMH will look at all properties to identify problem areas for pests on a block by block basis and remediate them. Inspectors are being assigned to perform rodent indexing. Literature and training to prevent rodents and pests will be given to property owners and managers and to residents. An educator will be hired to speak with residents and property managers. (S)he will work with families and assist with educational forums. Additional trash cans to keep garbage contained will be purchased and distributed in stages, building on the garbage can giveaway during 2005. A local community organization will receive a contract to organize the public forums, to let people know there are ways to help prevent conditions that can be triggers to asthma.

In addition, DOHMH will lead by example. Mr. Kass said that there will be Integrated Pest Management lessons that will teach 600 families how to use safe pesticides and employ good cleaning practices. Similar programs have been developed and

implemented to great success in Hunts Point and Harlem. Soon DOHMH will also institute a similar program in central Brooklyn.

Finally, Mr. Kass said, in certain NYCHA buildings the use of exterior compactors for improved litter control has resulted in a cleaner environment. Once filled, these containers are removed and a new empty container is substituted. DOHMH plans to bring such compactors to certain area NYCHA buildings.

Mr. Kass distributed several handouts, including “How to Control Pests Safely”, and Community Health Profiles for Fordham and Bronx Park and for Kingsbridge and Riverdale. These are examples of material available from DOHMH and at DOHMH’s web page that examine preventable causes of illness and death in 42 neighborhoods.

Carmen Rosa, Community Board #12, asked for a handout specific to the Wakefield community. Mr. Kass explained that the 42 neighborhoods do not follow the community districts. He will provide information closest to the CB #12 area. Mr. Gordon said that there is a rat problem caused by NYCHA litter at the Marble Hill Houses, 330th Street and Broadway. Mr. Kass said he would look into the matter.

DEP Report on Jobs & Training

Deputy Commissioner Anne Canty said that DEP wants to provide useful job training for residents in the Bronx. She reiterated that 66 slots at Project HIRE have been funded. She said that through City Tech/Carpenters Union, DEP will fund a program for 25 trainees, leading to apprenticeships. In the future, another class may be established through a different job training organization, and Ms. Canty thanked Ms. Bellows for information about CWE. She said that she and Mr. McDermott are well acquainted. Ms. Canty said that the first GED class will begin on February 21st. DEP has determined that stipends cannot be supported for students in pre-apprenticeship training programs, and all the DEP funding will go for training (although as previously agreed, students at Project HIRE will receive lunch and farecards for travel). Ms. Canty distributed a draft that describes reporting categories DEP could regularly update once new construction contracts are awarded and new work begins. She asked the CFMC to provide input.

In response to a question about whether additional outreach will be conducted to find new candidates for job training and GED, Ms. Canty said that at present DEP has a sufficient number of applications to work with. Current applicants are being directed to training and educational interviews now, and this list must first be exhausted. Ms. Canty said that DEP doesn’t want to add more outreach that produces a response that could overwhelm the training slots that are available, resulting in disappointment. As the programs proceed, DEP along with elected officials and the CFMC, will review the programs’ success rate and make decisions about going forward.

Richard Friedman added that 320 union members who applied to DEP for a job at Croton, have not responded to DEP letters asking if they are still interested in referrals for jobs at Croton or on other projects. DEP is trying to locate these people, who may have moved, found other employment, or decided they are no longer interested. For the GED

class, DEP and Bronx Community College identified 38 candidates eligible for the class. However, only 18 followed through by coming for orientation. Of the 45 candidates who are eligible for Project HIRE's first class, only twelve came for interview and testing. Ms. Stockstill and others said they hoped a greater effort would be made to work with applicants and see that they take the classes.

Mr. Friedman said that through December 2006, the latest month for which statistics are available, \$26 million was spent by the contractor and construction manager on Bronx goods and services. For December 2006, 30% of the contractor's workforce was comprised of Bronx residents. Mr. Friedman said in November 2006 there were 29% of local workers on the job.

Mr. Faulkner said that DEP is moving in the right direction. He added that jobs not only provide economic stability, but also increase self esteem. Ms. Rosa asked about the age range for GED participation. Mr. Friedman and Robert Barnes, DEP, said there is no age limit. However, Mr. Barnes said, most of the applicants on file at DEP are between the age of 18 – 41. Ms. Stockstill inquired about how the outreach plans required by the new contracts at Croton will work. Mr. Friedman said that winning bidders who will provide construction services at Croton in the 312 contracts are required to submit outreach plans for DEP's review, showing how the contractors will perform Bronx outreach. Ms. Stockstill asked when the new contracts will begin; Mr. Friedman said that it should be soon.

Mr. Faulkner suggested that the CFMC skip its March meeting. Instead, for those CFMC principals who haven't toured the site, he proposed doing so in March. Margot Perrin, Van Cortlandt Park Administrator, representing Hector Aponte, agreed. Mr. Faulkner asked that Martha Holstein coordinate dates for a March CFMC site visit. Mr. Faulkner then asked if the CFMC agreed to defer its next meeting to the third Thursday in April or such future date as is appropriate. The CFMC principals agreed.

Mr. Faulkner said he appreciates all that DEP has done. He said there have been some battles over the past couple of years, but they were healthy ones.

There was a motion to adjourn by Mr. Gordon which was endorsed by all. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 PM.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization / Company</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
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Michael Strong	StrongHand H.I./Strong Families, Inc.	1458 Webster Avenue Bronx NY	(718) 415-3863		strongchange@yahoo.com
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Michael Leonard	NWBCCC	2674 Valentine Avenue Bronx NY	(718)775-5333		michael.leonard@
Daniel Kass	AsstCommEnv.Surveill&P olicy,DOHMH	253 Broadway CN-34C New York NY 10007	(212) 788-1219	(212) 442-2642	dkass@health.nyc.gov
Margot Perron	NYC Dept of Parks & Recreation	1 Bronx River Parkway Bronx NY	(718) 430-1890	(718) 430-1818	margot.perron@parks.gov
Elizabeth Hulette	Bronx Beat		(609) 439-1987		esh2115@columbia.edu
Carmen Rosa	District Manager Community Board #12	4101 White Plains Road Bronx NY 10466	(718) 881-4455	(718) 231-0635	cb12@optonline.net
Anne Marie Garti	Jerome Park Conservancy	3965 Sedgwick Avenue Bronx NY	(718) 601-1388 (718) 884-7864		annemarie@att.net
Martha Holstein	Strategic Urban Solutions, Inc.	335 Adams Street Brooklyn, NY 11201	(718) 625-1005 x. 223	(718) 625-1032	mholstein@urbansol.com
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Robert Barnes	DEP Community Outreach Office - Croton	3660 Jerome Avenue Bronx, NY 10467	(718) 231-8470	(718) 231-8857	robertbar@dep.nyc.gov
Laura Stockstill	Office of Bronx Borough President Carrion	198 East 161st Street Bronx, NY 10451	(718) 590-3881		lstockstill@bronxbp.nyc.gov
Arne Fareth	DEP - BEDC	96-05 Horace Harding Exp. Flushing, NY 11373	(718) 595-6189		arnef@dep.nyc.gov
Josh Payne	The Riverdale Press	6155 Broadway Bronx NY	(718) 543-6065		jpayne@riverdalepress.com
Joe Gordon	Office of Council Member Koppell	3636 Waldo Avenue Bronx NY 10463	(718) 549-5250	(718) 549-9945	m11gordo@council.nyc.ny.us
Abraham Boden*	Did not sign attendance sheet				

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