

## Minutes of EJAB

Meeting Date: May 6, 2008

**Call to order:** The quarterly meeting of the Environmental Justice Advisory Board was held in the Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St, Room 105, Harrisburg, PA.

The meeting convened at 8:35 am, Arthur Frank presiding.

**Members in attendance:**

Erlinda Aguiar	Mark White
Rocky Brown	Arthur Frank
Ayanna King	Ann Morrison
Patrick O'Neill	Mary Vuccola
Robbie Ali	Hazem Hijazi
Eli Brill	Laureen Boles

**Members absent (excused):**

Monica Fisher	KV Singh
Michael Walker	C Nolan Howell
Luvennise Gamble	Clea Hollis
Mario Browne	

**Members absent (unexcused):**

Jerry Balter	Rocky Boone
--------------	-------------

**Non-members:**

Marylou Barton	Holly Cairns
Nora Carreras	Janis Dean
Doan Barefield	Christina Simeone
Alice Wright	John Krueger

### Welcome and Introductions

Arthur Frank, Chair asked everyone to introduce themselves.

### Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Reverend Brown to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2008 meeting.
- Seconded by: Mary Vuccola
  - Laureen Boles and Hazem Hijazi abstained
  - Motion carried

### OEA Staff Reports

Arthur Frank asked for a brief summary of the OEA Staff reports. There was no additional discussion from staff regarding their reports.

## Public Comment Period

Arthur Frank asked if there was anyone here for the public comment period. No one was present.

## Environmental Justice Proposal Discussion

Ayanna King along with Christine Simeone, from the Policy Office started the discussion on the environmental justice proposal which Secretary McGinty proposed to the Environmental Justice Advisory Board. How to *establish a legally and viable definition of an Environmental Justice community?* Office of Environmental Advocate and the Environmental Justice Advisory Board is challenged with developing a legal definition with insufficient data. It was suggested that the Board write a letter to Secretary McGinty regarding their concerns about some of the challenges of incorporating environmental justice into the regulation packages due to the lack of resources of information.

- Mark White made a motion to adopt the current language
- Seconded by : Ann Morrison
- All in favor: motion carried

## Conference Planning – Partnership

Ayanna King asked Nora Carreras to report on the Conference Logo contest. Nora mentioned that there were 28 submissions from middle and high school students; she gave a slide show presentation of the logos. The schools were located in Harrisburg, Allentown, and Lancaster. There will be three judges to select the winner for the conference logo based on the guidelines and scoring. Dr. Frank mentioned that a montage of the submissions should be displayed at the conference. He also encouraged the Ms. King to contact Don Brown to request that PA Environmental Resource Consortium's (PERC) universities collaborate and provide resources and workshops to compliment the need of the environmental justice communities.

Ms. King went through the timetable for conference planning. She asked the Board to submit their potential conference attendees contact information to be added to the database. All Committees were appointed, Site Committee search is completed, Fundraising Committee have received their tasks and currently working on them, logo contest is completed, Advertisement Committee met and one EJAB member suggested an idea for a commercial/ billboard.

- A motion was made by Reverend Brown for the Advertisement Committee to work on the following due to budget constraints and time, a tri-fold brochure and a single page conference announcement only (no commercials or billboards)
- Seconded by: Mark White
- All in favor: motion carried

## Conference Committee Breakout Sessions

Arthur Frank dismissed the members to their breakout rooms and asked them to report back in an hour and a half for reporting.

### **Fundraising Committee Report:**

- Contacted several groups / foundations
- \$15,000 committed from DEP
- Joe Powers, Executive Deputy Secretary, Ms. King and Dr. Frank will meet with sister agencies to raise additional funds. Dr. Mark White will attend DOH meeting.
- Will offer a table space to any state agency that sponsors the conference

### **Advertisement Committee Report:**

- worked on the layout for the *save the date post card* and *brochure*

### **Logistics & Conference Material Committee Report:**

- A \$1,000 donation to get name on the banner
- All sponsor names will be printed in the program booklet
- Speakers bio's and Presentations must be submitted at least two weeks prior to conference
- A database will be created from registration forms to address special needs
- Request speakers to have their own replacement in case of emergency
  - Have a EJ presentation as a last resort if speaker and proxy can't make it

### **Programming Committee Report:**

- Sunday evening: Opening plenary and network reception
- Monday: breakfast; training sessions as a group, breakout sessions, lunch, and afternoon breakout session
- Tuesday: breakfast; session on how to make it happen; workshop to work on specific problems; then a wrap up

## New/Unfinished Business, Questions, and Comment Period

The next meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2008, will need Committee updates and reports prior to meeting.

Just recently some have been reappointed to the Board, Jerry Balter a long standing member will not be returning. The Board has valued his commitment and service.

- Motion to adjourn meeting by: Rocky Brown
- Seconded by: Mary Vuccola
- All in favor: motion carried

Adjourned at 3:07 pm