



Community Advisory Panel

MINUTES

January 10, 2008

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Dofasco – First Floor, Conference Room E

Present: Jessica Aird, Martha Allan, David Ash, Tina Brajic, Dwayne Alexander Brown, Mike Brown, Kamila Doon, Gord Gilmet, Debbie Levo, Karen Logan, Lorna Moreau, Brian Montgomery, Thom Ooman, Andy Sebestyen, Shaun Selway, Kelly Shea, Pat Thiessen, Brian Young

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Review Past Minutes:

There were no changes to the minutes. Pat proposed, Debbie seconded. They are posted on the website.

3. Columbian Chemicals Presentation: Brian Young

Brian's presentation started with a description of what carbon black is and how it is used as well as where Columbian Chemicals fits in the world market and their plans for the future. He showed a presentation that included a short animated film describing the production process for carbon black. Columbian Chemicals produces approximately 10% of the world supply of carbon black in their 13 facilities throughout the world. The Columbian Chemicals Hamilton plant opened in 1963. Since 1995 they have undertaken a number of projects to renew the plant including: replacing vapour bag collectors, installing vent collectors, installing a central vacuum system, paving all roads and parking lots, purchasing a road sweeper etc. A reportable environmental release is described as something you can see. The success of their improvements is shown in the number of reportable releases they have reported to the ministry. In 1994 Columbian Chemicals had 246 reportable releases, in 2000 they had 21 and in 2007 they had only 5 reportable releases to the ministry. Brian indicated that although they have made a number of improvements they are committed to continuing to upgrade and improve their systems. He distributed copies of their most recent community newsletter and also indicated that Columbian Chemicals would be hosting an open house sometime this summer. This presentation provided everyone with a clear understanding of how Columbian Chemicals fits in the community.

4. Anti Idling presentation – Thom Ooman (Air Quality Coordinator for Green Venture)

Thom began his presentation with a quiz about idling to dispel the myths about it and to help everyone realize that idling is not necessary. Vehicle emissions produce greenhouse gases – carbon dioxide. The fuel efficiency of vehicles is also an important factor in the amount of carbon dioxide it produces. There are a number of reasons why we should reduce our vehicle emissions including – reducing smog and improving air quality, oil is non-renewable and to address health concerns. The city has brought in an anti-idling by-law, which will be in effect this year. There has been a lot of

discussion about how this will work since the city does not have an enforcement system in place yet. Green Venture receives funding from the city to provide education and awareness to people in the community. Right now, Thom and his volunteers have been focusing on schools, speaking one on one with people who are waiting to pick up their children. If they see someone idling their car they offer information, remind them about the by-law and ask that the person shut off the car. Thom indicated that they have a 5 step action plan they use to promote the by-law: 1) reduce warm up idling, 2) turn off your engine, 3) don't use your car remote starter, 4) consider a block heater, 5) talk to your family and friends. Green Venture has produced stickers and signs promoting anti-idling that are available by contacting Thom at air@greenventure.ca. The city staff may decide to use the graphics designed by Green Venture and produce permanent signage in the city about the by-law. Thom encouraged everyone to stop idling wherever possible and to help spread the word.

5. New members

The committee and board of directors are committed to increasing HIEA membership and would also like to see CAP increase their numbers. There was a brief discussion about the various ways this could be done including: increased visibility – at displays etc., the HIEA “roadshow” and direct communications with friends and neighbours. Everyone was encouraged to think about how this could be done and bring ideas back to the next meeting. Lorna suggested that the newsletter looked too professional and discouraged her from becoming involved – it looked like it was not meant for the community. She did like the Columbian Chemical newsletter – it has a friendlier more community look.

6. Roundtable

Andy Sebestyen provided some information on an incident that had taken place over the weekend. There had been a failure in one of the skip cars to the blast furnace. This caused a blockage and build up of pressure resulting in a large one-time emission. The situation has been corrected.

Mike Brown indicated that ArcelorMittal has been dealing with a number of odour issues recently. This is a problem with the #1 CPCM rolling oil. They have been looking at alternative oils and have hired a consultant to do an odour study to help correct the problem. There was some discussion about community unrest with the company – it is no longer Dofasco – and everyone is worried that the new owners were neglecting the property. Mike explained that there were difficulties with the takeover and there was a time of uncertainty as to who should be doing what. That has now been resolved and the new owners are looking forward to making a number of steelmaking improvements.

Dwayne suggested that there is a group promoting Light Rapid Transit in the community that would like to give a presentation. We will look at when this might be scheduled.

7. Next Meeting

Date: Thursday February 14, 2008

Place: Dofasco first floor conference room E

Possible Topics:

- Presentation by ArcelorMittal Dofasco
- City of Hamilton Spill Response Process (TBA)
- Roundtable