



Community Advisory Panel

**MINUTES**

September 11, 2008

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Dofasco – First Floor, Conference Room E

**Present:** Jessica Aird, Martha Allan, Dwayne Alexander Brown, Mark Dunn, Serban Iliuta, Henri Kori, Debbie Levo, Bob Levo, Karen Logan, Lorna Moreau, Deborah and Joan, Francois Raymond, Andy Sebestyen, Sapphire Singh, Jim Stirling, Pat Thiessen, Stephen Toplak, Brian Young.

**1. Welcome and introductions**

**2. Presentation by Sapphire Singh – Green Venture – Organic Gardening 101**

Sapphire gave a presentation that provided useful step-by-step tips on preparing our lawns and gardens for the winter. She discussed a number of programs offered by Green Venture including information on city by-law for pesticide use and native tree and shrub program.

**3. Bitumar – Serban Iliuta**

Serban provided an overview of Bitumar including a history of the company and description of their process.

Founded in 1977, Bitumar Inc. is a privately owned company specializing in the production of liquid bitumen used in asphalt blends for road paving as well as for the roofing industry. Bitumar owns and operates two plants in Montreal, Qc. The company also owns plants in Baltimore, MD, through its affiliate Bitumar U.S.A. and in Hamilton, ON, through its affiliate Bitumar (Hamilton) Inc. Radiating from these 3 centers of production, the company offers many different modified asphalt grades for paving as well as for roofing, covering eastern Canada and the North East, Mid-West and Mid-Atlantic coast in the United States. Bitumar has now more than 100 permanent employees including engineers, chemists as well as process operation technicians. Company Management is built around individuals with a long and varied experience both in the process industry and in the asphalt business.

**4. Discussion re special projects committee**

A number of CAP members attended the Bunge open house in May and a discussion developed around ways to increase membership. It was felt that we needed a special project – something that would provide higher visibility for the group and would also give people a reason to become involved. Martha requested that the CAP members get together for a special meeting to discuss opportunities and ideas – to develop a project that would be visible – get attention and be fun. One suggestion was a community garden but there were concerns about getting funding and commitment from the members. The HIEA technical committee accepts applications for sponsorship of projects so there could be financial support available from HIEA.

Lorna suggested that if we only had one presentation for CAP it would give more time for these discussions. Debbie suggested the meeting should be on a different night to be more helpful giving more chance for discussion - it could also help us get other ideas for our regular meetings. This meeting would be for CAP only – there would be no company representatives but they did request that Karen attend to coordinate the meeting. Dofasco would provide the room – possible Monday September 29 at 7:00. Karen to confirm the date.

Brian invited everyone to the Columbian Open House on Saturday.

Dwayne discussed a project he is involved in - 1st Annual Fix Our World Festival that has been organized by Linda Lannigan. The event takes place on Sept 27<sup>th</sup> at Gage Park from noon until 10:00 p.m. They are bringing together organizations, groups, clubs, youth social justice groups, bands, entertainment etc. to educate motivate and mobilize our community in the areas of Peace/Conflict, Poverty, HIV/AIDS/Global Health and Environment/Climate Change, both locally and globally. Dwayne will be in the cycling booth and invited everyone to come out and join the fun.

Andy indicated that the Green Hamilton Committee would be meeting soon to look at planting sites. He is also arranging a tour of U. S. Steel for the CAP members to show what the company has been doing to make improvements. It could be done in place of the regular meeting but he will let everyone know shortly.

Debbie reported that Lorna, Dwayne and herself were given a tour of HAMN and asked that we get Neil to give a presentation to the CAP group on the process and the real time data on line. They suggested that there is a possibility that a monitoring station could be put in St. Christopher's Park. Lorna felt the Neil made the computer system very easy to understand. She was most impressed with Rotek, the independent company hired by HAMN to maintain the system. 20 companies are part of HAMN and all share in the expense to maintain and operate the system – it was suggested that any company on the NPRI list should be part of HAMN. They have a limited budget so they cannot increase the number of monitors but more monitors would give more accurate data. Companies use this data when they receive a complaint to check air emissions and wind direction. The system could be set up to run an alarm if there is a high level of any monitored parameter. Lorna understands that Councillor Merulla is opposed to the HAMN system and companies paying for their own monitoring.

There was a brief discussion about the CAP chair position and the length of term. This will be discussed at the special meeting. Karen will send out a reminder for the special meeting once the information is confirmed.

#### **5. Next Regular CAP Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday October 9, 2008

**Place:** TBA

*Reported by Karen Logan*