

**Community Advisory Group (CAG)
for the
Omaha Lead Site**

Minutes for Meeting Held
Wednesday, July 11, 2007, 9:30 a.m.
Omaha Police Department-Southeast Precinct
2475 Deer Park Blvd.
Omaha, NE 68105

OLS CAG Members Present:

Brenda Council—*OLS CAG Facilitator*
Todd Davis—*Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality*
Jonah Deppe—*League of Women Voters*
Connie Determan—*MFG, Inc.*
Kara Eastman—*Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance*
Bob Feild—*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*
Clifton Jones—*U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*
Arson Rayford—*Omaha Housing Authority*
Chris Rodgers—*Douglas County Board of Commissioners*
Marian Todd—*City of Omaha Planning Department*
Vernon Waldren—*University of Nebraska, Lincoln Extension*
Cheryl Weston—*Lead Safe Omaha Coalition*

Others Present:

Floyd Brown—*FD Associates*
Mary Castaneda—*EPA Information Offices*
Lorenzo Claxton—*Nebraska Department of Economic Development*
Lelia Coyne—*Citizen*
Felisa Dillon—*EPA Information Offices*
Nancy Gaarder—*Omaha World-Herald*
Tina Gray-Ventry—*Lead Safe Omaha Coalition*
Steve Jackson—*Nebraska Health and Human Services*
Tom Janssen—*Senator Chuck Hagel's Office*
Debbie Kring—*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*
Louise Latimer—*Senator Ben Nelson's Office*
Angel Martin—*Girls Inc of Omaha*
Lisa Monter—*MFG, Inc.*
Crystal Rhoades—*NCGO*
Steve Sanders—*U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*
Che Thompson—*Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance*
Laura Tiehon—*Marc Environmental Services*
Luke Walsh—*MFG, Inc.*
Rhonda Wesson—*FD Associates*

1. Discussion on Minutes from the June 13, 2007 Meeting

Ms. Council asked for any corrections or additions to the June CAG meeting minutes. Ms. Weston motioned to approve the June minutes as drafted. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. There were 7 votes to approve; 8 votes from CAG members are required.

Ms. Weston motioned at the end of the meeting to approve the June minutes as drafted. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (8-0).

2. EPA Update

Mr. Feild reported that there are three contractors (Prudent, Coastal, ECC) mobilized for soil removal. To date, 73 yards have been excavated by Prudent. In the last month 52 yards have been excavated by Coastal.

Mr. Feild reported that ECC, under U.S. Corps of Engineers, had mobilized people to the site, but not construction equipment.

Mr. Feild stated that 3,000 soil remediations have been completed since 1999. Mr. Feild stated that Black & Veatch has mobilized to the field office to continue soil sampling, assess lead-based paint, and to conduct the large park sampling.

Ms. Weston inquired if the contractors would be able to reach the 1,000 properties proposed for excavating, and would 1,000 properties be the maximum. Mr. Feild responded that 1,000 properties is EPA's goal. Each contractor can do up to 400 properties with 1,000 properties in the plan.

Mr. Feild reported that ECC just provided cost information and feels they are capable of completing 400 this year.

Ms. Weston asked when ECC will start excavating. Mr. Feild responded that ECC mobilized with funding from last year. EPA needs to get another Inter-Agency agreement in place with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Ms. Weston asked if the paint stabilization is being implemented through the City of Omaha and what about the dust. Mr. Feild responded that the dust remediation was through the City of Omaha as well. Ms. Weston asked if Black & Veatch had started sampling. Mr. Feild replied that Black & Veatch had started soil sampling. Ms. Weston asked if Black & Veatch used the same subcontractors. Mr. Feild replied that Black & Veatch was using the same subcontractors as were used for the paint assessments. Ms. Weston asked if Black & Veatch had the option to subcontract out or not. Mr. Feild was not aware of their subcontractors' status.

Ms. Deppe asked Mr. Feild to estimate how many properties need to be sampled. Ms. Council responded that the number of properties to be remediated was 5,600. Mr. Feild stated that 5,600 are eligible for remediation as identified by the Interim Record of

Decision. Ms. Council asked if EPA had access issues for the properties. Mr. Feild replied that 6,000 properties have access issues, either denied access or unsuccessful attempts to contact. Approximately 18% of the homes are eligible for remediation. Ms. Council asked if the access issues would affect reaching the 1,000 properties this year. Mr. Feild responded that they would complete 1,000 properties this year even with these access issues. Mr. Field added that EPA will run into issues with access next year.

Ms. Council inquired about an issue she had heard with Prudent not having enough trucks. Mr. Feild replied that he was not aware of any issues with Prudent. Ms. Council asked where the staging area is that Prudent is using. Mr. Feild responded that Prudent is at the Omaha Treatment Plant. Prudent is excavating at North and South Omaha properties. Prudent is entering into an agreement to use the staging area at 33rd and Pinkney Streets. Ms. Council replied that Prudent may want to notify the neighbors and neighborhood association. Mr. Feild stated that ECC is proposing to use a different staging area at 4119 N. 29th Street, and that they will be contacting neighborhood associations. Ms. Weston added that most of the traffic would be from Sprague Street towards Ames. Mr. Feild stated that EPA would provide opportunities for meeting with residents. He also stated that EPA will work with ECC in making contact with neighborhoods.

Ms. Thompson mentioned that there could be a concern with children walking to Druid Hill Elementary School. Mr. Feild replied that they cannot avoid pedestrian or children walk areas. Mr. Feild stated that they would gather input from neighborhood associations.

Ms. Weston informed the CAG that LSOC is meeting with neighborhood associations. Mr. Feild responded that EPA is working with Black & Veatch to identify how to compensate groups to assist with access. Mr. Feild mentioned that Black & Veatch may ask for proposals.

Ms. Council asked Ms. Weston if LSOC was assisting Prudent with the staging site or community awareness. Ms. Weston replied that LSOC was not a subcontractor and just referred individuals to Prudent to hire.

Ms. Deppe thanked Mr. Feild for providing the list of grants from EPA. Mr. Feild stated that almost \$2 million of funding has been provided to the Omaha area for health education.

Paint Stabilization Fact Sheet

Mr. Feild stated that because of the flooding in Southeast Kansas, the staff at ATSDR were called away and were not able to complete the Paint Stabilization Fact Sheet. Mr. Feild stated the Fact Sheet should be available before the next CAG meeting. Mr. Feild stated that the recontamination study is under development and that EPA would provide the study plan to the CAG.

Ms. Thompson asked a question regarding the EPA Community Involvement Handbook and if the affected community needed to be interviewed regarding their thoughts on EPA's remediation. Ms. Kring stated that interviews were conducted with the community over two years ago. Ms. Kring mentioned that the Community Involvement Plan was fluid and it needed to be updated. Ms. Thompson proposed doing community interviews to get feedback and asked where the community can fill in since EPA can only do so much. Ms. Kring stated that there is a population that EPA is not getting information from due to language barriers. Ms. Kring also stated that the Public Information Centers are staying busy. Ms. Kring asked everyone to email her with ideas of ways to communicate more effectively.

Ms. Deppe informed the CAG that Sisters Together conducted a survey in North Omaha. She mentioned that 527 people responded to the survey, with only 32 respondents saying that they knew anything about the Superfund site. Ms. Deppe added that 74 people had yards tested, with 55 responding that they knew the results of the test. Ms. Weston stated that maybe better terminology would help. Ms. Kring asked when the survey was conducted. Ms. Deppe responded that the survey was conducted about one year ago.

Mr. Rodgers asked Mr. Feild who he can talk to about the grant information provided by EPA. Mr. Feild responded that there was one person who put the grant table together. Mr. Feild would be able to give contacts for specific grants. Ms. Council asked what RGI meant that was listed on the table. Ms. Kring replied that RGI stood for Regional Geographic Initiative. Ms. Council asked about the Community Telecast Inc. grant. Ms. Eastman asked if there was a grant summary. Ms. Deppe said that Sisters Together may be able to present their findings at the next CAG. Ms. Weston responded the grant for the Community Telecast Inc. was completed in a year; it was for home evaluations with the information posted on an old website. Ms. Weston added that reports were filed with appropriate agencies (EPA).

Education Committee Update

Mr. Waldren stated that the committee was proposing to set up work groups. A matrix with this information will be provided in the next CAG package.

Mr. Waldren confirmed that the next Education Committee meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 7, 2007.

Ms. Deppe commented that the Comprehensive Plan for OHKA seemed separate from the Education Subcommittee. Ms. Eastman said the report for the Education Subcommittee should fall under OHKA updates. Ms. Council agreed.

OHKA Update

Ms. Eastman informed the group that OHKA submitted the HUD grant application for \$2 million. OHKA has over \$4 million in commitments as leverage. Ms. Council stated if the grant is approved, would that give OHKA \$6 million to work with. Ms. Eastman

confirmed that statement. Ms. Eastman stated that OHKA should find out in September or October if OHKA will receive the grant money.

Ms. Eastman stated that OHKA also applied for the Google grant which is part of the Building Bright Futures Initiative.

Ms. Eastman stated that OHKA was asked to be a guest writer in the Real Estate Magazine every other month.

Ms. Eastman informed the group that OHKA's first anniversary was on June 1st, and she is coordinating an activity with Ted and Wally's towards the end of July.

Ms. Eastman stated that OHKA was honored to take part in the Girl's Inc., Girls Take Charge program. Miss Angel informed the group that the girls had taken pictures in the community of houses with chipped paint and had researched lead poisoning. Over 250 kids took part in the Health Fair. Ms. Council asked if it was possible to get a copy of the workbook from Girl's Inc. Miss Angel informed the group that the girls identified the problem, decided how to address the problem, wrote about the lead process, sought funding, and gathered prizes. Miss Angel stated that six kids had their blood tested for lead and two of them tested high. Miss Thompson stated that there was not one media person at the Health Fair. Mr. Jones offered to post pictures from the Health Fair on the HUD website.

Ms. Council directed to Ms. Eastman the need to schedule the next Housing meeting. Ms. Eastman replied that she would email everyone by the end of the week when the next Housing meeting would take place.

LSOC Update

Ms. Weston stated that she had no updates at this time and echoed her support for Girl's Inc. on suggesting more students get involved in the CAG meetings.

City Update

HUD Lead Hazard Control Program. Ms. Todd stated that there are a total of 133 units in the program. Nineteen units are in the application process, 15 have been approved and are in the bidding process, 11 units have completed the bidding and are preparing grants, 38 units are ready for construction, and 51 units are completed. Ms. Weston asked what the target number of completed units is for this year. Ms. Todd responded that she did not have a number for this year but said a total of 210 would be completed by the end of the grant (2008). Ms. Deppe asked how many were completed with the previous grant. Ms. Todd responded that 300 units were completed. Ms. Deppe asked who is eligible for referral. Ms. Todd replied the units must have a child in the home to qualify.

Paint Stabilization Program. Ms. Deppe asked how many homes will be done. Ms. Todd responded that she did not have a firm number. Mr. Feild added that as many homes as possible would be done.

Ms. Todd stated that several contractors attended the Painters Training; 48 took training; 45 passed the test. Ms. Weston asked if those who did not pass would be able to retake the test. Ms. Todd responded that those people would be notified when they could take the class again. Ms. Weston stated she thought they should have the opportunity to pass the class. Ms. Todd stated she was looking into the County helping with that. Ms. Todd also stated she thought the language barrier might be a factor. She has talked with Chicano Awareness about the need to find some to train in Spanish. Ms. Weston suggested getting the test and the answers and maybe verbally asking the questions. Ms. Todd agreed to verbally test those unable to read well. Ms. Todd stated she would look into ways to do that.

Ms. Gaarder informed the group that they can email Veronica at the Omaha World Herald information and that they can contact Veronica anytime with stories such as Girls Inc.

NDEQ Update

Mr. Davis informed the group about an article linking lead and crime. Ms. Determan stated it would be included in the next CAG package.

Grants Update

Ms. Council stated the group had already heard from Ms. Todd regarding the HUD grant and from OHKA about the grant they have applied for. Ms. Todd stated the City of Omaha had also applied for a lead grant for \$2 million. Ms. Deppe submitted the Sisters Together report to Environmental Justice at EPA. Ms. Weston provided information on the LSOC Tag Grant. She stated there was no new information. Mr. Janssen, Senator Hagels office, stated for federal grants to let them know if we need a letter of support. An executive summary would be helpful and that Senator Hagel's office would be happy to help. Mr. Feild stated that approximately \$500,000 has been earmarked or awarded and is in the hands of the City of Omaha.

11. Other Agency Updates

No updates.

12. Questions and Answers

Ms. Council stated that the next CAG meeting will be held on August 8, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. The location is to be announced.

Handouts Provided for the Meeting (July 11, 2007):

Draft CAG Meeting Minutes from 6/13/07

Final CAG Meeting Minutes from 5/9/07

Notice of Availability of Final EPA Documents (Provided by MFG, Inc.)

Cooperation Needed to Get the Lead Out (Provided by MFG, Inc.)

EPA's Lead Cleanup Proves Very Effective (Provided by MFG, Inc.)

Google Grants (Provided by MFG, Inc.)

Toy Trains Derailed over Lead Fears (Provided by MFG, Inc.)

Salem Housing Authority Faces Over \$200,000 in Penalties (Provided by MFG, Inc.)

U.S. CPSC Recalls Due to Lead Poisoning Hazards (Provided by MFG, Inc.)

Attachments to Minutes:

Sign-In Sheet (hardcopy to be delivered)