



# Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

## MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, May 20, 2015

The meeting started at 8:10 AM and was held in Room 901 City Hall.

**Commissioners Attending:** J. Gardella, A. Robinson, J. Hackney

**Not Attending:** J. Bauda, C. Grieco, D. Hahn-Baker, F. Armento,

**Others Attending:** D. Sutton (COB support staff), S. Attridge (COB), F. Hasan (Terracycle), J. Ciminelli (Ciminelli Corp.), M. Romanowski (Harter, Secrest & Emery), C. Meadows (City Resident).

**Minutes** – March and April 2015 Minutes were tabled, there was no quorum.

### SEQRA/Sustainable Development

- M. Romanowski, and John Ciminelli were present to provide information on the Highland Park project status. It was indicated that the application to construct Phase I of the housing subdivision had been submitted to the Planning Board. The project will encompass 26-30 acres and is located along Chalmers near Fillmore and Main. The total build out will total 725 units of residential development and will be phased over 10 years.

The sewer and water supply aspects of the project were discussed and it was felt that the project would offer a good opportunity for improving and updating the area infrastructure, in cooperation with Public Works.

It was also mentioned that the project had been enrolled in the NYS Brownfield Cleanup Program and would receive a certificate of completion by year's end, allowing for tax incentives for the site remediation and development.

### Other

- Ms. Farhana Hasan was present to present information on the Terracycle recycling activities. The neighborhood program is active in the Broadway Fillmore area and has raised funds for art programs by recycling specific collected materials. The program pays non-for profit organizations 1 cent per item collected. The funding is provided through product manufacturers. Examples of items collected include, drink bags, cigarette butts, and plastic drinking cups. It was also mentioned that the program was a way to facilitate cultural change in thinking how recycling rates could be increased by using the program to educate the public about the benefits of recycling.

S. Attridge was present and expressed an interest in the Terracycle program. She thought the program could be worked through the Block Club Organization. A. Robinson concurred.

- C. Meadows was present to voice concerns about the cleanup and conditions at the 858 E. Ferry Street property. She was concerned about legacy lead contamination and a possible connection to potential health concerns. She was especially concerned about Lupus, an auto-immune disease.

Gardella offered comments regarding health risks, exposure pathways and his involvement in project activities during site remediation. There was a general discussion regarding health effects of lead and activities that took place during the 858 East Ferry remediation and redevelopment. The BEMC is to respond to Council Member Chris Scanlon regarding C. Meadows concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM.