



Buffalo Environmental Management Commission

MINUTES

Meeting of Wednesday, October 15, 2014

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

Commissioner Attending: J. Gardella, J. Hackney, D. Hahn-Baker, F. Armento, A. Robinson, C. Grieco

Not Attending: J. Bauda,

Others Attending: D. Sutton (COB support staff), Jeff Lehrbock (McGuire Development), Marc Romanowski (Harter Secrest & Emery), Channel 2 News.

Minutes – August & September 2014 Minutes were approved.

SEQRA/Sustainable Development

- F. Armento is to review the SEQRA material pertaining to the Gate Circle redevelopment and provide comments to J. Gardella for inclusion in his communication to the Planning Board, Common Council and the developer.
- Jeff Lehrback and Marc Romanowski were present to provide information on the Pilgrim Village residential/mixed use project. The project area is bounded by Ellicott Street, Michigan Street, North Street and Best Street. The site is 3 acres in area and in close proximity to the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. The project will be mixed use residential/retail community. The 182 apartment development will include low income to market rate housing and appeal to employees of the nearby medical center. Fifty four of the apartments will be Section 8 affordable housing units.

BEMC advised the developer of the importance of a green infrastructure approach, especially in light of the proposed parking incorporated into the project.

The BEMC was informed that a public meeting regarding the project was to be held on Friday October 17. D. Hahn-Baker advocated a greater public outreach effort and the importance of engaging the public early in the project in order to get community support and cooperation.

The developer hoped to present the project to the Planning Board by November 5th, 2014.

- J. Gardella to send email regarding BEMC's review of the Full Environmental Assessment Form for the 905 Elmwood project to N. Marrero.

Other

- J. Gardella has drafted a letter to Common Council in response to concerns raised in the August BEMC meeting regarding the SEQRA process. D. Sutton to hand deliver letter and supporting materials to Council President Pridgen and Councilmember Rivera's offices.
- Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM. Next scheduled meeting is to be November 19, 2014.