

MEETING NOTES

PASADENA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

www.pasadenacac.org

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Revive Church - The Center

The 304th meeting of the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at the Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. The meeting notes from November 28, 2023, were approved without change. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the agenda and meeting groundrules, which were accepted without change.

ATTENDEES *italicized*

PCAC Members

Andrew Aleman, City of Pasadena OEM
Jed Aplaca, City of Pasadena Parks and Rec.
Ruth Askine
Diane Barnes, CTHS
Hal Burke, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network
Raul Camarillo, Harris Co. Pct. 2
Emilio Carmona
Azell Carter, City of Pasadena OEM
Monica De La Portilla
Tammy De Los Santos, City of Pasadena Parks and Rec.
Tish Eubanks, City of Pasadena
Albert Gonzales
Rick Guerrero, Pasadena Economic Development Corp.
Mike Jackson
Luz Locke
Loretta McCarthy
Ellis Orozco
Ernesto Paredes
Margie Pena, Baker Ripley

Dominick Rezza
Christian Rocha, Chamber of Commerce
Giovanna Searcy
Richard Sims
Sue Sims
Joe Valdivia
Cristina Womack, Chamber of Commerce

Support

Diane Sheridan, Facilitator
Emily Morris, Facilitator-in-training

Observers or Resources

Chris Baecke, Harris Co. Pollution Control
Bianca Carrizal, office of Rep. Mary Ann Perez
John Collins
Brett Conaway, Harris County OHSEM
Brandy Deason, Air Alliance Houston

Ninfa Herrera
Holly Kurth, EHCMA
Shawn McNair, Crown Hill Cemetery
Kenya Melendez, office of Rep.
Mary Ann Perez
Virginia Pate
George Perrett
Sharlissa Truett-Willis, TCEQ
David Wade, HCOHSEM
Steve Zach, Pasadena Public Library

CAC Plant Members

Afton Chemical: Hari Sundaram, Maryam Shekari
Air Products: Brian Farhadi
BASF: Abe Ahmed rep by Darrin Cobb
Chevron Pasadena Refinery, Tifanie Steele, Joe Ebert, Jennifer Silva, Angela Fall, Steph Seewald
Chevron Phillips: Andy Woods
Enterprise Products: Karla Arriaga

Ethyl: Hari Sundaram, Maryam Shekari
Evonik: Nathan Boye
Gulf Coast Authority: Denise Ehrlich
INEOS Phenol: Mike Meyer
Intercontinental Terminals Co.: Robert Surguy rep by Carlos Gracia
Kinder Morgan Pasadena Terminal: Robert Hammons, Scott Eady
Ketjen (was Albemarle): Lisa Fruge rep by Kevin Paul
KM Export Terminal: Mike Dugger rep by Scott Eady
LyondellBasell Refinery: Clint Titzman, Lauren Gonzales
Next Wave Energy: Shane Presley rep by David Muscat
OxyChem: Eric Delgado
Sekisui: Jeff Thompson, Jenna Timtiman

PCAC at Age 33 and How to Improve

Presentation posted at www.pasadenacac.org

Diane Sheridan, PCAC Facilitator, provided history of the organization and its relationship as a group that promotes dialog among 18 plants in Pasadena and the surrounding community. A steering committee of plant and community members met in 1990 to draft a mission and groundrules, choose the initial membership, and select the name "Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council." PCAC held its first meeting in January 1991. Sheridan has facilitated since the steering committee days. Groundrules call for the community membership of the group is to reflect the diversity of the community in many ways. Sheridan explained that meetings are designed to share information about plant-related issues or related topics and give community members an opportunity to ask questions and express concerns. Sheridan presented key elements of the groundrules. Adopted in 1991, the groundrules were revised in 2011-2012, and Sheridan said it's time to review the groundrules again. Sheridan provided worksheets to get input from each community and plant attendee about what they liked about PCAC, what they didn't like, and their suggestions for improvement. In addition to this evaluation, attendees were asked to list 10 ways PCAC could increase its membership and visibility and how to get started doing so. Copies of the responses have been posted on the Members Page of www.pasadenacac.org.

Absent community members were given a chance to submit their suggestions.

Q: Is there a cap on the number of community members that PCAC is allowed to have?

A: No. Groundrules say that PCAC should have more community members than plant members, and that takes work to do. We need to increase the numbers and also fill in gaps; e.g. we need more educators.

The evaluation form asked participants to rate PCAC. Ratings follow:

Ratings	Community Reps	Plant Reps
Super	6	3
Good	6	14
OK	1	0
Forget it	0	0

HOST PLANT INTRO: Gulf Coast Authority

Slide about Gulf Coast Authority posted at www.pasadenacac.org

Denise Ehrlich, Facility Manager for Gulf Coast Authority (GCA), provided an overview of the organization and its Washburn Tunnel Facility, which is a regional, industrial-wastewater treatment center created by the State Legislature in 1969. GCA accepts wastewater from the City of Pasadena and various industries along the Houston Ship Channel and treats it to a quality suitable for discharge into the Ship Channel. They protect the waters of the state of Texas through environmentally sound, economically feasible, and technologically advanced wastewater and water management practices.

Q: How many total facilities does GCA treat?

A: We treat wastewater from 10 industrial facilities and the City of Pasadena. We process about 13 million gallons of wastewater per day, but we have a capacity of 45 million gallons per day.

Q: What happens to the solids from the treatment process?

A: The solids separated from the wastewater are put through a press to squeeze out all the water, and the solids are sent to a landfill. About 20% to 22% of the waste goes to a landfill in the form of solids.

UPDATES

History of 2023 Activities

The facilitator keeps a history of PCAC meetings, listing the main topic, host plant, and major internal decisions from each meeting. Each January, she sends the history for the prior year to members, who are welcome to share it with others. The 2023 version will be sent to the full PCAC mailing list with the notice of the next meeting.

Diane Sheridan to Retire

Diane Sheridan announced that she will officially step down as PCAC Facilitator at the end of 2024 and is in the process of training PCAC Secretary Emily Morris to take her place as facilitator.

Proposal from EHCMA to Assist CACs with Outreach

Holly Kurth, Communications Director for East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA) presented ideas on how EHCMA would like to assist the 9 east Harris County citizens’ advisory panels like PCAC to enhance membership. Kurth explained that EHCMA conducted surveys in the communities of each CAP, CAC, and CIP to find out strategies that would encourage more community membership. From the surveys, EHCMA developed strategies unique to each organization that are being presented to each group. Whether to adopt the proposal is the decision of the membership of the organization.

For PCAC, EHCMA suggested that they create a static Facebook page that would promote the CAC’s monthly meetings but would not allow comments. It would not reveal the meeting location so that visitors to the PCAC Facebook page would be required to reach out to the facilitator or secretary to RSVP. Asked whether they gave the concept a thumbs up, thumbs down, or not sure, attendees indicated interest in developing a more detailed proposal. Sheridan provided a worksheet for each community and plant attendee to indicate what they liked, had concerns about, or needed to know more about regarding EHCMA’s Facebook page proposal before making a decision. Discussion indicated that a sample page is needed in order to make a decision. Copies of the worksheet input have been posted on the Members Page of www.pasadenacac.org.

Plant Updates

The Plant Update Summary was mailed to attendees shortly before the meeting and mailed to all members the day afterward. Direct questions to Diane Sheridan facilitator, dbsfacilitator@gmail.com, 281-326-5253.

In a Nutshell:

- Updates were received from 18 of 18 plants
- **1** had a reportable environmental incident; 1 incident was being investigated
- **2** had 1 OSHA recordable injury each
- **15** had neither environmental nor safety incidents

16 plants had no environmental incidents:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Afton Chemicals | 7. Evonik | Terminal |
| 2. Air Products | 8. Gulf Coast Authority | 13. Kinder Morgan Pasadena |
| 3. BASF | 9. INEOS Phenol | Terminal |
| 4. Chevron Phillips | 10. Intercontinental Terminals | 14. Next Wave Energy Partners |
| 5. Enterprise Products | 11. Ketjen (was Albemarle) | 15. OxyChem |
| 6. Ethyl | 12. Kinder Morgan Export | 16. Sekisui |

16 plants had no safety incidents:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Afton Chemicals | 7. Evonik | Terminal |
| 2. Air Products | 8. Gulf Coast Authority | 13. LyondellBasell Houston |
| 3. BASF | 9. INEOS Phenol | Refinery |
| 4. Chevron Phillips | 10. Intercontinental Terminals | 14. Next Wave Energy Partners |
| 5. Enterprise Products | 11. Ketjen (was Albemarle) | 15. OxyChem |
| 6. Ethyl | 12. Kinder Morgan Export | 16. Sekisui |

The facilitator scrolled through the Update Summary at the meeting. Plants with environmental or safety incidents reported on their events. Questions were asked about two of the events:

Chevron Pasadena Refinery

Environmental: Joe Ebert, Health, Safety, Environment, and Process Safety Manager, reported that on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024, preliminary results of a Complex Cooling Tower sample indicated potentially elevated Benzene levels near the Reportable Quantity (RQ) threshold. Out of caution, the refinery made a precautionary report based on the preliminary test results to the proper authorities and is actively investigating the potential leak. Detailed lab results provided by a certified 3rd party lab on Monday, Jan. 22, indicated levels are not exceeding the RQ and remained within permitted levels. No off-site impacts detected. Investigation is ongoing.

Q: Are tests still showing an active leak?

A: Yes, but they are within permitted levels. We are still monitoring and will follow up with more information.

Kinder Morgan Pasadena Terminal

Safety: Robert Hammons, Director of Operations, reported that the Pasadena Terminal had a recordable injury associated with an incident at Refinery Terminal Fire Company (RTFC), the fire-training school KMPT uses. A five-inch fire hose failed while being charged. The hose swept through the observers in the area, striking them in the lower extremities. As a result, the individual suffered a tear in a knee ligament and was given a steroid shot and physical therapy. This is the second recordable from the incident.

Q: What caused the rip or tear in the hose?

A: *The valve was opened too quickly, and it resulted in extreme pressure in the hose. We have shifted our fire school to Texas A&M because of this incident.*

Ketjen

Kevin Paul announced that Albemarle changed its name to Ketjen at the start of January 2024. Ketjen will continue to produce the same products that were manufactured under its previous name.

FUTURE PCAC MEETINGS

Dinner available at 5:30 pm. Meetings are from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Feb. 27 – Drones and Their Uses in Industry

Mar. 26 – Annual Report on Worker Safety. Data from plants due Feb. 9.

DATES FOR 2024 ----- All 4th Tuesdays!

Unless otherwise noted, all are 4th Tuesdays. 5:30 dinner – 6:00 call to order – 7:30 adjourn

Tues., Jan. 23
Tues., Feb. 27
Tues., Mar. 26
Tues., Apr. 23

Tues., May 28
No June or July meetings
Tues., Aug. 27
Tues., Sept. 24

Tues., Oct. 22
No November meeting
Tues., Dec. 3
No late December meeting