



CATSKILL COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL

Minutes
Holcim Community Advisory Panel
August 24, 2010
Catskill Middle School
6 p.m.

Attendance

CAP Members: Frank Alguire, Michael Bulich, Kate Farrell, Amanda Hernandez, Peter Markou, Nancy Richards, Jesse Scannapieco, Edward Schindler, Frances Szasz, Hudson Talbot, James Van Orden, Joan Young.

Company Representatives: Deon van den Berg, Tony Madrazo.

Guests: Tyler Antrim.

Facilitator: Jennifer Goddard, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

Minutes: Jennifer Goddard, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

The regular meeting of the Holcim Community Advisory Panel (CAP) occurred Tuesday, August 24, 2010, at the Catskill Middle School, Catskill. Facilitator Jennifer Goddard called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. She reviewed the agenda and team agreement. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

Community Announcements

Kate Farrell said the construction work at the school was nearly complete and the school would be ready to open on time. Workers installed sprinklers on the upper field and a well was drilled on the lower field.

Dr. Farrell noted a change to the traffic patterns at the buildings to increase safety and decrease traffic congestion. A mailing was sent out with the details of the changes.

Many activities are planned for the Homecoming weekend on September 19, including a pancake breakfast, the "Race to Remember" in memory of the students who died over the summer and several scholarship fundraisers.

Nancy Richards announced the September 26 Cat Auction at Historic Catskill Point. There is a raffle to win the student-created cat artwork. The student artist will receive 30 percent of the money raised for a college scholarship.

Plant Update

Deon van den Berg presented the plant update. He said the plant Safety Day in July was attended by more than 200 people including employees, spouses, family members and members of the corporate staff.

The event was an opportunity to enjoy the nice weather, keep safety in mind and showcase the plant. Three very large pieces of equipment were on display for people to see. The event included fire extinguisher training for participants. The New York State Police K9 unit and the bomb squad participated in the festivities. The bomb squad demonstrated a piece of robotic equipment used by the team.

Mr. van den Berg said the kiln was down during July. The plant has had good safety performance since the beginning of the year.

Unfinished Business

Sports Complex Update

Eddie Schindler said the soccer fields are ready for opening day on September 12 on field number one. The goals are in and the grass has been mowed. The recreation league season will run from September through October 30. More than 240 children are signed up and an adult league may be formed if there is interest.

Mr. Schindler said Holcim and other local businesses have been very generous in their support. First aid kits and corner flags are being stored in boxes on site until a building can be constructed. CSX donated railroad ties to keep cars off the field.

Jim Van Orden suggested contacting the carpenters union to see if the apprentices might need community service opportunities when they are ready to build a pavilion.

Joan Young reminded Mr. Schindler that the Chamber of Commerce had a big pair of scissors and ribbon for the dedication of the soccer field.

New Business

Because the kiln was down in July, Mr. van den Berg said there was not a lot of new business to share. He noted that although the kiln was down, they still shipped cement to customers.

Mike Bulich asked if Holcim cement was being used in the new World Trade Center construction, to which Tony Madrazo said they were proud to be a part of the project, although it was not a significant amount of business.

Mr. van den Berg said the overall industry is down and things are not positive, but they are doing everything they can to focus on safety, environmental and quality to meet the demands of the industry. He said business is down 30 percent overall and this is the second year in a row they shut down the kiln in July, which never used to happen. Housing sales are down which has an impact on tax revenue resulting in fewer infrastructure projects being developed.

Peter Markou said the local municipalities are faced with unfunded mandates and one of the most austere budgets ever seen. He said he looks at the budget every day with the comptroller. As an example, Mr. Markou said the ambulance calls are now resulting in fees they've never had to bill in the past. Mr. Madrazo said good private sectors are the key to the economy of any community.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, October 26, 2010**, at the **Catskill Middle School**.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, October 26 2010**
 Catskill Middle School
 5:30 p.m. Dinner
 6 p.m. Meeting