

October 7, 1997 Meeting Minutes

Overview

The Fernald Community Reuse Organization (CRO) met on Tuesday, October 7, 1997 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Ross High School, 3425 Hamilton-Cleves Road. The meeting was open to the public.

In addition to CRO members in attendance, representatives of the Department of Energy (DOE), the Ohio Environmental Agency, Fluor Daniel Fernald, Butler County Economic Development, and Hamilton County Economic Development Company were in attendance.

CRO Members Present:

Lisa Crawford
Sharon Cornwell
Karl Dillhoff
Lou Doll
Maury Hornbach
Dan Lawler
David McWilliams
Alisa Rhodes
Gary Storer
Bob Tabor

CRO Members Excused:

Ralph Hennard
Bill Hinkle
Darryl Huff
Ken Moore
Tom Renck
Don Thiem
Larry Thinnis
Randy Welker
Joe Neyer, ex-officio

DOE Designated Federal Official Present:

Gary Stegner

Call to Order/Chair's Opening Remarks

CRO Chair Dave McWilliams was delayed in arriving at the meeting. CRO Treasurer Sharon Cornwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She welcomed guests and encouraged public comments and questions throughout the meeting. Ms. Cornwell indicated that the primary purpose of the evening's meeting was to introduce the recently designated Economic Development Consultant, Curt Paddock, to the CRO membership and to the public. She invited Mr. Paddock to make comments to the group. Mr. Paddock indicated that he was very pleased and proud to be asked to work with the CRO and was looking forward to service with the organization.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

No one offered comments or corrections to the September 1997 minutes. Bob Tabor made a motion to approve the minutes. Lisa Crawford seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Cornwell indicated that the only transaction during the previous period was to pay Paddock Management Services its first installment on the consulting contract. Cornwell distributed a report on the CRO's current financial condition and offered to make copies if a trustee was interested.

Communications Received

A letter from the Natural Resource Trustees was referred to the CRO Land Use Committee for review and action. It was indicated that the Natural Resource Trustees were seeking input from the CRO on the Trustees' proposed plan for natural resource restoration on the Fernald site. Lisa Crawford asked whether this issue will be decided upon by the committee or whether it will be handled by the CRO membership as a whole. Curt Paddock explained that the committee would deliberate on the issue and bring back a recommendation to the full group for any decision or action.

Reports on Recent Meetings Attended by CRO Representatives

CRO representatives recently attended a business incubator workshop. Attendees found that the track record of business incubators had been mixed. Incubators have functioned best as a means for assisting small businesses during the first years of their start up. Incubators can be an effective means for helping a business stand on its own and create new employment opportunities.

CRO representatives attended the DOE National Dialogue meeting and reported that participation was very intensive and that substantial consensus was achieved on such

issues as DOE transportation policy, environmental equity and protection of health and safety.

DOE Report

Gary Stegner reported that DOE has made a decision to extend Fluor Daniel Fernald's contract for two years with the possibility of extending it for another year. Stegner indicated that the FY 98 budget for DOE has recently been passed by the Congress and that apparently there will be no reduction in force in the foreseeable future. Sixty million dollars for work force and community transition was approved, which represented a positive outcome indicating high probability that there will be funds available for the CRO planning grant.

Mr. Stegner indicated that there would be a tour provided of the site for various community stakeholders on October 14, 1997.

New Business

Curt Paddock was asked to provide an overview of his initial impressions of the CRO process to date. Mr. Paddock indicated that many of the people he had spoken with in the initial weeks of his assignment had indicated a strong desire to move forward from the planning stage to the action stage. It appeared that there were three areas where the organization could move forward quickly to have a positive impact on the community. These include the excess property program, land re-use and the quick development of a scope of work for the planning grant. He indicated that committees assigned to these topics would need to meet very soon and begin to provide recommendations to the full CRO by no later than the November meeting.

He indicated that from his initial review of the CRO's work to date, as well as his assessment of community needs, longer term issues that the CRO might wish to address would be incubator facilities, technological transfer efforts through IAMS, the development of additional land resources for economic development and the possible creation of a revolving loan fund.

Additional Discussion Relative to Natural Resources Trustees Planning Process

Karl Dillhoff asked if a map is currently available which shows how the Natural Resources Trustees are planning to develop the site. He also requested a copy of such a map. Paddock indicated that copies could be made available, but that, for the most part, the map showed some type of vegetation or water resource covering the entire site. David McWilliams asked whether the Natural Resource Trustees should meet with the group. Paddock indicated that that was certainly appropriate and that they could meet initially with the Land Re-Use Subcommittee. Gary Stegner asked whether there was a comment period. Curt Paddock responded that there will be a formal comment period at a later date, but that the Natural Resource Trustees are looking to

obtain CRO's input prior to the formal public participation phase. Mr. Paddock indicated that he would be obtaining a copy of the full draft plan and that summaries of its contents would be made available to the Land Re-Use Committee of the CRO.

Committee Assignments

David McWilliams led the group in a discussion of meeting times for the Land Re-Use, Equipment/Materials and Economic Development Committees. These committee dates were established and efforts will be made to notify the public of those dates and to obtain their participation. The committee dates were established as follows:

Administration/Evaluation Committee

Monday, October 20, 6:00 p.m.

Jamtek Building Conference Room

Land Re-Use Committee

Tuesday, October 21, 5:30 p.m.

Jamtek Building Conference Room

Equipment/Materials Committee

Saturday, November 1, 8:00 a.m.

Jamtek Building Conference Room

Economic Development Committee

Saturday, November 1, 9:30 a.m.

Jamtek Building Conference Room

The next scheduled meeting of the CRO was moved from November 5, 1997 to November 18, 1997, with a new start time of 6:00 p.m.