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MEMBERS

Bank of Boston

Bayside Exposition Center

Boston College High School

The Boston Globe

Boston Teachers Union Health and Welfare Fund

Channel 56

Dever School

Geiger - Gibson Community Health Center

Harbor Point Apartments Community

John F. Kennedy Library

John W. McCormack Middle School

Massachusetts Archives at Columbia Point

Standard Uniform Company

St. Christopher's

University of Massachusetts Boston

COLUMBIA POINT ASSOCIATES
For Community Planning and Services

ZEHRA

MEETING AGENDA
THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 19, 1998

7:45am	Continental Breakfast
8:00am	Business Meeting Called to Order, Introductions and Minutes Reviewed
8:05am	Forest Speck, UMass Boston introduced Guest Speaker, Zehra Schneider Graham from Project XL , An Alternative System for Hazardous Waste in Research Laboratories
8:30am	CPA Business • Introductions • Membership • Invitations • Stationary
8:45am	MWRA Follow Up
8:55am	Old/New Business
9:00am	Adjourn

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MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19,1998 MEETING

1. The November 19, 1998 meeting chaired by Brian Toomey, was held in the Board Room at Geiger-Gibson Community Health Center; the meeting was called to order at 7:45am.

Attendance:

	Name	Organization	Phone
1.	Brian Toomey	Geiger-Gibson	288-1140
2.	Otile McManus	Corcoran Jennison	822-7367
3.	Fr. Joseph Fahey	BC High	436-8900
4.	Dan McDuffie	BTU Health/Welfare Fund	288-0500
5.	Mary Fox	St. Christopher's Church	436-7273
6.	Forest Speck	UMass Boston	287-5050
7.	Eric Johnson	Dever School	635-8694
8.	Susan Chur	Mass Archives Bldg.	727-9150
9.	Mickey Ashe	Star Market	528-2550
10.	Doug Dwyer	Boston Globe	929-2582
11.	Maria Stanwick	JFK Library	929-1206

Guest:

12.	Zehra Schneider Graham	UMass Boston	287-5445

2. The minutes of September 17, 1998 meeting were approved with no corrections.

3. ***Project XL At UMass***

Forest Speck introduced Zehra Schneider Graham, of Umass, Boston who gave a presentation on Project XL, an alternative system for regulating hazardous waste in research laboratories.

The EPA's Project XL Program (eXcellence and Leadership) is a national pilot program that tests innovative ways of achieving better and more cost-effective public health and environmental protection. The EPA grants flexibility in exchange for commitments to achieve better environmental results. Upon completion, pilot projects are evaluated and if deemed successful, can ultimately lead to changes in regulations.

Principal Objectives of Project XL for Laboratories

Implementation of a flexible performance based standard for Managing Hazardous Waste in laboratories through site specific Environmental Management Plans (EMP's).

Current Status

1. Enforceability Issues.
2. Funding Sources for data collection/analysis.
3. Local Stakeholder Involvement.
4. Final Project agreement.
5. EPA Developing Rulemaking for FR.

Benefits of Project XL for Laboratories

1. Standardization of Federal Regulations and Interpretations.
2. Consistency among programs from one University to another.
3. Coordination with existing programs.

Questions by CPA Members

Dan McDuffie from BTU Health/Welfare Fund
What is the protocol for informing people(residents and businesses) close to UMass of risky experiments?

Ms. Graham responded by saying that they have one hundred and fifty (150) labs and approximately seven thousand (7000) chemicals on the property and with no regulations to be enforced regarding public notice they are not required to disclose any information regarding experiments to outside sources (residents and businesses) in the surrounding area. However, they are required to disclose what chemicals are used and stored on the property to the Fire Department.

Otile McManus from Corcoran Jennison
How many problems or accidents occur in the labs?

Ms. Graham responded by saying that though she had no figures regarding the number of accidents in the labs, incidents occur for many reasons but the majority are just that accidents. What they are doing to increase safety in the labs is to have ongoing Safety Training for staff.

Ms. Graham concluded her presentation by stating that if anyone had any further questions or needed more information regarding Project XL to please give her a call at 287-5445 or on-line with the Lab XL Webpage htt://esf.uvm.edu/labxl/ or EPA Website http://yosemite.epa.gov/xl/xl_home.nsf/all/nelabs.html

Enclosed is a copy of Ms. Grahams slide Presentation.

4. *CPA Stationary*

CPA Stationary was the next topic discussed. Otile McManus stated that there is only about 50 sheets of the stationary left. Brian Toomey asked if any of the members knew the protocol that was used in the past for ordering and paying for new stationary. No one in the group knew who's responsibility it was for the purchasing of stationary. Forest Speck from UMass stated that if a copy of the stationary including any changes that needed to be made was sent over to him he would see what he could do, he is the Director of the UMass Print Shop.

Changes in CPA Stationary

Massachusetts Archives at Columbia Point	To	Massachusetts Archives Building at Columbia Point
St. Christopher's	To	St. Christopher's Church
Bank Of Boston	To	Bank Boston
Channel 56	To	WB 56

Names that need to be added:

Star Market

Walter Denny Youth Center

Harbor School

Mr. Ashe from Star Market will call the Greater Boston Radio Group to see if they would be interested in joining the CPA. (If so there name would be added to stationary)

Bank Boston, Channel 56 and Standard Uniform used to attend CPA meetings but have not in some time. It was decided that they needed to be contacted to determine if they would like to continue to be members of the CPA and attend scheduled meetings. Susan Chur from Mass Archives Bldg. will contact Bank Boston to see if they would like to continue Their membership in the CPA and if so the name of the person who will represent them at meetings. Brian Toomey from Geiger Gibson offered to do the same for Standard Uniform and Channel 56. The above decisions will make changes in the CPA stationary.

5. ***Clean up of Property in the Neighborhood***

The next issue discussed was the clean up of property in the neighborhood, three sites were brought to the attention of the group. The first site discussed was Standard Uniform, Brian Toomey offered to call and speak to someone regarding this issue. The second site is the empty Market that is owned by Tom Finnerty. Otile McManus stated that at one point Mr. Corcoran had spoken to someone regarding the property and she would speak to him regarding this conversation before the group approached the owner. Another alternative course of action that was discussed regarding the Market was a letter drafted to the City of Boston stating that there were health and safety issues pertaining to the property. The third site discussed was the Pasture property it looks abandon and is a safety hazard.

Lorraine

6. ***Pedestrian Loop Access***

A discussion ensued regarding clean up of the Loop Access and the lack of a side walk towards the JFK Library which presents a safety issue for all pedestrians. It was suggested that the group might be able to write to the City of Boston regarding this issue. It was thought that this would be a good course of action due to the success the group had in the past by having a stop light installed for the safety of the community.

7. ***MWRA***

The CPA discussed the air plane hangers that were set up on the MWRA Pump House property, and the fact that they are eye sores to the community

8. ***Communication***

The Group discussed communication, how there was no real way for CPA members to inform each other of special events occurring with in their organizations. A suggestion was made and agreed upon, any correspondence would be sent to the chair person to be included in the CPA Minutes. It was also suggested that the CPA Meeting site rotate so everyone might see what other members of the CPA do at there job sites. This suggestion was denied, consensus agreed that it was easier to have one centralized meeting place.

9. ***Number of Presentations Per Meeting***

It was decided that there would only one presentation per meeting due to time constraints

10. ***Meeting Adjourned***

11. ***Next CPA Meeting***

The next Columbia Point Association Meeting will be held January 21, 1999 at Geiger Gibson Community Health Center. Enclosed is a copy of the agenda and hand out for this meeting.

RCRA Reform Efforts for Laboratories

Project XL:
An Alternative System for Regulating Hazardous Waste in Research Laboratories

Zelen Schneider Graham
Environmental Health and Safety
University of Massachusetts Boston

The Current Regulatory Arena in Research Laboratories

- Regulations are constantly increasing and changing
- EPA/RCRA regulations are written for industrial operations
- Overlapping juristictions within laboratories
- Interpretation of RCRA varies among states and inspectors

Inequity Among EPA Inspections

- Interpretations of RCRA regulations can vary from one state to another
- Interpretations can vary from one inspector to another
- Similar violations have been found at most colleges and universities that have been cited however, their fines are far from equal

Industrial vs. Academic Institutions

	INDUSTRY	ACADEMIA
Degree of Centralized Control	High	Low
Process Variability	Typically Low	High
Personnel Turnover	Low	High
Workforce/Language Diversity	Low	High
Number of Chemicals Used	Low to Moderate	High
Quantity of Chemicals Used	High	Low
Worker Type	Employee	Diverse

Recent Regulatory Reform Efforts

- The Government-University-Industry-Research Roundtable, 1994
- Revision of *Prudent Practices*, NRC, 1995
- National Research Council and Duke University, 1996
- The Colorado Association of Academic and Research Laboratories, 1997
- Laboratory Regulatory Reform Task Force, California, 1991-present

Laboratory Consortium for Environmental Excellence (LCEE)

- Incorporated in August 1997
- Dedicated to identifying, developing, and sharing best environmental practices in laboratories.
- Sponsor of the EPA XL Project *New England University Laboratories*
- Members Include:
  - Boston College
  - Georgetown University
  - Harvard University
  - Northeastern University
  - Mass. Inst. Of Tech.
  - Trinity College
  - Tufts University
  - University of Mass Amherst
  - University of Mass Boston
  - University of Vermont

Principal Objectives of Project XL for Laboratories

- Implementation of a flexible, performance-based standard for managing hazardous wastes in laboratories through site-specific Environmental Management Plans (EMPs)
  - All EMPs must contain minimum performance criteria
  - Obtain Agency clarification on treatment in containers

The EPA's Project XL Program

- Project XL (eXcellence and Leadership)is a national pilot program that tests innovative ways of achieving better and more cost-effective public health and environmental protection.
- EPA grants regulatory flexibility in exchange for commitments to achieve better environmental results
- Upon completion, pilot projects are evaluated and if deemed successful, can ultimately lead to changes in regulations.

Pilot Sites

EMP Implementation

- Boston College
- University of Massachusetts Boston
- University of Vermont

Small-scale Treatment

- University of Massachusetts Amherst

Primary Regulatory Relief Requested

- Hazardous Waste Determination
  - Moves the "point-of-generation" outside of individual laboratories
- Satellite Storage
  - Full relief provided an acceptable EMP is in place

Benefits of Project XL for Laboratories

- Standardization of Federal Regulations and Interpretations
- Consistency among programs from one university to another
- Coordination with existing programs

Current Status

- Enforceability Issues
- Funding Sources for data collection/analysis
- Local Stakeholder Involvement
- Final Project Agreement
- EPA Developing Rulemaking for FR

Stakeholder Involvement

- Consists of parties who review the proposal and its implementation to assure that it is properly reviewed by the public
- EPA sees this involvement as crucial to the successful acceptance and implementation of any XL Project

Project XL for Laboratories Stakeholder Process

Two pronged stakeholder processes:

1. National - for technical experts in order to assure transferability
2. Local - to assure committees (both internal and external) are comfortable with the proposed hazardous waste handling practices

Current List of Stakeholders

- Local
  - Faculty
  - Students
  - Fire Departments
  - State Regulators
  - Water Authorities
  - Community Groups
- National
  - American Chemical Society
  - Colorado College
  - Cornell University
  - CSHEMA
  - Ecologia
  - Howard Hughes Medical
  - Nat'l Academy of Sciences
  - Pfizer Inc.
  - Stanford University
  - Tellus Institute
  - University of Connecticut
  - University of Minnesota
  - University of Wisconsin
  - University of Illinois
  - University of Texas - HSC
  - many others

For More Information Regarding:

LCEE Membership - Thomas Balf, ML Strategies, Inc. (617)348-1838

Project XL

EPA http://yosemite.epa.gov/xl/xl_home.nsf/all/nelabs.html
Gina Snyder (617)565-9452

Boston College Suzanne Howard (617)552-0303
University of Massachusetts
Amherst Jim Fox (413)545-5117
Boston Zehra Schneider Graham (617)287-5445
University of Vermont
Milly Archer or Ralph Stuart (802)565-5400

Lab XL Webpage http://esf.uvm.edu/labxl/