



**Public Outreach Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
Teleconference**

Members Present

Alfreda Cook
Jan Hart, Vice Chair
Jan Lyons
Scott McKinney, Chair
Scott Stout
Ben Williams, DOE

Others Present

Pete Osborne, ORSSAB support office

Absent

Dave Hemelright
Howard Holmes

Staff Report on Ongoing Activities

Newspaper Ads, News Releases & Editorials—Mr. Osborne reported that David Martin had written an editorial on the uncertainty created by the looming federal budget cuts and what effect they will have on EM program funding. Mr. Martin has decided to put it on hold until after the FY 2015 budget presentation at the February board meeting in case he wants to revise it. The editorial should be done well in advance of the deadline for the April Advocate newsletter.

Spencer Gross wrote a news release on DOE's response to the board's "Recommendation on Availability of DOE Environmental Management Documents." DOE thinks it would be best to hold the release until the recommendation is completely addressed, which will be when DOE's modernization effort that is currently underway for its information technology platforms is complete.

Mr. Gross has also been adding a lot of new postings to the board's Facebook site.

Issue Manager & Liaison Updates

Stream Postings—Ms. Cook reported that she received photos and information related to stream postings from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. She also talked to Melyssa Noe about whom to talk to at DOE about postings along the reservation periphery. Ms. Noe directed her to Brian Henry, who Ms. Cook spoke to on January 4. Mr. Henry offered to send her some materials. However, Tony Simms later called to say that he had been assigned the task. Coincidentally, Larry Kelly was also interested in this task. Mr. Simms called again on January 15 to say that he had driven the reservation to look for signs. He didn't see many, so he's going out again and will send photos of the signs he sees. Ms. Cook said she's very impressed at how receptive everyone has been to her request.

Mr. McKinney asked if the final product will combine TDEC and DOE information into one document. Ms. Cook said that will probably be the case. It will be a booklet of signs around Oak Ridge with explanations of what they mean and who's responsible for them. It will not include signs inside the Oak Ridge Reservation because the public cannot just wander around that area. She's still thinking of a catchy title for the booklet.

Mr. McKinney wondered what the requirements are for TDEC and DOE to post signs and if the requirements are based on records of decisions and other documents. Ms. Cook said she didn't know and wasn't planning to go into that level of detail.

Museum Exhibit—Ms. Cook discussed the new design for the waste management kiosk developed by DOE graphics designer David Brown (Attachment 1), and she touched on other plans to update the ORSSAB

exhibit. It's important, she said, to do some sort of overarching theme signing for the exhibit because it's not immediately apparent when you approach the exhibit exactly what the theme is.

Mr. McKinney asked about an idea discussed at an earlier meeting of incorporating toy waste trucks into the exhibit. Ms. Cook said that just putting a truck in there without a significant amount of explanation wouldn't be effective.

Mr. Osborne reported that the museum is generating a cost estimate for building the new waste management display. When it's complete, he will go to the Board Finance & Process and Executive committees for funding. He also noted that he had moved almost all recipients of the ORSSAB annual report from paper copy to electronic distribution, saving over \$1,000 in printing and mailing costs. If the Public Outreach Committee approves, he would like to use the savings to fund museum exhibit improvements. The committee concurred.

Secret City and Earth Day—Ms. Hart said she learned on the Internet that Oak Ridge Earth Day will be held the weekend of April 26–28. Ms. Lyons pointed out that the main event in Bissell Park will be on Saturday, April 27. Ms. Hart said that the Secret City Festival will be June 21–22.

Ms. Hart asked about booth materials and giveaways, and how event participation is handled. Mr. Osborne said that he typically emails board members to see who will volunteer to man the ORSSAB booth, and he prepares registration forms for the events. The board has a table and chairs, canopy, and other materials. He told Ms. Hart that he would get in touch with her about the events soon. The board has given away a number of logo items during these events in the past, but new DOE restrictions on purchasing such items has made it all but impossible to get them these days.

Mr. McKinney mentioned that giveaways in the past have been taken mostly by children. The people who are interested in the SSAB don't need a giveaway, he said. Ms. Cook said that adding balloons as decorations for the booth would be a nice idea, and having at least some candy would be good.

ORSSAB Presentation—Mr. McKinney asked committee members to let him know if they're aware of any community groups that want a presentation. He intends to talk to David Hemelright about the presentation task but to just let it sit for now.

Mr. Osborne reported that he has made all the changes to the PowerPoint presentation requested by the committee during its last meeting:

- Sue Cange's slide about EM program progress was added, as was a slide on ARRA progress.
- Resources for health hazards associated with contaminants have been referenced on slide 8.
- Editorial comments by Ms. Hart, Ms. Cook, and Mr. Hemelright have been incorporated.
- The COROH page and all the recommendation pages have been updated.
- All out of date photos have been replaced.

Making Contact and Hosting "VIPs"—Mr. McKinney noted that DOE had provided the draft list of 2013 board meeting presentations (Attachment 2). Now that it's been distributed, the committee can start contacting VIPs to invite them to board meetings. Mr. Stout said it's a great idea and that he often comes into contact with politicians in his line of work. Mr. McKinney said he would like to get with Mr. Stout to come up with a list of people to invite to the various board meetings. Mr. McKinney said he would like to tie in the media with this since having a VIP at a meeting will be of interest to them.

Ms. Lyons said that a major cleanup milestone, such as the last part of K-25 coming down, might be an opportunity for media involvement, although there seems to be a lot of newspaper coverage about that. Mr. McKinney said he tried that angle, but that sort of story goes cold very quickly.

Public Environmental Survey—Ms. Lyons said we're still waiting on Office of Management and Budget approval, so the issue is on hold.

Generating Ideas of Historical Dates—Mr. Osborne reported that the January Advocate newsletter contained a historical reference article. Ms. Lyons said she wrote it and will continue to do articles for upcoming newsletters. She's trying to look at history for the same months the Advocate will cover.

Next Meeting—Ms. Cook suggested meeting at the American Museum of Science and Energy in February to review the ORSSAB exhibit. The committee can then do its meeting there or go somewhere else if museum staff cannot accommodate the committee after 5:00. Mr. Osborne said he would contact the museum about it.

Action Items

Closed

1. Mr. Williams will get back to the committee with more guidance on contacts with elected officials. ***Mr. Williams said that Headquarters' guidance is for the SSAB to always have a DOE presence during interactions with elected officials to help make sure everyone's on message and in the loop on what transpires. Mr. Williams said he will be the point of contact for this.***

Mr. McKinney asked if getting VIPs to board meetings falls under this guidance. Mr. Williams said no, it's only interactions outside the DOE Information Center in which he needs to be involved.

Open

1. Staff will contact museum staff to see if the committee can then do its February meeting there.
2. Mr. Williams will find out what he can about the status of footprint reduction. ***Carryover from November 20. Mr. Williams said he talked to the project manager and learned that field work has been done. Related documentation has been sent to the regulators, but DOE does not know what they're going to say. Mr. Williams said he will update the committee when the regulators respond.***

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 26, 4:45 p.m. **The meeting will be held at the American Museum of Science and Energy.**