

EPA Air Toxics Pilot Working Group  
Meeting Summary  
March 10, 2003

Members attending: Rev. Marvin Smith, Emily Lee, Stu Greeberg, Herbert Mausser, Bob Leidich, Richard King, Elissa Feldman, Bill Skowronski, Mike Suver, Tim Nieberding, Amy Simpson, Glenn Landers, Marty Gelfand, Anjali Mathur

Absent: Paige Akins, Bill Davis, Joe Calabrese, Doug Broussard, Hollie Dellisanti, Tom McLeary, Laura Hobson

Facilitators: Pat Field, Sanda Kaufman, Linda Kimble

The Ohio Air Toxics Group convened for the thirteenth time at the Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University.

JANUARY MEETING SUMMARY – approved.

AWARDS:

Richard King gave Howard Strong and Mickey Brown the Clean Air Century Campaign awards in recognition for their work making possible the school bus retrofit project. Janet Cohen gave them certificates of appreciation on behalf of EPA, to recognize their leadership and initiative in establishing a retrofit program for the Cleveland School District buses.

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM UPDATES (see team summaries, distributed at the meeting).

Discussion about possible overruns on costs such as airfares (in connection with the autobody project):

- Should the group have an emergency fund for such cases in general?
- Should ALA make flight arrangements to secure favorable rates?

Discussion about projects

Gas cans – can the program be expanded to the county?

The Working Group approved merging indoor air toxics teams.

A possible visit by the EPA administrator in Cleveland to kick off the Smoke-Free Campaign – (April 11):

- plus side – recognition, visibility, it could get press coverage for the project, which is much needed

- minus side – concerns with the possibility that the Air Toxics message is linked to “Clear Skies” – maybe a different venue should be found since the connection is not obvious between the two projects; this project is not about that even if some like the idea.
- **Message from the group to headquarters:** Many members think there is a real advantage to the Administrator’s support for the project in Cleveland; the Administrator’s message should therefore be focused on the Air Toxics project, and on voluntary efforts supplementing enforcement. Clear Skies should be discussed in a different venue.

### CCACC

- The Working Group approved the three-tiered structure with the following names: Planning Committee, Working Group, Campaign Team..
- The Working Group approved representatives on the planning committee, adding Richard King (Stationary sources) for complete representation of each stakeholder group.
- **Three new candidates were introduced: Richard Connelly (Sewer District) for indoor sources, Seletha Thompson (City of Cleveland) for agencies, and Michel Short (Clean Air Conservancy) for environmental groups.**

### Discussion and suggestions:

- Concern with preserving the proportional representation to balance out the differential power of the groups (so neighborhoods should have more members) since every time a person is added, it shifts the group dynamics.
- Can other neighborhoods join? It should be considered.
- Two separate issues:
  - growing the group (beyond the 35)
  - filling the slots – there has been attrition and those slots should be filled.
- Have a roster of current membership and categories (Linda will provide that) to locate deficiencies and talk about nominating candidates to fill the slots – email working group members before the meeting about vacancies so they can nominate candidates
- The Planning Committee was asked to work on a proposal to redefine the stakeholder categories to make them more appropriate.
- Nomination procedure: if a slot is open and a stakeholding category is missing representatives, a Working Group member could nominate or the Planning Committee makes recommendations for the vacant slots

- Suggestion: consider an “at large” category for candidates who could contribute but do not fit easily in any category
- A candidate could straddle several categories and that could be a good thing (for example, the Sewer District candidate)
- Add to the membership criteria a category 7 – “at large” (do not assign a number of members to it)

## FACILITATION TRANSITION

- Sanda will co-facilitate with Linda.
- Juliana will provide another round of evaluation.
- Pat will help occasionally as needed.

## MEETING LOCATION

1. The group is asked to decide whether they would be willing to pay the parking or whether another facility should be found.
2. Options under consideration with the Working Group’s approval: the Alcoa conference room, the new environmental facility, or the Sewer District facility

## MEETING FREQUENCY

Proposal: meetings every other month for the Working Group – March, May, July, September (coupled with a monthly newsletter on the status of the implementation teams.) The planning group would meet every month or even more often, as needed.

Concerns, suggestions:

- It might slow down the project – momentum may be lost.
- There is a lot of business that needs to be taken care of, so monthly meetings might still be needed.
- Planning committee minutes should be circulated to all Working Group members
- Communication between meetings is going to be very important (missing a meeting = 4 months)
- Communication between committees should also be improved
- Notice about Planning Committee meetings should go out to the entire group and anyone who wants to attend is welcome
- A mechanism is needed for decisions that come up between meetings
- As many changes occur (advisory board, new funding, etc.) – the Working Group might meet more often, but it is not necessary now

- Going to two months while taking on new members is difficult to do at the same time – maybe there should be a stabilization period
- New members should be added as they come up, meet monthly for the next two months and move to every other month later; how about 1.5 hours every month rather than 4 hours every other month?
- New members would throw themselves in one of the implementation teams so there would not be a two-month gap even if the Working Group meets more seldom
- Linda should obtain nominations to speed up the process

Proposal 1: begin meeting every other month, see how things go, then if needed switch back to monthly

Proposal 2: Consider the approval of the two new candidate members by email (approved)

Proposal 3: April 21<sup>st</sup>, June 2, July 21/28 approved

The Planning Committee needs to work on starting time and length of meeting

METING ADJOURNED AT 9:10

Next meeting: April 21, 2003, Levin College (Bonda Room), 6:00PM