

Community Advisory Board Meeting
September 24, 2015

Meeting began at 6:35 p.m.

Attendees: Larry Brenner, Todd Cumbow, Chris Faber, Carrie Garstecki, Jim Gebhardt, Leah Goodman, Ellen Huxtable, Tony Inglese, Denis Kania, Dean Kilburg, Mollie Millen, Crystal Porter, Jeneva Rider, Ray Stachowiak, Alex Tsang, Jenn Wilson.

Fermilab/DOE staff: Mike Weis, Katie Yurkewicz, Kurt Riesselmann, Andre Salles, Michelle Stancari

Andre Salles introduced the new members to the board: Carrie Garstecki, Crystal Porter, Jeneva Rider, Ray Stachowski, Alex Tsang and Jenn Wilson.

Michelle Stancari, lead scientist on the DUNE 35-ton prototype experiment, the first major step on the road to the LBNF/DUNE experiment. (See presentation.) The 35-ton prototype is constructed and will be filled with liquid argon before the end of the year. The next step will be to “scale up” the technology until the massive DUNE detector is built. DUNE is scheduled to begin taking data in 2025.

Katie Yurkewicz, head of the Fermilab Office of Communication, led a discussion on enterprise risk management. (See presentation.) She asked the Board to list some of the biggest risks to Fermilab’s reputation, assets and people. Board members came up with the following risks:

- General loss of funding with massive layoffs.
- Toxic release into the community.
- Explosion on site that impacts the community.
- Bicycle accidents on site.
- Terrorist attacks (“poorly informed terrorists” who do not realize Fermilab’s lack of strategic value).
- Accidental or purposeful distortion of Fermilab’s scientific work.
- Train derailment outside Fermilab property.
- Local political upheaval impacting Fermilab’s borders.
- World scientific community eclipsing Fermilab.
- Personnel incident impacting Fermilab’s reputation among certain groups.
- Hacking and cyber-attacks.
- Obsolete technology rendering Fermilab’s work impossible to perform.
- Misinformed community believing Fermilab has shut down.

Some of the impacts of these risks include:

- Loss of jobs.
- Negative impact on local economy.

- International community feels Fermilab is no longer viable, reputation suffers.
- Decrease in outreach and education programs, meaning fewer teachers and students are exposed to physics.
- Laboratory perceived as less welcoming.

Yurkewicz asked the Board about some of the more common answers given to the enterprise risk management group at the laboratory. Board members said that construction accidents and low-impact radiation incidents on site would not necessarily harm the reputation of the laboratory. While neighbors might be annoyed with a change in security posture limiting access, Board members said that if the laboratory were transparent about the reasons, the community would support it. A labor union action would likely split opinion in the community, members said, but if it does not inconvenience local community members, it will not harm the laboratory's reputation.

Yurkewicz gave the Board an update on the planning for the 50th anniversary of the laboratory. Celebrations are scheduled to begin in December 2016 and run through 2017. A committee has been formed to prioritize ideas for the celebration, and that committee participated in an afternoon retreat on September 18, listing out several ideas for the year-long event, with an eye toward presenting a full report to lab management before the end of 2015.

Yurkewicz and Andre Salles gave the Board an update on various projects. The LBNF/DUNE environmental assessment had been completed, and the project awarded a FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact). The Muon g-2 ring was successfully cooled down and powered up for the first time. The Future of Fermilab Address and Reception drew nearly 200 members of the local community. Neutrino Action Week attracted large numbers of neutrino physicists to the laboratory to discuss the future of research.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.