

Community Advisory Board meeting

Sept 22, 2016

Meeting began at 6:30 pm

Attendees: Larry Brenner, Paul Egeland, Chris Faber, Carrie Garstecki, Ellen Huxtable, Tony Inglese, Dean Kilburg, Tim Klaus, Dan Lobbes, Maureen McAllister, Britta McKenna, Mollie Millen, Crystal Porter, Ray Stachowiak, Gary Sutton, Alex Tsang;

Fermilab and DOE staff: Peter Siebach, Rick Hersemann, Mark Bollinger, Nigel Lockyer, Katie Yurkewicz, Kurt Riesselmann, Don Cossairt, Martha Michels, John Myer, Beth Fancsali;

Nigel Lockyer presentation: Nigel provided an update on the LBNF/DUNE project, explaining that the project received approval from DOE to go ahead with early construction work in South Dakota. Work at the Fermilab site is expected to begin in 2019. Slides of his presentation have been posted on the CAB website. LBNF/DUNE is the biggest construction project ever for the DOE Office of Science. Fermilab is leasing space at SURF for LBNF/DUNE, the areas where we will excavate caverns. We will also manage the DOE contract that funds operation of the entire facility. CERN is our strongest partner. More than 160 institutions from 30 countries involved.

Katie Yurkewicz presentation: Katie gave an overview of the 50-year anniversary events that Fermilab will host in 2017 and provided a handout with the dates of the planned events. Presentation has been posted on the website.

Don Coissairt presentation: Don presented in detail what tritium is and that tritium be created in nature as well as particle collisions produced by particle accelerators. Presentation has been posted. Fermilab monitors air, water and sewer for the presence of tritium. All tritium levels measured at Fermilab are well below regulatory limits, and the lab strives to keep levels as low as reasonably achievable. No tritium has ever been found in drinking water.

Questions and discussion: The levels measured at Fermilab are well below regulatory limits and present no risk to the public. Fishing in Fermilab ponds is safe, even if you would catch and eat 50 pounds of raw fish a year. A neighbor from the Savannah subdivision next to Fermilab appreciated the information that was provided to homeowners in the past. CAB members felt that Fermilab has done a good job of being proactive about this issue. Fermilab noted that in order for the Fermilab site to be open to the public, the lab must take many measures and convince DOE (and others) that we are protecting the public. The production of low levels of radioactive nuclides also was discussed as part of the Environmental Assessment of the LBNF/DUNE project in 2015, and the lab received questions about that aspect from a citizen via Facebook. She was provided with the additional clarification that she asked for via Facebook.

CAB Membership: Three people will leave the board at the end of the year. Because of time constraints, the discussion about filling those positions was postponed to the Dec. 1, 2016 meeting

CAB meeting dates in 2017: After a brief discussion, the board agreed on the meeting dates listed below. Because all Board members get invited to the reception and public lecture on Jan. 27, 2017, there will be no regular board meeting in January 2017.

Next meeting – December 1, 2016 (a week later than usual because of Thanksgiving)

Meeting ending at 8:35 p.m.

Schedule of 2017 meetings:

Friday, Jan. 27, 2017, 7 p.m.: Reception in Art Gallery; 8 p.m.: Public lecture

Thursday, March 23, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 25, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 27, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017: Fermilab Open House

Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017, 6:30 p.m. (This is the fifth Thursday since Nov. 23 is Thanksgiving)