

Deer Park Community Advisory Council

www.deerparkcac.org

Meeting Notes Monday, November 26, 2018

The 271st meeting of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council was held on Monday, November 26, 2018 at the Republic Grill. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the agenda, which was accepted as proposed. The October 2018 meeting notes were approved without changes.

ATTENDANCE

DPCAC Community Members		DPCAC Plant Members		Guests/Resources	
x	Ruth Boyd		Clean Harbors , Bruce Riffel	x	Phillip Barker, Shell Pipeline
	Tim Culp		Delta Companies Group , Frank Ingrassia	x	David Berrier, DPHS Teacher
x	Ken Donnell	x	Dow Chemical Deer Park , Jeff Garry	x	Kaitlyn Conner, Econ. Alliance
	Bobby Garcia		Dow Chemical , Whitney Bolger	x	Emily Dean, DPIISD Student Member
	John Garrett	x	Evonik Oil Additives , Jim Bentinck-Smith	x	Tanner Dreiling, DPHS Student
x	Sherry Garrison	x	GEO Specialty Chemicals , Chris Miller	x	Jaygo Greeson, DPHS Student
x	Tommy Ginn	x	Hexion , Marlene Mercado	x	Raul Gutierrez, DPHS Student
	Stephen Harrell		Intercontinental Terminals , David Wascome	x	Adam Harris, DPHS Student
	Robert Hemminger		Lubrizol ,	x	Rylee Johnson, DPHS Student
	Cara Herbeck	x	Lubrizol , Tanya Travis rep by Doug Moore	x	Darrien Kramer, DPHS Student
x	Steven Horton		Oxy Vinyls Houston Ops , Chris Thomas	x	Karen Lewis-Holmes, TCEQ
	Norma Hysler	x	Oxy Vinyls VCM , Claudia O'Rourke	x	Isaac Luzuriaga, DPHS Student
	Bill Irwin	x	Oxy Vinyls PVC/KOH , Craig Horak	x	Faith Melcher, DPHS Student
	Katherine Mitchum	x	Shell Deer Park , Amanda Accardo	x	Janette Meza, DPHS Student
	Mike Mitchum		Shell Deer Park Chemical ,	x	Isabel Moreno, DPHS Student
	Jeffrey Parks		Shell Deer Park Refining , Thor Nygaard	x	Andrew Mvers, DPHS Student
	Ariel Pena	x	Texas Molecular , Frank Marine	x	Neil Patel, DPHS Student
	Vickey Roberts		Valvoline , Jerry Precise	x	Marcos Quinoz, DPHS Student
x	Robert Segelquist	x	Vopak Terminal Deer Park , Dave Stephens	x	Gustavo Reyes
	Andy Smith			x	Julian Reyes, DPHS Student
	Charles Thomas		Support Staff	x	Julian Sanchez, DPHS Student
	David Wade	x	Diane Sheridan, Facilitator	x	Aylyn Torres, DPHS Student
	Ernest Weedon	x	Anja Borski (Tiffany Miller as Sub)	x	Carolyn Valdez, DPHS Student
				x	Justin Whitman, DPHS Student
				x	Greg Willms, Shell DP Chemical & Refinery
				x	Matthew Woodring, DPHS Student

What's on the Minds of Students: A Discussion with Plant Managers

A summary of student input is posted on www.deerparkcac.org

DPCAC community and plant members and 20 Deer Park High School (DPHS) engaged in discussions about jobs and workplace conditions in the petrochemical industry. Students from science, math, and career and technology classes submitted more than 300 questions and responses to these questions before the meeting, providing industry with valuable, unfiltered feedback about student views of industry. In addition, several teachers sent questions, which are included in the summary of student input posted on the DPCAC website. The summary also will be shared with industry.

After small group discussion on each of the three main questions, Facilitator Diane Sheridan asked that each table share their top thoughts with the group.

What would you ask chemical plant managers about their job or workplace conditions?

- Safety is top priority.
- What do they like about their job; how they got where they are
- Stuff you need to know- colleges, prepare ahead of time; change careers mid-stream.
- What do they do on a day to day basis? routine, check emails, etc., time management
- How do they maintain a work/life balance?
- Safety; different jobs; improve things; website
- How much HS knowledge is actually used? It is the basis for foundation.
- Education/experience needed; What is value at plant?
- Struggles of employees
- Start with one degree- switch gears
- Various types of jobs- office/plant
- Safety

What would it take to interest you in a career in industry? What issues may be holding you and your peers back from considering a career in industry?

- Communication
- What interests you- pursue your interests
- STEM- Women in Industry
- Not knowing what opportunities are available
- What education is needed
- Lack of knowledge
- Tell us your story, everyday experiences (Plant Managers)
- Different branches-opportunities to do things
- Safety- especially flares (Plant Reps discussed the function of a flare)
- Interest in Salary
- Benefits/Salary
- Travel- do you have to travel?
- Time off

What surprised DPHS Students about the discussions?

- Misconceptions about who gets hired and safety.
- Calculus- Theory and backup- not used on an everyday basis
- Possibility of switching majors
- If they take a job in Deer Park they do not "Have" to stay in Deer Park
- Different careers at Plants (Business, IT, HR, etc.)

- International Travel

What surprised DPCAC Community and Plant Members about the discussions?

- Still misconceptions about career opportunities
- Schools don't communicate career issues
- Salary- work/life balance
- Not apprehensive about industry
- Student participation- open dialogue
- Environment Competitive- Positive, family, cooperative working experience

Students uniformly said they would like more information about plants and the opportunities for work in the petrochemical industry. They suggested presentations, internships, and open houses. DPCAC recommended www.petrochemworks.com as a resource for learning about industry jobs and what it takes to get them. The site will ask you about your interests and skills and then match you with jobs that might interest you. Job openings are also posted on this free resource.

Updates

Question of the Month: GEO Specialty Chemicals

“What is a Chemical?” was presented by Chris Miller of GEO Specialty Chemicals. See www.deerparkcac.org for the answer and for questions from past meetings.

Level 3 (Warning) or Level 2 (Watch) Incidents

Dave Wascome from ITC reported on a Level 3 incident that occurred before Thanksgiving where an open valve allowed 800 barrels of Naphtha to spill into the tank farm and about 10 barrels went into the Ship Channel. The Ship Channel spill has been remediated and ITC is currently working on the tank farm area.

Ozone Exceedance Days:

TCEQ's Lewis-Holmes reported that there were no additional ozone exceedances since the last meeting. The year to date totals are 35 8-hour 71ppb ozone exceedance days in Houston for the year, and eight 8-hour 71ppb exceedances in Deer Park. There were four 1-hour, 125ppb exceedances in the Houston region (one each in July and August, two in September, none of these in Deer Park).

Written Facility Updates:

- **Hexion** Marlene Mercado reported that there were no reportable quantity spills or releases in this reporting period and 4 injuries (2 employee and 2 contractor). The site is a sponsor of the San Jacinto Battle Reenactment, the Deer Park Education Foundation “Strides for Schools” Fun Run, and the DPHS Academic Honors Dinner.
- **Intercontinental Terminals Company** Dave Wascome reported that there have not been any OSHA recordable injuries, the kind that require a doctor's intervention, since August 31, 2016. ITC began working in January 2017 to achieve OSHA Voluntary Protection Program recognition and is in the process of finalizing its application for the safety program.
- **The Lubrizol Corporation** Doug More reported that the OSHA recordable injury rate as of 11-19-18 is 0.66. (A rate of 1.00 equals one injury among 100 workers in a 12-month period.) The plant continues to see improvements from its work on safety culture by focusing on safety and health practices and procedures, training, and hazard recognition. A new polymer unit is on target for startup in April.

Other Announcements

Jeff Garry, from Dow Chemical Deer Park, announced that more volunteers are needed from industry to help with middle school and high school career fairs, etc. Please contact Marty Yost of Dow for further information.

Diane Sheridan discussed the December 3 DPCAC tour of the Shell Woodcreek Campus.

Sheridan reported that volunteers are needed for Membership and Communications committees.

Sheridan also mentioned that on March 5, 2019, the Citizens Advisory Council to La Porte Industry (LPCAC) will be the host for a joint CAP meeting on economic/environmental issues.

Plans for Future Meetings

Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held at the Republic Grill. Food service begins at 5:45 and business at 6:00. We adjourn no later than 8:30.

*Monday, January 28, 2019 – **Annual State of the Plants. Review of CAC Purposes and Outreach***

- All CAC Plants will each present its 2018 achievements and 2019 goals and plans, including any expansions underway or planned.
- CAC Plants will be asked about ways they engage in conversations with the community about what they do (emissions, flaring, CAER messages, public relations, etc.)
- The facilitator will present a brief review of CAC mission and purposes, as well as current outreach and publicity activities.
- Members will be asked for input and ideas about ways the CAC could increase visibility and awareness about industry topics and CAC activities within the Deer Park community.
- The DPCAC Membership and Outreach Committee will be activated to consider these ideas and determine how to improve outreach. Both community and plant members will be asked to volunteer.

Dates for 2019 – all Mondays

Jan. 28

Feb. 25

Mar. 25

Apr. TBD

June 3 (delayed due to Memorial Day)

No end of June meeting

No July meeting

Aug. 26

Sept. 23

Oct. 28

December 2 (delayed due to Thanksgiving Week)

Deer Park Community Advisory Council

November 2018

Attendees made note of things discussed at their table that they wanted to be captured in the DPCAC meeting notes.

What sparked your interest (asked of Plant Managers)?

- Chemistry and Calculus were two favorite classes. Wasn't sure what he wanted to do so discussed with his teachers. Dad was a Mechanical Engineer.
- I thought I wanted to work in aerospace but the chemical/manufacturing industry had been the most stable and beneficial.

General questions for Plant Managers:

- *What you do you do as a mechanical engineer?* I did project stuff right of school. Mostly replacing things and built new plants.
- *How much knowledge did you get in High School that you can use now?* Gets you in the door, a good base for knowledge. Communication skills are a key for success.
- *How many projects do you have going on?* It varies by plant, plant size and product.
- *What do you regularly struggle with?* Safety is top priority. Ensuring no one gets hurt. Deciding what to do and how to do it.
- *What degrees did you study?* Chemical Engineering (Company looks for AA in Process Technology for production positions. There is also ongoing education.)
- *Where is the greatest demand?* Operations side right now.
- *Which do you value the most: education or experience?* Both have high value. Depends on where in a person's career they are and what the hiring company is looking for. Education gets you in, your future is up to you.
- *Do you have interns?* Some larger companies do.
- *Are there opportunities for advancement?* Depends on you!
- *Would speaking multiple languages be important?* Yes! It makes you valuable.
- *What is most rewarding?* Seeing success of a group; constant mental stimulation; providing new opportunities to folks; making sure everyone goes home safe.
- *What led you to the role?* PR role that led to Shell; High School interest in Chemistry, pursued Chemical Engineering degree.

What would it take to interest you in a career in industry?

- Very safe and a lot of good things. Many different jobs are available. Used websites to get information.
- Would like to see what people do every day in your field.
- Personal stories
- Different roles-How did you get there?
- Different Experiences
- Open House Tour
- Looking for more information-like we are getting at this meeting.
- Actual jobs and what they do.
- Connection with education.
- Understanding Career Paths

What issues may be holding you and your peers back from considering a career in industry?

- Stigmas- Women in workplace. (Can do any job.)
- Won't make enough money. (You can get all the money you want.)

- Risk and the level of difficulty
- AP classes are the only ones that are getting the education in order to get a degree in “industry.”
- The flares that we see are a little scary. (The plant managers at the table discussed the function of the flare systems.)
- Are layoffs a big issue? Not for us, but we are small. Everyone is doing well right now. Layoffs are a function of the economy.
- If you work for a plant for some years, can you go to school and learn something else and get another job? Yes, people do it all the time.
- Too much math and science
- Misconceptions about industry