

# Deer Park Community Advisory Council

www.deerparkcac.org

## Meeting Notes Monday, November 28, 2022

The 305<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council was held on Monday, November 28, 2022, at the Republic Grill. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the agenda, which was accepted as proposed. The October 2022 meeting notes were approved without changes.

### ATTENDANCE

DPCAC Community Members		DPCAC Plant Members		Guests/Resources	
	Brian Babin, US Rep 36		Clean Harbors, Bruce Riffel	X	Victoria Clifton, EHCMA
X	Ruth Boyd	X	Dow Chemical Deer Park, Monty Heins	X	Sheryl DaPron
	Steve Corry, DPIISD	X	Evonik Oil Additives, Jim Bentinck-Smith, rep by Duke Ogega	X	Dave Kayser, Lubrizol
X	Kristina DeWitty, SJC	X	GEO Specialty Chemicals, Steve Outlaw	X	Brian Lawson, Dow
	Christine DiCosimo, TX Hse. Dist. 128	X	Intercontinental Terminals, David Wascome, rep. by Richard Howes	X	Betty Lemley
X	Ken Donnell	X	Lubrizol, Tanya Travis, rep. by Hector Acosta	X	Bradley Lyons, Westlake Epoxy
	Jamie Galloway, DP OEM	X	NOVVI, Alan Kominek, rep. by Bob Wolff	X	Kristi Marchand, EHCMA
X	Bobby Garcia	X	OxyVinyls PVC/KOH, Eric Delgado	X	Wanda Morris
X	Sherry Garrison	X	OxyVinyls VCM, Josh Munn	X	Stuart Mueller, Harris County Pollution Control
X	Tommy Ginn	X	Pemex Deer Park, Guy Hackwell	X	Jailinn Perez, DPIISD Student
X	Cara Herbeck		Pemex Deer Park, Jennifer Walsh	X	Sam Pipkin, LEPC
X	Steven Horton	X	Shell Deer Park, Nathan Levin	X	Madison Spinks, DPIISD Student
X	Norma Hysler		Shell Deer Park, Jessica Blackmore	X	Blake White, Harris County OEM
	Gretchen Knowles, Harris Co. Pct. 2	X	Texas Molecular, Jimmy Bracher, rep by Christina Perez	X	Daniel, Shell's Videographer
	Paula Moorhaj, DP Chamber		Valvoline, Robert Shelton		
	Tyler Padgett, SJC	X	Vopak Moda, Jeff Sanford, rep. by Duane Campbell		
	Bill Patterson, DP City Council		Vopak Terminal Deer Park, Kathy Stewart		
	Ariel Pena	X	Westlake Epoxy, Marlene Mercado		
X	Randon Pierson				Support Staff
	Vickey Roberts			X	Diane Sheridan, Facilitator
X	Andy Smith, San Jacinto Battleground			X	Anne Gowan, Facilitation Associate
X	Angela Smith, City of Deer Park			X	Marilyn Bass, Secretary
	Larry Taylor, TX Sen. Dist. 11				
	Charles Thomas				

X	Cheyenne Valdez			
X	David Wade			
	Ernest Weedon			

**Origins and History of the Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) and the Deer Park Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)**

*slides can be found at [www.deerparkcac.org](http://www.deerparkcac.org)*

Sam Pipkin of the Deer Park LEPC and Facilitator Diane Sheridan spoke about the formation and history of their respective organizations. Pipkin is a former DPCAC member, a former City of Deer Park Emergency Services Director, and has been involved in the LEPC for many years.

LEPC's were first formed after the 1986 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) which was passed after one of the world's largest industrial catastrophes in Bhopal India. Prior to the Act, Deer Park had already formed the local Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) and Implementation Committee. This committee recommended three additional committees be formed: Communications, Emergency Response and Community Awareness. Local industry has been a strong supporter of the LEPC since the very beginning. The Deer Park CAER team was the first to submit their membership list to the Harris County Judge and was appointed as an LEPC in August 1987. The City of Deer Park has remained committed and involved to the LEPC since its inception.

The DP LEPC has installed various systems over the years to alert the community of emergency situations. For example, they have utilized multiple telephone ring down systems to notify residents of emergency situations, such as Code Red which is utilized today. They have installed outdoor sirens and also utilize the Emerge/E-notify system to communicate with local officials and agencies. Also, the DP LEPC created and trademarked mascot Wally Wise in 1993 to teach children how to shelter-in-place in case of a chemical emergency. Additionally, the DP LEPC partners with industry and conducts incident and emergency response drills annually.

Sheridan is the Founding Facilitator of the DPCAC. In the 1980s there were several events that led to Hazardous Material Legislation and required industry to disclose pollutants. This generated discussion within industry on how best to communicate in ways that community members understood. Out of these discussions, community advisory councils (CACs) formed in LEPC areas to provide a forum in which local communities and industry could have open and frank discussion and exchange ideas.

The DPCAC is the second oldest CAC on the Ship Channel, with La Porte being only 1 month older. The first full meeting was held on March 26, 1990, and since the beginning it was a safe place to ask hard questions. The DPCAC serves as a resource to industry and the community at large on topics such as health, occupational, environmental, and economic issues. The DPCAC is an effective forum for community and industry to increase education and understanding.

**Updates**

**Written Facility Updates** - Members received regular periodic plant updates in advance of the meeting but the facilitator asked the plants who reported this month to share one or two highlights from their update that they wanted members to know about.

- **GEO Specialty Chemicals** – Steve Outlaw reported no reportable spills, excursions or air releases since last report. Last recordable injury was on June 30, 2022. GEO conducted their annual Emergency Response Drill on November 4<sup>th</sup> and thanked industry and community members that helped with this drill.
- **Dow – Deer Park Operations** –Monty Heins reported no agency Reportable Quantity (RQ) events during this period. The site received 1 delayed Notice of Violation (NOV) from the period November 1, 2020 – October 31, 2021. The Houston Hub Sites are now operating on the longest streak of incident free performance in the history of the facilities.
- **Novvi** – Bob Wolff reported zero RQ events, NOV and PSM events. There was 1 Recordable injury in May 2022-when an employee-injured their right thumb while moving a section of prefabricated piping. Due to plant production increases, Novvi plans to hire 4 new operators in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023.

**Ozone Exceedance Days** – Sheridan presented the TCEQ slide. There were no ozone exceedances in November in the Houston region. There has been an increase in exceedances of the 8-hour standard for the Houston region over the past three years.

**Program Planning Committee** – Sheridan reviewed the Program Plan for 2023. The plan was accepted and a copy will be posted on the Members page of [www.deerparkcac.org](http://www.deerparkcac.org).

## **Treasury Committee**

The East Harris County Manufacturers Association Deer Park Community Advisory Council considered and voted on business relating to the Treasury Committee, bank account signatories, and the 2023 Budget

**Motion #1** – Cara Herbeck moved the following recommendations from the East Harris County Manufacturers Association Deer Park Community Advisory Council (EHCMA DPCAC) Treasury Committee. Seconded by Ken Donnell.

- To accept the resignation of Steven Horton as EHCMA DPCAC Treasury Committee signatory to the EHCMA DPCAC bank accounts, effective when an additional signatory has been added. His current term on the Treasury Committee ends 12-31-22. The bank accounts at First Horizon Bank Deer Park Branch include checking account # XXXX4 and savings account # XXXX7.
- To appoint Sharon Lee Garrison to the Treasury Committee, effective immediately, to serve a term ending on 12-31-25.
- To appoint Marlene Mercado of Westlake Epoxy to serve another 3-year term as the plant member of the Treasury Committee, ending on 12-31-25.
- To confirm that Cara Herbeck remains a community member of the Treasury Committee and serves as Treasurer, with a term to expire on 12-31-23. She remains a signatory to the bank accounts. The bank accounts at First Horizon Bank Deer Park Branch include account # XXXX4 and savings account # XXXX7.
- To confirm that Robert Garcia remains a community member of the Treasury Committee, with a term to expire 12-31-24.
- To add, effective immediately, two EHCMA representatives as signatories to the EHCMA DPCAC bank accounts: MaryJane Mudd, Executive Director, and Monica Rhodes, Executive

Administrator. The bank accounts at First Horizon Bank Deer Park Branch include checking account # XXXX4 and savings account # XXXX7.

- To add, effective immediately, Robert Garcia of the EHCMA DPCAC Treasury Committee as a signatory to the EHCMA DPCAC bank accounts. The bank accounts at First Horizon Bank Deer Park Branch include checking account # XXXX4 and savings account # XXXX7.
- To add, effective immediately, Sharon Lee Garrison of the EHCMA DPCAC Treasury Committee as a signatory to the EHCMA DPCAC bank accounts. The bank accounts at First Horizon Bank Deer Park Branch include checking account # XXXX4 and savings account # XXXX7.

Motion **CARRIED**.

**Motion #2** -- Cara Herbeck moved to confirm that, for purposes of banking, the members of the Treasury Committee shall serve as the board of directors for East Harris County Manufacturer's Association Deer Park Community Advisory Council (EHCMA DPCAC), and the EHCMA DPCAC Secretary, Marilyn Bass, shall serve as secretary. Seconded by Norma Hyler. Motion **CARRIED**.

**Motion #3** - Cara Herbeck moved to adopt the 2023 East Harris County Manufacturer's Association Deer Park Community Advisory Council (EHCMA DPCAC) budget as presented. Seconded by Ken Donnell. Motion **CARRIED**.

## **Farewell To Diane Sheridan**

This was Diane Sheridan's last meeting as facilitator of the DPCAC. Diane has been the facilitator of the DPCAC since it began in 1990. In fact, she had been involved with the groups that promoted community industry dialogue prior to CAC formation as various roundtables and task forces were formed in the 1980's and community input was requested in various ways. She has been instrumental in creating a non-biased, effective community and industry forum, with objectives to influence industry decision makers, provide input to the community, provide a mechanism for plants to "test" ideas, promote understanding of community issues, educate plants and community about each other, and serve all groups of the community. Along the way, she has not only demonstrated her strong leadership skills but become a friend to many. Parting comments were offered by Monty Heins, David Wade, Bobby Garcia and Anne Gowan.

Anne Gowan will be the second facilitator of DPCAC, effective 1-1-2023. She has had experience working with DPCAC as Secretary in the past and as Facilitation Associate in 2022. She facilitates another CAC in the area and looks forward to working with DPCAC.

## **Plans for Future Meetings**

- **Monday, January 23, 2023** – State of the Plants Report
  - All plants will report on their 2022 achievements and their 2023 goals and plans. (2 min. each)
  - Plants will include expansions underway or planned if they have been announced.
- **Monday, February 27, 2023** – SH 225 and SH 146 Construction and Maintenance

- TxDOT will be asked to discuss projects underway and planned for SH 225 and SH 146, including the connectors to the new BW8 Bridge
- They will be asked to report on the “Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study” that covers the 610 East Loop and SH 225 and are expected to seek DPCAC input for that study.

### **Dates for 2023 - all Mondays**

Jan. 23  
Feb. 27  
Mar. 27  
Apr. 24

May 22 (before Memorial Day)  
No June meeting  
No July meeting  
Aug. 28

Sept. 25  
Oct. 23  
Nov. 27 (following Thanksgiving)  
No December meeting