

WPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING Minutes for October 18, 2022

ATTENDANCE Clement Young, WPCA Board of Directors – Chairman, John Klein, Osiba A. Nelson, Nina Thomas, Kenneth Flatto, City Finance Director, Stephen Walker, Finance Director, WPCA, Lauren Mappa, P.E. General Manager, WPCA

OTHERS: Vanessa Liles, Juliemar Ortiz, Evelyn, Nilsa, Zendia, Dione Dwyer, Jan Wilson, Tamsyn Ambler, PT Partners Andre’s Cell Mark Anastasi, City Attorney Ernest Newton, City Council – Liaison

Absent: Craig Nadrizny, Director -Public Facilities Jon Urquidi, City Engineer, Russell Liskov, City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Chairmen Young opened the meeting at 4: pm. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Old Business:

Corrected Minutes July 19, 2022; APPROVAL OF WPCA COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES by Comm. Thomas, 2nd by Comm Klein

Minutes of the September 20, 2022; Board of Directors Meeting APPROVAL OF WPCA COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES by Comm. Thomas, 2nd by Comm Flatto

Minutes of September 27, 2022; Special Meeting APPROVAL OF WPCA COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES by Comm. Thomas, 2nd by Comm Nelson

New Business:

- A) **PT Partners Presentation** – Juliemar Ortiz gave a brief description of PT Partners, their concerns and how do they along with GM Mappa can correct some of the issues regarding WPCA – she stated that she has monthly meetings that GM Mappa attends, and it was suggested by Comm. Flatto that Chairman Young attend as well.

PT Partners mentioned that PT is the only neighbor that is adjacent to the WPCA Facility PT Partners community based Black & Latina Organization committed to making sure low income; PT, Greens homes, and Trumbull gardens are empowered to break Systemic and Institutional challenges. Residents are 30% below median. 90% lease holders are single moms 50% Black 60% Latina’s small portion make up whites or others. Some issues are Mold, Access to mailboxes, & safety. Environmental Racism, Black and Brown Americans 79% more likely to

live within industrial pollution more than White's, Black & Brown breathe 56% more pollution than they cause while whites breathe 17% less than they generate. Effects are hazardous & deadly. Greatest impact is air quality, while air monitors air quality facts are needed for PT and the South end of Bridgeport. We feel that with the upgrades, along with the WPCA we could focus on that.

Empower community residents' leadership, Youth Programs Host meetings and Mutual aid. Anti-Oppression task force member are also on this zoom. Spoke about the Gary crooks center – and while sitting in on previous WPCA board Meeting with mentions of the gate being left open is a concern. Informed The Board that they are Partners with Alliance, Be The change CT, Burroughs Center East End NRZ Market Café to name a few and would like to add WPCA to that list. The PT Partners would like to be in full discussions with all stages of the design of the upgrade.

Discussion: Lauren mentioned that a previous meeting mentioned was a Water Summit not a WPCA meeting. WPCA approached the neighbors not the other way around; informed all, that the process of getting things done is a State level pace, and everyone needs to be patient. Comm Nelson told the PT Partners to keep coming to the meetings, we are all in this together for the better of city.

- B) **General Manager Report** – Presented great News to the Board – DEEP has approved Design money, we can begin November. 45% grant 55% loan which is fantastic it should take approx. 18 months for the design phase [until completion] Regular progress presentation meetings when relevant. Board will be kept abreast entire time. Comm. Flatto asked about the ARPA money allocating will be on top of the 45% grant then the rest will be loans – GM Mappa answered Yes. EPA inspection requiring a monthly report for 1 year of SSO's. We currently do this, but it goes to DEEP now we just have to send it the EPA as well They are asking for October's # going to October 2023. GM spoke to Inframark, and we have a format of what we will submit, that is the result of EPA inspection. We are still making numbers on both the East and West Side Plants that is 5 months in a row on West Side. It appears that Inframark has gotten the West Side Plant back on track, had a few rain events but still made #'s. WPCA has reviewed 1st draft of Pullman & Comley's agreement, we have read it, made comments & we meet tomorrow (10/19/22) before we go back to Attorneys with our ideas. Burns construction has moved on to next project they did Goddard Avenue now they are on Iranistan Avenue doing another 600 feet of pipe replacement. Grasso is still working on UB area – sewer separation project. That is going slow – a lot of Utility conflicts. Will be done by 12/31/23 which is the deadline. Question was asked regarding year end nitrogen credits Inframark responded, don't know unit price yet, but we are at 1205 per day average against the credit limit of 1041, so we are still higher. Most of that is due to the month of April – if we stay on this track of where we are right now [no promises] we will be very close to zero

C) **Financial Report** – 2 weeks ago we sent auditors the requested info, they had a few questions that I answered -moving along well. At the end of September, we are doing well Overall Revenue is under \$400 thousand majority has to do with septic tank ticket sales, not doing as good as prior years Septic Haulers are not buying tickets. Cash under by \$167 thousand. Still above by \$26 thousand Money coming in for month of October. Looks as if our cash will be on target for October. Collections \$126 thousand more this month than the same time last month. People in collections down by \$878 Thousand over this time last year. 2.6 million now 3.4 million last year People are paying less, and less people getting letters from our City Attorney's
Discussion: what % of the septic is down? S. Walker to get back to Comm. Thomas

D) **Inframark Report** – 5 months on WS meeting Nitrogen target Dry year, but we are handling wet weather days better. Agree with GM that we made enough changes that we are seeing the results of that. ES is still within the permit parameters. September, very busy in field operations – working with GM getting lines replaced. Working with smaller repairs that need to be done – a little impact on supply chain issues hasn't really affected us. Discussion: Gates still being an issue, is there a # that can be called when I see the gate opened and can a supervisor be sent to meet me? Phone number was provided, and answer was yes to a On Call supervisor can be present after call.

Other Business:

Motion to adjourn: Comm Flatto was not seconded