

**MINUTES OF THE TASK FORCE MEETING
BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE RESPONSE TASK FORCE**

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

TASK FORCE MEETING

The Bayview Hunters Point Environmental Justice Response Task Force convened the monthly meeting in the Southeast Community College, Alex Pitcher Room at 1800 Oakdale, Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco, California, on the above date.

I. Environmental Racism in Bayview-Hunters Point (BVHP)

Marie Harrison: BVHP is not just a community of color, it's a community in which racism in one of its more insidious forms has played out for a long time – in the form of a concentration of pollution and pollution industries, and the neglect of city agencies. For a long time, BVHP residents have had a hard time getting agency representatives to respond to pollution in BVHP. Today, when agencies don't respond, it's as if they are saying, "it doesn't concern me." In Marie's experience, this is three generations of illnesses, poor access to housing to medical care...For example to get to SF General from the hill, you have to take three buses and walk quite a distance. Then, you have other people coming in here and dumping their garbage. You won't see this happening in Pacific Heights. It's as if all of this is ok. And it is important to give all of this a name: racism.

Karen Cohn wanted a clarification of responsibilities in term of IVAN's alert system: when alerts go out, are they also being referred, by the IVAN task force, to relevant agencies? Is she supposed to directly respond to them, or can she also rely on the task force?

Roger Kintz responded with several points: (1) there is a referral list (on Google documents), who, in each agency, is the proper contact for each problem (and that this should be used by the task force); (2) More importantly, it's the folks in the room who are not here – it's important to get them on the list, get them to participate; (3) The mechanics of the site have not been working properly, all of the time; (4) there is an issue of quality control – what is the proper response time for each agency?

II. Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ) Presentation

LEJ has been trying to work with the San Francisco public schools on watershed education, which they hope can begin at a young age. There are a number of points in the curriculum where lesson plans on watersheds can be inserted. LEJ will be invested in microscopes, for their own environmental education programs, but these are expensive, and they hope for access to more resources.

LEJ visits 25-30 classes a year. They are hoping to get a naturalist employed by the district, and this will also help them work with schools more easily. Check out their website: <http://www.candlestickconnect.org>

Anne Eng recommended a small working group around fundraising, for multiple pending requests around arts and education.

III. Pending complaints on the IVAN website, and issues with the website and complaint process

Jackie Lane suggested that IVAN post a document explaining the backend process for agencies. This can include a list of problem solvers and their contact information. Anne Eng requested that IVAN contact 311 as well as forwarding complaints to DPW. DPW oversees over 300 collections of abandoned material a day. It's also possible alerts go to people's "clutter" boxes. There was a suggestion that there should be one problem solver who is ultimately responsible for forwarding all the complaints. It was agreed that the IVAN backend process needs to be clarified for agency staff.

Regan responded that to fix this issue, it will take both agencies and task force to work together. Also, there is a separate issue of BVHP residents sending the task force complaints to enter (usually an issue of not having access to a computer or smart phone).

Anne Eng was concerned about the response time for dumping in BVHP, especially with Yosemite Slough. There are abandoned cars, now with people living in them. It will take multiple agencies to coordinate and address dumping hot spots. SF Environment may begin a "Don't Dump on Bayview" campaign. They recently applied for a grant with Cal Recycle to put cameras up in hot spot locations. They did not receive the grant but will apply next year. ARB can help with placing and monitoring surveillance equipment, for a certain amount of time. They would use the cameras to look up license plates, for example.

A big issue of debate this afternoon regarded those without homes living in BVHP: What can be done to ensure that homeless people are protected but that illegally dumped trash, which near homeless encampments, is adequately addressed? As Etecia Brown (BVHP resident, with Greenaction), pointed out, homeless dumping is not a problem, it's other people who come into the Bayview who dump trash. We must be mindful of using homeless people as a scapegoat not to pick up trash in the neighborhood. It's also very important to not take homeless people's possession during a pick up event.

IV. Update about the Recology modernization

Tony, from Little Hollywood, reported that, although it took 6-7 months of working through the task force, Recology has finally address many of their complaints (there is still much to do, but Little Hollywood residents have been pleased with the progress thus far). The General Manager of Recology said that he hasn't seen the place look this good. They would still like a time table for Recology's plan to address remaining issues. Karen Cohn said she will follow up with Beronica Lee (DPH) about a schedule.

Important point: the IVAN Task Force has had a big influence on lessening the effects of Recology for those living in the area.

V. Discussion about April nighttime Task Force meeting

The next meeting will be **Thursday, April 21, 2016, from 6-8pm**. If any agency has small budget for refreshments, we would appreciate the support!

Anna Mascarenas (Asst Director of EJ and Tribal Affairs, DTSC) will be on the agenda. UCSC students will present on their project of technical support regarding the Navy's cleanup at the HP Shipyard. Jackie Lane reminded us that if the task force wants the Navy to come to the IVAN meeting, they need to send Derek Robinson a formal letter of invitation.

The recent NBC story on Tetra Tech (the Navy's contractors at the shipyard) and the illegal ways they have been cutting corners, regarding radioactive waste, was brought up. Lily Lee (with EPA) referred to two letters from the NRC, which give notice of "apparent violations." Diane Screnci, with the NRC, can be contacted at (610) 337-5330.

VI. Public Comment

ARB presented the "No Idling Sign," will meet with Marie to designate particular locations to place the sign. ARB will be doing inspections as well. A question was brought up: Do *buses* have clean air stickers? Answer: No, they don't – only heavy duty diesel trucks are required to have stickers. The rule is, if buses have at least one passenger on board, they have idle legally, for as long as possible.

LEJ recommended a "no idling" sticker is really needed at Carroll Street, near Ingalls.

Jackie Lane encouraged IVAN to report its successes, to let people know that things are happening with the Task Force. She also announced that there a **Navy meeting on April 13th**, at the YMCA, and they will address issues of dust control. Also, on May 14th and August 6th the Navy will be hosting bus tours of the shipyard.

Anne Eng suggested that the task force circulate the agenda in advance. Also, since we are approaching the 1-year anniversary of IVAN, the Task Force ought to produce a summary document, to catch people up on IVAN and its process.

Carol Harvey from Treasure Island spoke up about radiological issues from the Navy there, and that the same players (Tetra Tech, the Navy, Lennar) are involved.

Oscar James (a BVHP resident) spoke about his father working at the Hunters Point Shipyard, and how he remembers taking radioactive waste from Hunters Point to Treasure Island and to the Farrallon Islands. He hopes Tetra Tech will be charged for their negligence in remediation on HPNS. He is concerned for future generations that will be brought up in this neighborhood. He knows many people who worked on the shipyard who have had cancer. He stated that people in this community have been hurt, and it is important that those responsible be held responsible.

Roger Kintz announced that there will be a webinar on the SEP process on **March 30th, from 2-3pm**. There is a new policy that enforcement dollars will stay in affected communities. It is important that there is community input on how this money is spent.

VII. Next Steps

The google document with an agency contact referral list will be updated and posted on the bvhp-ivan.org webpage.

The 2016 Task Force meeting schedule will be posted on the webpage.

Park restoration and a living-history of Bayview Hunters Point will be placed on upcoming agendas.

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