Message

From: Cerasani, Gina [Cerasani.Gina@epa.gov]
Sent: 9/26/2019 8:45:09 PM
To: Mekeel, Edward [mekeel.edward@epa.gov]; Shewmake, Kenneth [shewmake.kenneth@epa.gov]; Michael J Lythcott [mlythcott@skeo.com]; Sarah Malpass [smalpass@skeo.com]; Miranda Maupin [mmaupin@skeo.com]
Subject: FW: Discussion on OPEN CAG meetings for new CAG at Lane Plating SF site in R6
Attachments: 1995 Guidance for Community Advisory Groups December 1995.pdf

Importance: High

Good afternoon,

After our call earlier and some subsequent discussions, I reached out to the Community Involvement and Program Initiatives Branch (CIPIB) to check on the appropriateness of a closed CAG meeting. As you'll see below from the CAG guidance (which is currently being updated but hasn't been completed yet, so this is the latest and current version from 1995), CAG meetings are expected to be open to the public.

I have serious reservations about providing facilitation for a CAG meeting that is closed to the public. It's also less than ideal and irregular, in my experience, that it's be held in a councilmember's office, a non-neutral site, but I think we can abide by that if it is opened to the public as per the CAG guidance.

I know that Ed will be out until Monday, and I know we've promised you a facilitator. Michael will be there, and he will decide when he has more information about the meeting if he can facilitate without violating professional and programmatic ethics. I am out of the office tomorrow, but if you need to reach me you can call me at Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

Best,
Gina

Gina M. Cerasani, Ph.D.
Acting Director, Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
"Making Agreement Easier"
(202) 564-0838
http://intranet.epa.gov/adr or http://www.epa.gov/adr

Watch this 3 minute video to learn more about mediation and facilitation at EPA

From: Leahy, Leslie
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 4:18 PM
To: Cerasani, Gina <Cerasani.Gina@epa.gov>
Cc: Margand, Freya <Margand.Freya@epa.gov>
Subject: Discussion on OPEN CAG meetings for new CAG at Lane Plating SF site in R6

Gina
Early on in the CAG guidance it articulates CAG meetings are OPEN. As noted in the section about the Public Notice (section 2.3.2):
In section 2.3.2, "**2.3.2 Public Notice**
The notice should be published approximately two weeks in advance of the CAG Information Meeting and should include the following information:
• A statement that the meeting is open for

public attendance and participation;

And in section 2.4 in the CAG Guidance it further states: "The Information Meeting and subsequent CAG meetings should be held in a central location and at a convenient time for community members."

But it is not until section 7 where it has what we should direct this CAG to –

7.3 Meetings

All CAG meetings should be open to the public. The meetings should be announced publicly (via display ads in newspapers, flyers, etc.) well enough in advance (e.g., two weeks) to encourage maximum participation of CAG and community members.

Leslie Leahy
Community Involvement & Program Initiatives Branch
Office of Superfund and Remediation and Technology Innovation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Tel 703-603-8707
https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement