

Murphy Oil USA, Inc.
Superior Refinery Community Advisory Panel
May 5, 2005
Minutes

Attendees: Bob Browne, Bobbi Engstrom Germond, Doug Finn, Robert Jennings, Keith Kesler, Carol Lindberg, Asst. Chief Tad Matheson, Sister Gen Schillo.

Industry Representatives: Dave Podratz, Liz Lundmark, Corey Mead.

Guests: Rachel Shiminick, Brandon Greenfield, Alex Dunning, Cassie O'Neil, Superior Middle School students; Becky O'Brien, Superior Middle School Teacher; Angela Johnson, Superior High School Chemistry Teacher; Steven High, Superior Middle School Principal; Gregory Guenard, potential member; Jim Kehoe, potential member.

Facilitator: Tod Lyons, Ann Green Communications, Inc.

Minutes: Tod Lyons.

The regular meeting of the Superior Refinery Community Advisory Panel (CAP) was held on Thursday, May 5, 2005 at Superior Middle School Library. Facilitator Tod Lyons called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Tod welcomed all our guests and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

The minutes of the April meeting were accepted as received.

Refinery Update

Dave Podratz gave the plant update. Dave gave some brief background about the Superior Refinery CAP for the benefit of our guests. He reported no spills in April, but there were four reportable air events. (Please see the attached sheet for details). Dave also reported there were no water permit exceedances. In fact, Dave said the last problem they had with a water permit was May 7, 2003.

Dave reported an employee loading a rail car; discovered a propane vapor leak in the car and was able to patch the leak. The car was then emptied. Also, another employee found a leak in a hot oil line. It was temporarily repaired and will be fixed permanently when the plant goes through its next turnaround process. Dave also reported that there was a near miss with a contractor working near high voltage power lines. There were no injuries, but the contractor was moved quickly away from the power lines. There were no first aid cases for the month.

Operationally, the Superior plant charged about 36,000 barrels/day of oil for the month of April, which is up compared to the last several months. Margins have improved slightly, Dave said.

The plant participated in an annual spill response drill April 19. Also, the company did some security breach drills in April, which resulted in the termination of one guard for not properly doing his duties.

Wisconsin Public Television was on the property shooting footage for a documentary about the history of the Superior Refinery. Dave said the show should air sometime in the fall.

Goose attacks are on the rise at the plant. Since Murphy Oil has installed a wetlands area, the geese have begun to reside and nest near the wetland. If employees get too close to the nests, geese have been known to attack!

Mini Grant Presentations

Superior Middle School

Four students and three teachers from Superior Middle School along with a number of parents and siblings of students attended the meeting to listen to the students' mini-grant presentations. The middle school students worked at Wisconsin Point on Lake Superior and conducted a number of tests at several different stations on the point. The group thanked Murphy Oil and the CAP for the mini-grants. Also, they mentioned assistance they received from the University of Wisconsin, Superior.

Superior High School

Angela Johnson, a chemistry teacher at the high school, gave their mini-grant presentation. Many of the students who participated in the testing, etc. were busy with sports and other school activities and were unable to attend. The high school group did a study at Lake Amnicon.

Angela explained this was the second year her chemistry class received the mini-grant, and she thanked Murphy and the CAP for the assistance. The grant helped them rent canoes to do tests off shore and allowed them to purchase GPS systems to pinpoint where exactly on the lake they were taking samples, so samples could be taken in the same locations each year. Students also were required to do a lab practical while taking samples from the lake.

Angela explained Lake Amnicon was not as healthy as it could be. One CAP member asked if they have shared their findings with the local Lake Association or others who might be interested in the samples and results. Angela said they hope to do that before the fall.

Continuing Business

Communications

There were no reports from the Communications Committee. However, Robert Jennings asked if the planning calendar could be added to the website with dates and topics so people interested could see what the CAP does and the community topics of interest we discuss.

Emergency Preparedness

Keith Kesler reported Douglas County is moving forward with the 2005 Homeland Security grant monies.

Tad Matheson reported the fire department participated in the spill response exercise at Murphy Oil. The exercise went well. There was good discussion and good cooperation between agencies. Dave Podratz spoke briefly about Murphy Oil's response plan and that perhaps a presentation about the response plan could be a future meeting topic. Tad also reported the Superior Fire Department's Dive Team was receiving training in Milwaukee about how to effectively dive on submerged ships and sunken vessels. The team did assist the Coast Guard with a sunken vessel last month.

It was mentioned that Scott Campbell was hospitalized recently for possible prostate cancer. Tad reported that Scott has had surgery.

Dave brought the group up-to-date on the new warehouse being built along Hill Avenue. They have a contractor in place and they hope to have the new building completed by the fall. The company is waiting on a wetlands permit from the Corps of Engineers.

Youth Education

There was no report because Mini-grant presentations were done.

Unfinished Business

CAP Fifth Year Anniversary

The CAP discussed options for the Fifth Anniversary CAP celebration. The group suggested a nice dinner outside at either the Boat House or Barkers Island on Lake Superior. Dave said Murphy Oil would be willing to hold a special dinner for the CAP members. The CAP voted to have the celebration on Thursday, August 4 at the Boat House Restaurant. Spouses or significant others are invited to attend.

Tod will contact John Robinson of the Department of Natural Resources to reschedule the August speaker. Tod also will follow up with Dave and put together a CAP highlights presentation that covers some of the significant CAP accomplishments over the years. Tod will include the anniversary celebration on the next agenda so CAP members can be kept up-to-date.

Ping Pong Table for Prisoners

The CAP discussed how they might be able to donate a ping pong table to the local prison. Dave said the CAP itself does not have funds available for something like that, but he knows of a slightly used ping pong table that could be donated by the end of the summer. CAP members who want, can make a voluntary donation to help purchase ping pong paddles and balls to accompany the ping pong table. Tod will collect donations at the next CAP meeting.

Next Meeting and Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the Superior Emergency Communications Center at the New Government Center on the corner of Hammond and Belknap Streets. It was suggested directions to the entrance of the Communications Center be included on the next reminder notice. Tod will get directions from Keith Kesler to include on the reminder notice. At the meeting, the group will be broken into smaller groups to get a tour of the center from the center supervisor.

Jim Kehoe, a guest and potential new member, thanked the CAP for inviting him to the meeting tonight. Tod will send Jim some information about the CAP and invite him again to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, June 2, 2005
Tour - Superior Emergency Communications
Center
5:30 p.m. – Dinner
6 p.m. – Meeting