



**Environmental Advisory Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 2, 2019**  
**5:30 P.M.**  
**City Hall, Meeting Room 3**  
**165 Church Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**New Haven, Connecticut**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Laura Cahn, EAC  
Judi Sheiffele, NH Port Authority  
Pierre Barbour, NHSWRA  
Iris Kaminski, EAC  
Emiliano Tahni Gomez, Yale Daily News  
Florestine Taylor, EAC  
Dawn Henning, City Engineering Dept  
David Paquette, Safety-Kleen Systems  
Mary Pasti  
Kathy Fay, EAC  
Henry Auer, EAC  
Kristyn Gorton, EAC  
Bryan Girts, Safety-Kleen Systems  
Rich Domschine, Safety-Kleen Systems  
Anthony Allen  
Anstress Farwell  
Kevin McCarthy, EAC  
Linwood H Brandham

**I. Call to Order and Announcements**

**II. Approval of Minutes of September Meeting**

KF moved, FT seconded, all in favor, none opposed.

**III. Old Business**

**a. Committee Reports –**

**Lawn Chemicals - LC –**

--9/23/19 - Monsanto negotiating with 18,000 people who sued after exposure to glyphosate caused them non-Hodgkins lymphoma. <https://usrtk.org/monsanto-roundup-trial-tracker-index/>

--7/1/19 - UConn researchers advocate correct grass seeding and mowing instead of artificial turf or herbicides. <https://today.uconn.edu/2019/07/controlling-weeds-playing-fields-parks-lawns-without-herbicides/>

NYTimes Article about glyphosate: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/20/business/bayer-roundup.html>

**Energy –**

KF – HA asked people to share their questions about energy. KM is sorting the questions into categories. ETF will be inviting guests to answer them.

SD – serves on new Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force. The City has purchased 100% green energy for city-owned buildings.

**Water – IK –**

--No drought in spite of very little rain.

--Iris is compiling a list of follow-up questions for RWA after our discussion with them last month.

KF – RWA should be asked to publicize our city pesticide ban.

**Materials Management – No Report**

**Transportation – KG –** CDOT is forming a Customer Advisory Panel to help with design of new generation rail cars. Commuters on instate rail lines are encouraged to apply:

<https://today.uconn.edu/2019/07/controlling-weeds-playing-fields-parks-lawns-without-herbicides/>

**Soil – No Report**

**Turf – No Report**

**Parks – KG –** BoA approved skate board park in Scantlebury Park. Yale will pay.

**b. Updates on Pending Issues –**

**i. Light Pollution/Trespass Ordinances –** new laws now in effect

**ii. Wheeler St Transfer Station –** resubmitted application to city this week

**English Station Power Plant –** meeting at Martinez School 11/19, 6p

**iii. Plastic Bag Reduction Plan –** homework for next meeting: take notes on how each store is dealing with plastic bags now that the 10-cent state tax is in effect.

DH – Peapod by Stop & Shop delivers groceries in many plastic bags (which can be given for recycling)

AA – ShopRite Milford removed self-check-out stations because customers could not use them without plastic bags. KF – More people will have jobs ringing up purchases.

**c. Educational Initiatives – (tabled)**

**i. New Haven Bird/Native Plant Contest**

**ii. Sustainability Bee**

**d. City and State Sustainability Initiatives -**

**i. NH Climate & Sustainability Framework –** DH – no updates reported by anyone.

**ii. Sustainable CT –** DH - Comments on 2019 application have arrived. Certification levels will be announced 12/3/19. EAC will have a party 12/4/19 to celebrate.

**IV. Discussion: Expansion of Safety-Kleen Facility on Forbes Ave.**

**Bryan Girts, - VP, Corporate Real Estate, Clean Harbors**

**David Paquette – Dir., Branch Engineering, Safety-Kleen**

**Richard Domschine, Terminal Mgr, Safety-Kleen**

(power point slides sustainability brochure, and manual to be attached)

LC –

1. 10/3 - 6p CSEP meeting (tomorrow) – Item 2 concerns city ceding block of Waterfront Street from Forbes Ave to river to Safety-Kleen

2. EAC requested a CPC public hearing on Safety-Kleen Coastal Site Plan. CPC granted request. Hearing will take place 10/16 - 7p. (letter attached)

JS – New Haven Port Authority supports this expansion plan.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS --

1. Process for recycling used motor oil was described. Used oil is divided into types. Some is sold for fuel. Some is sent to reprocessing plants. Heated toxins are scrubbed before being released into the air.
2. Why does the plan include two rail spurs -- not just one? The one line splits into two spurs, each of which accommodates two tanker cars.
3. Does this plan have sufficient space for the rail spurs and additional 8 storage tanks? Yes.

Will the density cause any danger on the site? No.

4. Do you have a plan for removing the used motor oil from the Forbes Avenue site in the event of a severe storm threat? Tanks are never completely emptied. Before a storm enough oil is put in each tank to make sure it does not become buoyant.

5. Why should New Haven sell Safety-Kleen a city street block? Won't every business feel entitled to similar treatment? This is a unique situation with a piece of land on which nothing can be built because of the pipeline underneath and which must be able to be used for emergency access to the water.

6. Why have you chosen New Haven for your consolidation instead of one of your other CT sites? Rail access of used oil will decrease truck traffic and make transport more efficient. Barge access is convenient for fuel transport.

7. Are there plans to bring used motor oil from other states too? Only motor oil already being brought to Bridgeport and New Haven will be brought here. There are regional collection points in other states along rail lines.

IK – Does not want NH to be only full of industry. AF – NH wants and needs industry at its port to thrive.

AF – How can we be sure there will not be problems with hose connections, etc.? Excerpt from manual compiled for the Coast Guard deals with that issue.

LC – Do you have a sustainability plan? Yes, in a brochure.

AF – Bicyclists have had problems riding over railroad tracks. Please try to address that issue.

SD – Do your trucks use local roads (Quinnipiac, etc.) when the highway is backed up? Please institute a rule that drivers should not use local roads but should stay on the highway even in the event of back-ups. We have a very high asthma rate.

KF - If the motor oil does not smell, what can be smelled from the Q Bridge? Hot asphalt.

## **V. Legislative Update – City, State, and Federal** (tabled)

## **VI. Adjournment**

**FUTURE MEETINGS: November 6, December 4**