

Newtown Creek Steering Committee Meeting  
Thursday, May 24, 2018  
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET

### **Attendees**

Leah Archibald  
Lisa Bloodgood  
Willis Elkins  
Kelly MacDonald  
Paul Pullo  
Mitch Waxman

#### **1. Upcoming CAG Meetings**

- The CAG would like to hold a general CAG meeting in June in Queens. The Steering Committee asked Kelly to reach out to EPA about EPA staff's availability for several potential meeting dates identified by the Steering Committee.
  - Mitch Waxman expressed interest in introducing members of the Blissville Civic Association at the next general CAG meeting.
- The CAG would like to hold a CAG technical meeting in July to make up for the meeting not held in May. The Steering Committee asked Kelly to reach out to EPA about EPA staff's availability for several potential meeting dates identified by the Steering Committee.

#### **2. Facilitator Selection**

- Willis Elkins shared several additional interview questions with selected candidates; the Steering Committee agreed to move forward with the final selection once the responses from candidates are in. Committee members noted that the selection process can be finalized via email. The goal is to have the facilitator on board before the June and July meetings.
- Mitch expressed approval for Willis to select the facilitator.

#### **3. Additional Information Requests, Partnerships and Presentation Ideas**

- Lisa Bloodgood suggested following up with Anchor QEA to learn more about the additional sampling. Willis suggested that the Steering Committee reach out to the Newtown Creek Group directly for this information.
- Mitch suggested asking EPA for an expanded description of the potentially responsible parties (PRPs). Information of interest includes PRP selection criteria and the PRPs' liabilities.
- Willis noted that Council Member Stephen Levin met with EPA recently. Willis plans to follow up with the Council Member's office. Willis suggested that EPA Region 2 administrator Pete Lopez meet with the CAG and/or Steering Committee.
- Riverkeeper and Newtown Creek Alliance have not yet presented the *Newtown Creek Vision Plan*. Lisa suggested Riverkeeper present it at an upcoming CAG meeting.

- Mitch suggested trying to engage the New York & Atlantic Railway in future Newtown Creek-related discussions. Leah Archibald will reach out to a representative. Willis mentioned that he has been in conversation with staff from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.
- Mitch noted that New York City Department of Environmental Protection is moving forward with the pilot wetland project in Dutch Kills. He is interested in comparing data from before and after the project to understand outcomes. Mitch suggested that the CAG's Technical Committee could use the data for a citizen science project.