



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

Monthly Meeting of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

FINAL March 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at the DOE Information Center, 1 Science.gov Way, Oak Ridge, TN, beginning at 6 p.m. Copies of referenced meeting materials are attached to these minutes. A video of the presentation portion of the meeting was made and is available on the board's YouTube site at www.youtube.com/user/ORSSAB/videos.

Members Present

Leon Baker
Richard Burroughs
Bill Clark
Amy Jones
Harriett McCurdy

Georgette Samaras
Leon Shields, Vice Chair
Bonnie Shoemaker,
Secretary
Fred Swindler

John Tapp
Rudy Weigel

Members Absent

Andrea Browning (call-in)
Noah Keebler
Shell Lohmann, Chair

Marite Perez
Brooke Pitchers¹
Robert Whitaker

Dennis Wilson

¹Third consecutive absence

Liaisons, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, and Alternates Present

Dave Adler, ORSSAB Deputy Federal Designated Officer, DOE-OREM
Steve Cooke, OREM
Kristof Czartoryski, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)
Connie Jones, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (call-in)

Others Present

Shelley Kimel, ORSSAB Support Office
Sara McManamy-Johnson, ORSSAB Support Office
Avi Duke, Oak Ridge High School Student Representative
Roger Petrie, UCOR

Six members of the public were present.

Liaison Comments

Mr. Adler – Mr. Adler told attendees that Mr. Mullis was unable to attend because he was at the Waste Management Conference.

Mr. Czartoryski – None.

Presentation

Ms. Jones introduced Steve Cooke, presenter for the evening's topic on Reuse and Historic Preservation at East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP).

Mr. Cooke gave attendees an overview on the history of ETTP, including the former K-25 building, from its construction to its significance in world events. He told members that DOE has worked with 12 consulting parties to identify ways to preserve the historical significance of the facility. He said through the process, artifacts were collected and historic American engineering record documentation for several of the field facilities was developed. The most recent accomplishment was the opening of the K-25 History Center on the second floor of the City of Oak Ridge fire station located approximately at the center of the site. He said the K-25 History Center is a good example of a partnership with the City of Oak Ridge, who owns the building, with the National Parks Service, who was involved in all the reviews for the exhibits and who has put together the first exhibit in the changing gallery portion of the history center, and the DOE Office of Science, who operated the American Museum of Science and Energy.

Next, Mr. Cooke discussed the future of the ETTP site. He said DOE envisions a future that incorporates historic preservation, but also has industrial space for jobs and provides space for conservation, and he further discussed the mechanisms that enable property transfers at the site. He then presented an overview of the Heritage Center and Horizon Center and discussed the process to bringing those to fruition, including building demolitions, soil and groundwater remedial actions and property transfers. He presented a timed series of slides showing the progress in building demolitions. Regarding soil remediation, Mr. Cooke said the site is divided into two zones, with Zone 1 being about 1,200 acres and Zone 2 being about 800 acres. He said a lot of progress has been made on soil remediation, but there is still significant work ahead.

Mr. Cooke told members that more of the site is likely to end up in conservation that was originally anticipated. He said DOE partnered with the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET) and realized some parts of the site would be more difficult to develop. As a result, he said, there will be more greenspace than originally anticipated, and this will open up more areas for greenways – a benefit to the National Park Service (NPS), who envisions connecting the historic park to surrounding greenspace.

Next, Mr. Cooke presented illustrations depicting the amount of the site already transferred and told members there is a rigorous process of regulator approvals for transferring the property and transferring safety oversight to the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA).

After the presentation, board members asked the following questions:

- Ms. McCurdy asked for additional clarification on what transferring property entails.
 - Mr. Cook said transferring property involves assembling the environmental documentation – detailed characterizations of the property – and putting together the package for review and approval by the EPA and TDEC. He said those approvals take a few months to accomplish. Next, various program offices at DOE headquarters must concur, and then the Secretary of Energy must sign off. Finally, Congressional

- notification completes the process for approval to transfer. He emphasized that the process involves several required approvals. Ms. McCurdy - What it means to transfer?
- Ms. McCurdy asked whether corporations receiving the property are purchasing the property or being given the property.
 - Mr. Cook said DOE's partner for reindustrialization is CROET, and any entity can request property but typically it's been them and in some cases the city of Oak Ridge that have requested property from us, and using the authorities that we have been given to transfer this property, we can transfer at no cost. That has been the case for most of the property out here. Once it's transferred to CROET, they can sell it to developers – they're a Not for Profit – they use the proceeds of that to put back into the redevelopment of the site.
 - Mr. Tapp asked if DOE is working with partners in addition to CROET on the conservation land.
 - Mr. Adler said that as CROET is DOE's partner regarding economic development, DOE hopes the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) will become a partner in managing the wildlife areas. He said there is a lot of land that is great as wildlife habitats and presents a lot of recreational opportunities for greenways and such. He said DOE is in early discussions with the State of Tennessee and they seem very interested. He said such a partnership could ultimately lead to a deed transfer to TWRA so they could manage it as another wildlife resource management area, similar to an existing arrangement for the Black Oak Ridge conservation easement to the north of the site.
 - Mr. Tapp asked if DOE was familiar with a Legacy Parks Foundation study that had been done that included ETPP and the opportunities there.
 - Mr. Adler said he was on the steering committee for that effort, and he said the Legacy Parks Foundation (LPF) is very enthusiastic about potential opportunities at ETPP because it's got space for everything – biking, hiking, hunting, etc. – and its proximity to the national park makes for a natural synergy for that type of use.
 - Mr. Clark asked if there would be any possibility that entities receiving the land have to say they would create certain numbers of jobs in exchange for the transfer.
 - Mr. Cook said entities requesting the property address that in the proposals they submit for consideration, but there's not a specific requirement.

Questions from the Public

None.

Public Comment

None.

Board Business/Motions

1. Mr. Shields asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda.
 - a. **3.11.20.1 Motion to approve the agenda**
Motion made by Jones and seconded by Shoemaker. Motion passed unanimously.

Responses to Recommendations & Alternate DDFO Report

Ms. Noe said there are no open recommendations, but new member packages are still in process.

Committee Reports

Executive – Mr. Shields said executives discussed the upcoming Spring Chairs Meeting in Las Vegas.

EM & Stewardship – Ms. Jones said the last meeting included a lot of good questions about the ETP Main Plant Groundwater Feasibility Study.

Additions to the Agenda & Open Discussion

None.

Action Items

Open

None

Closed

None

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the March 11, 2020, meeting of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board.



Michelle Lohmann, Chair



Bonnie Shoemaker, Secretary

March 10, 2021

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board