Defense Personnel Support Center
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
Fact Sheet

The first meeting of the newly appointed members of the Defense Personnel Support Center's Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) will be held on June 15, 1995. DPSC has prepared this fact sheet to provide more information to its RAB members and the general public on the overall purpose and operation of the RAB.

The Role of the RAB in Environmental Cleanup

Over the last few years, the U.S. Department of Defense has refined its approach to environmental cleanup at military bases that are scheduled for base realignment and closure (BRAC). To provide a partnership approach to the environmental cleanup, the Defense Department has called for the formation of BRAC Cleanup Teams (BCTs) and RABs.

The purpose of the BCT is to direct cleanup activities. The BCT has three members—one each from the base, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PaDER). BCT members meet regularly and work as partners and primary decision-makers in the cleanup.

The RAB consists of community and government agency representatives, with all members having equal status. Although the RAB is not a decision-making body, it provides input on the environmental cleanup program and acts as an advisor to the BCT. The RAB is also the focal point for communicating with the public. The purpose of the RAB is to provide a forum for effective two-way communication between community members, DPSC, and regulatory agencies. As an advisory committee, the RAB reviews environmental documents and plans, provides advice and relates community concerns to DPSC, and communicates back to the community. The RAB and DPSC share responsibility for encouraging further public participation and informing the community of upcoming plans.

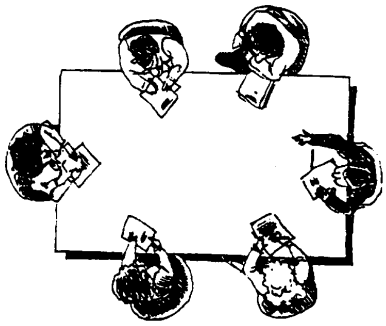
Selection of RAB Members

Public information meetings were held at DPSC on January 19 and March 16, 1995, to provide information about the RAB and to request applications for membership. DPSC distributed news releases, public notices, and flyers to advertise both meetings. DPSC also made membership applications, fact sheets, and other handouts available at the meetings.

Thirty-five people applied for membership on the RAB. DPSC's Commander, Army Brigadier General Carl H. Freeman, was so encouraged by the enthusiastic response that he offered membership to all 35 applicants. Members include community residents, community leaders, and local employers, in addition to the three members of the BCT.

How the RAB Operates

The RAB operates in an advisory role rather than a decision making role. Beyond this basic guideline, each RAB has the flexibility to establish its own rules of order. One of the first tasks for DPSC'S RAB will be to adopt an initial set of operating rules. Many RABs have adopted the Roberts Rules of Order, while others have used a more informal set of rules. At a minimum, the RAB reviews minutes from prior meetings, follows agendas, takes minutes, and sets future meeting dates and agendas. The RAB will conduct regular meetings, open to the public, at convenient times and locations.



The RAB will have two co-chairpersons. Mr. Bill Stem, the DPSC BRAC Environmental Coordinator, is one co-chair. The other co-chair will be a community

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DPSC RAB Membership

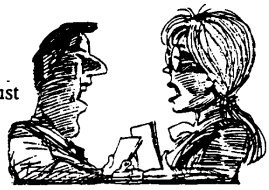
Mr. Rocco Bene

Mr. Steven Scott

representative from the RAB who is selected by the community RAB members. The co-chairs coordinate the RAB meetings.

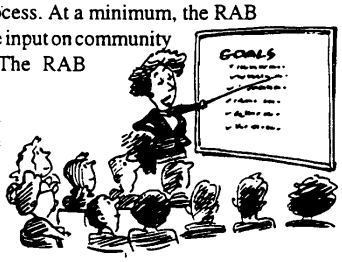
Ingredients for a Successful RAB

- Open, honest communication
- Understanding and trust
- Shared goals
- Willingness to forge partnerships



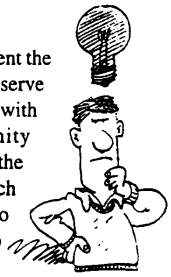
Potential RAB Activities

The RAB can be a valuable partner in the BRAC cleanup process. At a minimum, the RAB will provide input on community concerns. The RAB also is encouraged to provide technical comments on cleanup plans and reports. Since the RAB is the primary focal point for communicating with the community, a RAB may coordinate community outreach efforts such as newsletters, public information forums, and public meetings. The achievements of the RAB depend on the dedication of its members and the leadership of its co-chairpersons.



Role of the General Public

One purpose of the RAB is to represent the interests of the general public and to serve as a focal point for communicating with the local community. Community members are encouraged to observe the RAB meetings. At the end of each meeting, the RAB will provide time to answer questions or listen to comments from the general public.



For More Information

Do you have any questions or want to know more about DPSC's RAB? Call the RAB Hotline at (215) 737-YRAB (9722).

DPSC RAB Membership

Mr. Rocco Bene
S. Phila. Board of Realtors

Mr. Forrest Blood
DPSC employee/AFGE union representative

Mr. Edward Bonett, Jr.
Local resident

Mr. Jack Carr
Girard Academic Music program coordinator

Ms. Myrtle Carter
Passyunk Home Tenant Council

Mr. Sam Celia
Local resident

Ms. Judy Cerrone
Stadium Community Council/Navy Base RAB member

Mr. Domenic Dinella
Local resident

Hon. Robert Donatucci (Rita Ruffo)
185 District/State Representative

Ms. Lori Flynn
Department of Commerce

Mr. John Geraci
Packer Park Civic Association (boardmember)

Mr. Anthony Greco
S. Phila. Communities Civic Assoc. (president)

Mr. Herbert Harman
Retired DPSC/DCASR employee

Mr. George Hatton, Jr.
Local resident

Ms. Gloria J. Inverso
S. Phila. Environmental Action Coalition

Ms. Phyllis Marino
Gerard Estate Area Residents (boardmember)

Mr. Angelo Mattei

Dr. Mohamad Mazid*
PA Department of Environmental Resources

Ms. Ginny Nunes
Local resident/DPSC employee

Mr. Frederick Nuxoll
SEPTA (surface schedules mgr.)

Mr. Dennis Orenshaw*
U.S. Environ. Protection Agency, Region III

Mr. Michael Ruffner
Sun Oil, Inc. (refinery mgr.)

Ms. Marlene Santore
Navy Base Hospital RAB/Re-Use committee affiliate

Mr. Theodore Scairate, Sr.
Local resident

Mr. Steven Scott
Homeowners association (president)/George Young Co.(operations mgr.)

Ms. Evelyn Sonsini
Veterans Stadium Neighbors (president)

Mr. Charles Stagner
DPSC BRAC Transition Office

Mr. Nicholas Surenci
Local resident

Ms. Juanita Sutton
Local resident

Mr. Bill Stem*•
DPSC Environmental Office Chief

Hon. Anne Verna
Councilwoman, 2nd District

Ms. Phyllis Voci
Local resident and DPSC employee

Ms. Maria Walker
Office of U.S. Representative Thomas Foglietta

Mr. James N. Whalen
Hazardous Materials Administration Unit

Dr. Michael Zarro
Packer Park Civic Assoc. (president)

*** BRAC Cleanup Team member**
• RAB Co-chair