

**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
U. S. NAVAL STATION, ROOSEVELT ROADS**

July 20, 1994- MEETING MINUTES

Place of meeting: **Community Center, Ceiba, PR 00735**

Meeting Attendees: **See Attachment 1.**

Meeting Agenda: **See Attachment 2.**

8:40 pm- Mrs. Madeline Rivera, Installation Restoration Program Manager, Naval Station welcomed the attendees. She introduced Mr. Sindulfo Castillo, Assistant Director, Environment Engineering Division; Lt. S. Perkins, Director, Environmental Engineering Division; Commander L. Marchette, Head, Public Works Department; and Captain Wood, Naval Station Commanding Officer. She, also, introduced Mrs. Irma Pedraza, Mayoress of Ceiba. Mrs. Pedraza told the attendees that the Navy, together with her office, advertized this second meeting, and distributed more information to the community. She said that we must continue with these meetings to improve the communication between the Station and the Ceiba community.

Mrs. Rivera presented the agenda and exhorted the attendees to ask questions during the presentation. The slide presentation covered topics about the purpose of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). She said that the Board will serve as a forum for discussion and exchange of information about restoration issues between the Naval Station and the community. The Board provides an opportunity to the community to review and comment on restoration documents. The existing Technical Review Committee (TRC) which includes members from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) of Puerto Rico, the Department of Natural Resources and the Navy will be expanded to include community members. The priority for membership will be given to residents of Ceiba, Naguabo, and Vieques; local environmental groups; and local business which together represent diverse interests. The Board will be chaired by a community co-chair, who will be elected by the community members; and a Navy co-chair. The chairpersons will work together to plan the meetings. Mrs. Rivera discussed the membership application and encouraged those present to fill one, and to take few extra copies to pass to friends.

A Ceiba resident raised the concern of how this board will help the Ceiba to solve their solid waste problem. He suggested that, to convince people to participate on this board, the Navy must sell to the community the idea that the Board will also work to solve the town of Ceiba's solid waste problem. Mrs. Rivera

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answered that she represented the Navy. If the town of Ceiba wants to establish a Board to solve their problems, they could invite the Navy to participate, the same way that the Navy is inviting the community to participate on their Board.

Captain Wood told this person that the Navy was willing to help the community if they desire so, but the Restoration Advisory Board is being formed to inform the people about the Navy restoration. Mrs. Pedraza also addressed the concern saying that the community can learn from the Navy by working together as a group. Also, to benefit from the Navy's expertise to help them with their environmental problems.

Following this discussion, Mrs. Rivera summarized the Installation Restoration program. She described each site, its location, and future plans.

Mrs. Rivera exhorted the attendees to fill in an application. Seven people turned in completed applications.

9:25 pm - Meeting was open for questions. The attendees voiced their satisfaction about working together with the Navy and improving the two sides communication.

Meeting Adjourned: **9:45 pm.**