

**From:** Curt Guyette <[cguyette@aclumich.org](mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 11, 2015 8:40 PM

**To:** Lea Moste <[lwalters313@gmail.com](mailto:lwalters313@gmail.com)>; Melissa Mays <[indigrace@gmail.com](mailto:indigrace@gmail.com)>; [revalharris1@hotmail.com](mailto:revalharris1@hotmail.com); Claire McClinton <[crmccclinton@comcast.net](mailto:crmccclinton@comcast.net)>; Nayyirah Shariff <[nayyirah.shariff@gmail.com](mailto:nayyirah.shariff@gmail.com)>; Laura Sullivan <[dr.laura2@gmail.com](mailto:dr.laura2@gmail.com)>; Marc Edwards <[edwardsm@vt.edu](mailto:edwardsm@vt.edu)>

**Cc:** Darrell Dawsey <[ddawsey@aclumich.org](mailto:ddawsey@aclumich.org)>; Rana Elmir <[relmir@aclumich.org](mailto:relmir@aclumich.org)>; Giancarlo Guzman <[gguzman@aclumich.org](mailto:gguzman@aclumich.org)>

**Subject:** Important Flint Water Testing Update

Hello everyone. An executive decision has been made. We will be dining tomorrow (Wednesday) at

### **BD'S Mongolian Barbeque**

4205 Miller Rd # 19

Flint, MI 48507

Let's try to meet around 6:30.

If you can, send me a message letting me know if you can make it.

Here's a tentative agenda:

1. Updates from everyone regarding collection of names, and setting a schedule for when we realistically think all 400 names can be collected and entered into a spreadsheet.
2. Discussion of locations where kits can be delivered. Pastor Harris is checking with others in his group about churches in each of the city's four quadrants that might be able to participate. We can discuss other options as well. But we have to get this nailed down because Marc is about ready to ship.
3. Volunteer helpers. Talked with Marc about this and he thought they weren't needed, and that the trouble wasn't worth the effort. I'd like to discuss the issue anyway. Marc's view is that even if only 1/3 get returned, we are still beating by far the test the city did. Even so, I think if we can arrive at the right number of people, we can come close to hitting 300. For one thing, it triples the chances of finding problems if they exist, which is a primary purpose of this investigation. One important point raised by Mark is that there could be some liability, so anyone actually going to a person's home has to be very trustworthy. Maybe we could figure out other ways of following-up -- phone calls, emails, - to keep after people to follow through on getting the tests done and sent off. So there are a lot of things to consider.
4. Documentation. Filmmaker Kate Levy, who has been working on Flint water issues with me, suggested having people record their tests on camera phones to be able to prove they are doing it right if the results get questioned. Any other ideas along those lines?
5. If the city doesn't already know what we are up to, they soon will. Given that the time for stealth has passed, what do people think about holding a press conference? One possibility, now that word is getting out, is that some other reporter will find out about this and do a story about it. It's better that we frame the issue. It could also help us get to 400 names if that becomes a problem. But there may also be downsides. Again, worth at least some discussion. I'll also talk with people on the communication's team here as well to see what they say.

6. Feel free to suggest other items for discussion so that people can think about them beforehand if they want.

7. I keep thinking about what we are doing, and how important it is. It is a big undertaking under any circumstances, but given the time crunch -- our deadline to have all testing done and in the mail is Sept, 1 -- there are multiple pressures at work here. It is a big job with a lot riding on the outcome. Even so, we need to have a few laughs, because they lighten our load. So come prepared to have at least a little bit of fun.

Thanks to everyone for your time.

Curt

**From:** Curt Guyette [<mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Marc Edwards  
**Subject:** Looking ahead

Marc,

The team was talking about having a press conference and town hall meeting once the study is complete. Any chance that we could time it in such a way that would allow you to attend?

Curt

**From:** Marc Edwards <[edwardsm@vt.edu](mailto:edwardsm@vt.edu)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 1, 2015 4:29 PM  
**To:** 'Curt Guyette' <[cguyette@aclumich.org](mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Looking ahead

The airfare is \$600 and the hotel should be another \$100. I owe you guys that much! Marc

**From:** Curt Guyette [<mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 5:02 PM  
**To:** Marc Edwards  
**Subject:** RE: Looking ahead

I think the team is getting together tomorrow night. Let me talk to the group, but I am certain they all would feel strongly about wanting you to be there. But I think the timing is flexible. Even if the analyzing is all done, we could hold off on having the press conference and town hall meeting until it is convenient for you to make it. I would think within a week of all the analysis being done would work. But it is really the group's call.

**From:** Marc Edwards [<mailto:edwardsm@vt.edu>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 5:16 PM  
**To:** Curt Guyette  
**Subject:** RE: Looking ahead

Looks like I could arrive Flint 4:40 pm on Thursday and leave the next morning.

So I guess Thursday and probably Friday evening (assuming the same flights work on Friday) are open.....assuming that an evening is best for a town hall.

I'd really like to say no, but after you all pulled off a sampling miracle...kind of hard to do so!

Best Regards,

Marc

**From:** Curt Guyette [<mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 5:20 PM

**To:** Marc Edwards

**Subject:** RE: Looking ahead

If it is a question of money, I might be able to pay for a hotel room.

Also, just to give us time to prepare and get everything together, maybe the following week would be better.

I'll let you know what the team has to say.

At last count we had 267 kits collected.

Lee was amazing.

**From:** Curt Guyette [<mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org>]

**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 1:21 PM

**To:** Marc Edwards; 'Melissa Mays'

**Cc:** 'Nayyirah Shariff'; 'Laura Sullivan'; 'Al Harris'; 'Lea Moste'; [crmclinton@comcast.net](mailto:crmclinton@comcast.net)

**Subject:** RE: Next steps: Important message

Lee is going to be laid up about a week, but I talked with her yesterday about a tentative plan. However, I think it is very important that we get a consensus on our next steps.

Marc says that the testing is going to be wrapped up by Wednesday, Sept. 9.

Marc can be in town on Sept. 14 and/or 15.

We could have a press conference announcing the final results during the day, and a town hall meeting in the evening of Monday, Sept. 14.

For that to happen, we would need to move quickly once we're certain that the testing is wrapped up. Three things would need to happen:

1. **Someone would have to arrange for a place to have the press conference.** I can handle making sure the media is alerted.
2. **Someone has to arrange for a place to have the town hall meeting, and everyone would have to help get word out so that there is good attendance.**

3. **It would be good if we could meet as a group sometime on Saturday, Sept. 12, to go over plans for the two events, and to talk about what kinds of actions we want to see taken in response to VT's findings.**

I am taking a short vacation starting tomorrow, but will be available by both phone and email to help coordinate things. And I'll be back on Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup>.

I think what we need at this point is a response from everybody that they are good with this plan, and also to have suggestions regarding specifics, i.e. where we'll hold things, etc.

**From:** Curt Guyette [<mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Marc Edwards  
**Subject:** coming to Flint

Marc,

If we do this on Tuesday, the 15<sup>th</sup>, would you be able to be in town for the whole day – press conference in the morning and town hall in the evening?

On Sep 4, 2015 2:45 PM, "Marc Edwards" <[edwardsm@vt.edu](mailto:edwardsm@vt.edu)> wrote:  
If you can get Yanna, you are getting the best...maybe ask her. Marc

**From:** Melissa Mays [<mailto:indigrace@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 04, 2015 2:46 PM  
**To:** Marc Edwards  
**Subject:** RE: Press conference

Ok. Do you have her email address? I've never spoken with her. That would be fantastic!

**From:** Melissa Mays <[indigrace@gmail.com](mailto:indigrace@gmail.com)>  
**To:** Marc Edwards <[edwardsm@vt.edu](mailto:edwardsm@vt.edu)>  
**Cc:** Yanna Lambrinidou <[pnalternatives@yahoo.com](mailto:pnalternatives@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2015 2:59 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Press conference

Hi Yanna!!

Since a bird has hinted that you are the best... I was wondering if you would like to take part in our press conference on 9/15 as well as the media blitz before and after?

We're ready to do some huge update blasts and add this research to

[www.wateryoufightingfor.com](http://www.wateryoufightingfor.com)!

I would be honored to have your PR expertise in this!

-Melissa

[810-423-3435](tel:810-423-3435)

From: **Yanna Lambrinidou** <[pnalternatives@yahoo.com](mailto:pnalternatives@yahoo.com)>

Date: Friday, September 4, 2015

Subject: Re: Press conference

To: Melissa Mays <[indigrace@gmail.com](mailto:indigrace@gmail.com)>, Marc Edwards <[edwardsm@vt.edu](mailto:edwardsm@vt.edu)>

Cc: Lea Moste <[lwalters313@gmail.com](mailto:lwalters313@gmail.com)>

Hi Melissa,

Thanks for writing.

Yes, I heard about your press conference from Lee, and I'm very excited about it. I would be happy to help in any way you guys would like me to. I just want you to know that I am not a PR expert or press conference expert, but I do have some experience with press conferences. I can also try to come help with the prep, if you think that could be useful. I mentioned to Lee that I just spoke with a colleague at the national organization Earth Justice who is a lawyer and has done extraordinary work on lead in drinking water, and she said that she'd be happy to do the background research to establish what EPA's, MDEQ's, and Flint's legal authorities are and what actions you might want to demand that they take at this time. If you'd like her help, I think it might be good to include her in our conversation.

Let me know how you want to proceed. My day is a bit crazy tomorrow, but from Sunday on, I have time.

Best (and congratulations on your brilliant and inspiring work!!),

Yanna