

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein, Commissioner
210 Guilford Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact for Swann Park: Rianna Brown

Office: 443.984.3606

Email: Rianna.brown@baltimorecity.gov

Swann Park Task Force Releases First Report

BALTIMORE (*July 10, 2007*)- The Swann Park Task Force, convened by the Baltimore City Health Department in May 2007, at the request of Mayor Sheila Dixon, has released its first report.

In this report, the Task Force addresses the events of the spring of 1976 – when Swann Park was briefly closed for health concerns and then re-opened after the Kepone Task Force, a blue-ribbon panel of federal, state, and local health officials, found no hazard.

The first of four reports investigates why the arsenic levels at Swann Park were not recognized or addressed decades earlier. Following reports will review testing subsequent to the Kepone Task Force of 1976, the legal framework for reporting, disclosure, and cleanup from 1976 to the present and finally, recommendations on changes in law or enforcement needed to avert similar situations in the future.

Swann Park Task Force members include:

- Dr. Lynn R. Goldman, a pediatrician and Professor of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Heather A. Moore, President of the Federal Hill South Neighborhood Association
- George Nilson, Baltimore City Solicitor and former Deputy Attorney General for the State of Maryland
- Dr. Joshua M. Sharfstein, Commissioner of Health for Baltimore City
- Stuart Simms, partner in the law firm of Brown, Goldstein, and Levy

The Swann Park Task Force report and supporting documents are online at www.baltimorehealth.org

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