

NEW JERSEY BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

DATA & MARKETING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2006

10:00 P.M. – 12:00 P.M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
101 SOUTH BROAD STREET
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF SMART GROWTH LIBRARY - 7TH FLOOR

Members Present—

George P. Kelley – Public Member, Committee Chair
Colleen Kokas – NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Site Remediation
Frances Hoffman – NJ Department of Community Affairs, Office of Smart Growth
James Simmons – NJ Commerce, Economic Growth and Tourism Commission
Rose Smith – NJ Economic Development Authority (via teleconference)

Other Attendees—

Alan Miller – NJ Department of Community Affairs, Office of Smart Growth
Bridget B. Brinson – NJ Department of Labor
Dan Reynolds – Deputy Attorney General (via teleconference)
Cynthia Weiser – Brownfields Program Assistant

Members Absent—

Yuki Moore Laurenti, Public Member – Financial
Lauri Sheppard – NJ Redevelopment Authority
Dennis Toft – Public Member, Task Force Chairperson

I. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER—

George Kelley, Chairperson of the Data and Marketing Committee of the NJ Brownfields Redevelopment Task Force, welcomed the Committee and called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADHERENCE TO OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT—

Mr. Reynolds read the Announcement of Adherence to Open Public Records Act

III. ROLL CALL—

Ms Hoffman called roll and attendance was noted for the record. A quorum was present.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS—None

V. MEETING MINUTES—

Ms. Hoffman recommended deleting the word 'Draft' from the January 17, 2006 minutes. Because two members present were not in attendance at the January meeting, there was no quorum to move on the minutes. Motion to pass the minutes will be tabled until the July meeting.

VI. COMMITTEE BUSINESS—

Because of budget issues, it is difficult to realize any forward movement with a specific direction.

A. Review of Task Force Priorities:

- Economic Policies: It was stated that this is a critical time for the Task Force, and that the Data and Marketing Committee may be able to bring an account of its activities to the attention of the new administration as they review the impact of all programs dealing with economic policies to determine which may be reduced or eliminated. Agencies have submitted information for review by the Office of Economic Growth, but their plans have not been communicated publicly. The Task Force is responsible for making recommendations on brownfields policy to the legislature and the Governor, and it would be important to discuss brownfields issues with the Office of Economic Growth.

It was interjected that an overall plan is in development and will be presented to the public in June. Government officials and various academic, private and public sector individuals are being approached for input for the overall strategy, and cost v. benefits is being determined to delineate the best approach.

It was noted that the Task Force has a duty, a charge, to make our presence and our purpose known. The Task Force should be brought more fully into the discussion. After further discussion, it was suggested that the Task Force Chair recommend that he, the Vice-Chair of the Task Force, the Chairs of the Data and Marketing and Policy and Legislative Committees, and Dr. Hoffman meet with the Governor or with Mr. Rose of the Office of Economic Growth on this topic. It was additionally suggested that the NJ Chapter of the National Brownfields Association be included in the discussion, or that the Task Force take a more formal route by passing a resolution via special meeting.

- Portfields:
 - *Initiative*: The Portfields Initiative is moving forward well. EDA convenes regular teleconferences to track progress. Studies are being completed, several developers are addressing priority sites, and DEP has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the initiative to facilitate reviews.
 - *Rutgers University NJDOT Grant*: There is an outstanding NJDOT grant to Rutgers University for collecting information on Portfield activity that was initiated over two years ago, but the scope of work was never finalized. It is important for this work to support the ongoing initiative. A meeting will be set up to identify ways in which the money might be spent to support the State's Portfields Initiative and other past-related efforts.

VII. Outreach Activities

- Statewide Environmental Insurance Symposium: Plans for this event are fairly well established, with an agenda, date and time, a preliminary list of invitees. The Task Force members were asked for a list of contacts from their agencies. The symposium agenda is patterned after a "nominal decision-making" format, with two breakout sessions to determine the order of priorities. Many suggestions for a keynote speaker were made, including the Governor, Commissioner Goldman of Banking and Insurance, Gary Rose, or someone from another state as speaker at dinner might be good draw. Agency heads and legislators will be invited as well. Attendance goal is set at 70. Invitations are scheduled to be sent by end of May.

- Upcoming Activities:
 - *High Performance Development:* A conference on this topic is scheduled for June 7, the details of which are in a brochure that was circulated.

B. NJ Brownfields Inventory

- NJ Brownfield Inventory: Municipalities will soon receive a letter from Commissioner Levin requesting that a Brownfield contact be identified. Once established, this liaison will be trained to handle identifying brownfields sites and data entry.
- Data Day – 2006 Report: Response on this event was generally good, and several workable suggestions came out of it. The location was excellent, attendance was good (90), evaluations were positive and many good suggestions came out of it. The consensus was that the results and organization of the event would have been better had other issues not interfered with the timely announcements and mailing of invitations. In addition, a debriefing immediately following the event would have been useful.

Because there were many references to DEP's IMAP and GIS, a suggestion was made that on the next Data Day event, the Task Force could arrange for someone to do a presentation on that topic. Information could be given on deed restrictions, CEAs, etc., or simply an overview of IMAP.

- SiteMart Update: The Task Force found it gratifying to know that the number of properties listed continues to grow, as well as the number of hits on the Site Mart, despite limited staffing. However, approximately 80 properties have been transitioned from the incomplete file to the redevelopment-ready side of the Site Mart. Obtaining waivers from property owners is still very difficult.
- Budget 2005-6: 2006-7
 - *State Appropriation:* The Task Force is still awaiting the decision on whether the forwarding language to the State Appropriation has been approved so that the funds would be able to be used beyond June 30, 2006. In addition, the Task Force proposal for the expansion of the categories for which the appropriation will be used is being reviewed by Commissioner Levin.
 - *USEPA Grants:* Projected uses for the two EPA grants are identified. These funds will provide for contractual arrangements with university teams to gather data for the Site Mart during the summer, as well as for outreach and education, program administration and training. The funds will not cover hiring full-time staff. The funds from both grants must be drawn down by September 30.

C. Other

- Discussion of Expanded Task Force/Special Advisory Committee: There was general agreement that representatives from the Treasury and academia would be a beneficial addition to the Task Force. Legislative action would be required. The Task Force's Deputy Attorney General has provided the wording for a bill to be presented. Additional discussion will be held regarding representation by the Department of Agriculture.

There was some discussion as to what the value added would be with the addition of members to the Task Force, and that this might be an opportune time for agencies to evaluate their roles on the Task Force. A suggestion was made to submit a form to all members for them to renew their commitment and their appointee to being part of the Task Force. This might be done better informally than formally.

In any case, the Governor and legislature must be approached to remove a non-participating member and designate a new one. A notice will be sent up to the DCA Commissioner regarding replacement of one public member who is, at present, unreachable.

The topic of special advisory will be tabled until after the June symposium.

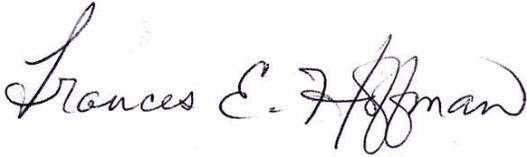
VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS—None.

IX. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS—None

X. ADJOURNMENT—

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances E. Hoffman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Frances E. Hoffman
Secretary, New Jersey Brownfields Redevelopment Task Force

Prepared by Cynthia Weiser
7/14/06