

NEW JERSEY BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

POLICY & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2005

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

Committee Members Present—

Leah Healey - Public Member – Committee Chairman (teleconference)
Sally Dudley, Public Member – Environmental
James Simmons – NJ Commerce and Economic Growth Commission
Richard Gimello – NJ Department of Transportation
Rose Smith – NJ Economic Development Authority

Committee Members Not Present—

Dennis Toft, Public Member – Task Force Chairperson
William Mullen – Public Member – Labor and Trade
Monique Purcell – NJ Department of Agriculture
Frances E. Hoffman – Office of Smart Growth, NJ Department of Community Affairs
Ken Kloo – Site Remediation Program, NJ Department of Environmental Protection

Other Attendees—

Cynthia Weiser, Brownfields Program Assistant, Office of Smart Growth, NJ Department of Community Affairs
Bill Wolfe – Member of the Public

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME—

Leah Healey, Chairperson of the Policy and Legislative Committee of the NJ Brownfields Redevelopment Task Force, made the welcoming remarks and called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL—Cynthia Weiser, Brownfield Program Assistant, called roll. A quorum was not present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES—Approval of minutes from the March 29, 2005 meeting was deferred.

IV. COMMITTEE BUSINESS—

Discussion of Amendments

- **A1633:** Requires inventory of brownfields in the State and annual progress reports by the Brownfields Redevelopment Task Force; appropriates \$285,000.

Ms Healey advised the Committee that this bill was referred to the Senate Appropriation Committee with \$285,000 appropriation being considered.

- **S277/A2815:** Revises laws concerning financial assistance for contaminated site remediation.

Ms Healey said that this bill passed the Senate 39-0 and was sent to the Assembly. Changes in the new amendments: 1) funding for remediation for recreational and green space uses was increased to 75% of costs requiring only 25% of match was put back into the bill, and 2) introducing the concept of a lien on the property on these funds. Ms Healey has some concerns about the second issue because she is unsure how that affects our brownfields redevelopers. Ms Healey did not know if this amended bill would move ahead before the end of June.

Ms Healey recommended that the Committee follow A2815 to determine if the changes made in Committee are ultimately good ones. S277 passed unanimously in the Senate, was referred to the Assembly, which made amendments to the bill on May 19. Specifically, the concern is Section 8 of the Bill.

Ms Healey's concern is, if A2815 is actually moving, the Committee may need some recommendations on it. She recommended that the Committee hold a special meeting or a conference call before the full Task Force meeting on June 14 to determine if the Committee needs to take action on it.

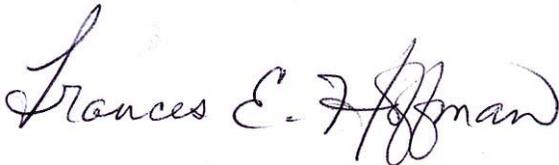
Ms Healey will take more time to thoroughly digest the Bill, and send an email to the members in order for the Committee to scrutinize the amendments more thoroughly. Ms Healey suggested that the members pull a copy of A2815 from the web and review it.

- **A682:** Requires payment in lieu of taxes to municipality when State college or university purchases property for use as student residence.
This bill was adopted on March 21, 2005.
- The last issue that Ms Healey wants to bring up to the Committee is that she has run into a number of sites in the brownfield redevelopment world where there is an existing ACO and an attempt by a redeveloper to get an MOA and there doesn't appear to be a final position of the DEP, who claims that there should be only one oversight document on any given site. This is causing some consternation among the development community..

V. ADJOURNMENT—

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Prepared by Cynthia Weiser
04/29/05

VI. ADDENDUM—

Prior to the meeting, Bill Wolfe, a member of the public, interjected that the Committee needed to determine a way to be sure enough members attended in order to assure a quorum. He went on to make suggestions for running meetings more effectively. Mr. Gimello and Mr. Simmons explained at length that Committee meetings are executed in a manner that meets the criteria set forth by the Task Force, and that any suggestions as to the functions and/or execution of the meetings must be presented to and discussed at the regular full Task Force meeting to determine merit.