

Northern Maine Brownfield Steering Committee Meeting

February 14, 2008

Attendees: Jerry McAvaddy, Craig Staples, Norm Cyr, Frank Wezner, Barbara Pitcairn, Brian Beneski, Cheryl St. Peter, Nate Hersey, Connie Bondeson, Jay Kamm, Denis Berube

I. Welcome and Introductions

This month's meeting was held at the Caribou Inn and Convention Center. Attendees introduced themselves and the meeting started at 11:00.

II. Website

The Committee reviewed the Northern Maine Brownfield Website at www.northmainebrownfields.org. The site includes a section, "Nominate a Site" where people may submit information about a site for potential inclusion into the program. It was suggested the Petroleum Assessment Grant Site Eligibility Flow Chart (found in the binders under the tab, Site Information) be placed on the website.

III. Section of Chairperson

The committee did not have quorum, as a result, the Chairperson, Vice-Chair and Secretary were not selected.

IV. Outcomes from Feb. 13th Maine DEP meeting

The MDEP meeting in Freeport was cancel due the weather. The meeting is rescheduled for March 26th.

V. Binders for the Committee, Time Line and Flow Chart

The committee members now have binders with relevant information related to the EPA Brownfield Grant and the Site Selection Process. Information included in the binders are: committee contact information, the committee resolution, project documents (work plan and timeline), brownfield information from EPA (anatomy of a brownfield redevelopment and liability questions and answers), minutes and agendas, site information (site assessment and eligible sites, petroleum assessment grant site eligibility flow chart, brownfield selection criteria), and a section for notes. Please bring the binder with you to the meetings, as we will be using them to help sort through the site selection process.

VI. Site Selection Inventory

The group discussed the sites that they have found or heard about over the past few months. Roughly, there are about ten potential sites that span from Allagash to Sherman. It was decided that by March 6th, the committee members would submit any potential site to Jay, Connie, or our consultant, Cheryl St. Peter. At the March 13th meeting, we will score the sites based on the criteria (found in the binder), rank the sites, and then contact the property owners of the highest ranking sites to if they are interesting in participating in this program. Although sites may be nominated for inclusion for the program at any time during the grant period, we are trying to get site approved by EPA/DEP by spring, so we may start working on the Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments once the weather allows.

In addition, it was suggested that the property assessment form, which was supplied to us by EPA, be made electronic and emailed to the committee. The purpose of the form is to provide background information on a property. If there is a potential site that you have in mind, it is not necessary the forms are immediately filled out, but will eventually the forms will need to be completed and it helps us expedite the process of getting a property into the program.

VII. Next Meeting, Date and Place

The next meeting will be held on March 13, 2008, from 11-1 at the Caribou Inn and Convention Center. Lunch will be served.

Respectfully Submitted
Connie L. Bondeson
Environmental Planner/Brownfields Co-Manager, NMDC