

Central NH Regional Planning Commission

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Brownfields Advisory Committee Meeting #3

May 17, 2016 - Meeting Notes

CNHRPC, 28 Commercial Street, Ste. 3, Concord, NH – 5:30 P.M.

Attendees	
Larry Anderson, Town of Allentown	Bruce Crawford, Town of Boscawen
Bob Cole, Town of Loudon	Michael McCluskey, NH DES
Rip Patten, Credere Associates	Robyn Payson, Town of Hillsborough
Jim Pritchard, Town of Pittsfield	Sam Quattrini, NH DES
Steve Rickerich, Ransom Environmental	Nick Sabatine, Ransom Environmental
Kate Emma Schlosser, Sanborn Head	Stephanie Verdile, Town of Pembroke
Harry Wright, Town of Bradford	

Commission Staff: Steve Henninger, Jennifer Mock, Matt Monahan, Michael Tardiff

Advisory Committee and Staff Introductions

The meeting began at 5:30 P.M., called to order by Matt Monahan. All attendees present introduced themselves.

Review January 19, 2016 Meeting Notes

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2016 BAC meeting as written.

M/S/Passed Larry Anderson/Bob Cole

Contractor Selection Results

Matt Monahan stated that CNHRPC has chosen three qualified environmental professionals (QEP) to assist with the brownfields assessment grants. Credere Associates will serve as the lead QEP while Ransom Environmental and Sanborn Head will also play roles in site assessments. Contracts with each firm will be signed within the coming weeks.

Introduction of Credere Associates

Matt Monahan introduced Rip Patten from Credere Associates who will serve as the lead QEP and assist CNHRPC with management of the overall brownfields assessment process including site inventory, site selection, Phase 1 assessments, Phase II assessments and remedial and reuse planning.

Program Overview by Credere Associates

Rip Patten, Vice President of Credere Associates, LLC began his presentation with an overview of Credere Associates, a small engineering firm out of Westbrook, ME. Credere Associates is comprised of mostly environmental engineers with many of their projects involved in the EPA Brownfields Program. The firm has also worked or is currently working with other Regional Planning Commissions throughout the state with Brownfield related projects, including Strafford Regional Planning Commission and Rockingham Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Patten explained how the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) was recently awarded Brownfields Assessment Grants, one of five grants available through the EPA Brownfields Program. The grant awarded a total of \$400,000, of which \$200,000 is dedicated for sites contaminated by petroleum and \$200,000 is dedicated for sites contaminated by hazardous pollutants. The other four grants available through the program include revolving loan fund grants, job training grants, cleanup grants, and area-wide planning grants.

Mr. Patten then moved on to explain some of the difficulties dealt with when working with assessment grants, including reluctant land owners. It was noted that this program is voluntary, and all owners have to sign an access agreement for any assessment or redevelopment to occur. It was also noted that the process might take longer with the added documentation required with receiving federal grant money. It was mentioned that as a federal program, the money awarded and redevelopment process is public, and all reports for the sites are available online. The last difficulty mentioned by Mr. Patten is when contamination is found in the assessment phase, however, as stated previously there are additional brownfield grants available for the cleanup of a contaminated site.

After an introduction to the program itself, Mr. Patten explained the specific steps in the assessment process. The first step is site inventory. This step involves identifying potential sites within the region to be assessed. Next, the BAC will create a selection criterion to select sites for assessment from the sites inventoried previously. The following steps, Phase 1 assessments and Phase 2 assessments, involve identifying potential contaminants and testing through samples gathered on site. The final two steps within the assessment portion of the program are remediation and reuse planning and the engineering design of the site. Mr. Patten outlined the remaining steps in the program past the assessment process, which included being awarded a cleanup grant, remediation, successful redevelopment, and additional assessment funding.

Mr. Patten ended his presentation with a roundtable discussion and by answering questions from the group.

Target Community Visit Update

Matt Monahan discussed the ongoing site selection that has been taking place throughout the region. Staff along with Mr. Patten recently identified an old China Mill in Allentown, Woods Woolen Mill and Associated Electric in Hillsborough and various sites throughout Concord as potential sites for brownfields assessments. Other potential site locations in the region include Boscawen, Pittsfield and Bradford.

Selection Criteria Discussion

Matt Monahan mentioned that staff is currently working on a nomination form to send out to all the communities in the region to get a feel for what other potential sites might be out there other than the target communities that have already been identified. Once completed the solicitation letter and nomination form will go to all communities in hopes to seek responses in a short time period. A copy of the nomination form is currently available on the CNHPRC website.

Next Steps: Brownfields Site Inventory; Begin nominating sites for assessment

Mike Tardiff noted that he felt it would be best to begin assessing sites that were previously identified in the brownfields proposal originally sent to the EPA. He suggested the Woods Woolen Mill in Hillsborough, another site in Pittsfield to be chosen after reviewing with town officials based upon the highest priority level and lastly the Allied Leather site in Boscawen which has been listed as a high regional priority. Mr. Tardiff requested the consideration of approval from the Brownfields Advisory Committee to move forward with assessing these brownfields locations.

M/S/Passed Bruce Crawford/Robyn Payson

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for June 16th at 5:30pm. A focus for the next meeting will be on selection criteria and tracking sites and get prioritization of sites.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 P.M.