



## City of Schenectady Industrial Development Agency Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes — September 21, 2007

- Agency Members: Denise Brucker, Joseph Allen, Jeffrey McDonald, Joseph Fava, and Ann Reilly
- Members Absent: Mayor Stratton and Douglas Blacklock
- Others: Connie Cahill (Agency Counsel), Ray Gillen, and Jim Callander

Ms. Brucker called the monthly Agency meeting to order at 8:05.

The purpose of the meeting was considering a request from the City of Schenectady for a grant up to \$300,000 for the City's emergency demolition of the Robinson Building on State Street. Mr. Gillen explained that Schenectady Renaissance, LLC had already undertaken asbestos abatement. However, the structural integrity of the buildings was severely compromised and the City decided to commence demolition in the interest of public safety. Since the City had not anticipated this scenario, the Agency was approached for funding of the demolition and related site clearing.

Discussion followed. Mr. Allen and other members expressed dismay that redevelopment efforts were too late to prevent loss of the buildings. Mr. Gillen assured the members that redevelopment would move forward quickly to replace the structures as planned.

- 1. Resolution 151-07 (Robinson Demolition Project-SEQRA Determination)** — Connie Cahill summarized the resolution. Since the project involved funding of an emergency action necessary for the protection or preservation of health and property and was limited in scope to demolition activities only, it is classified as a Type II action and not subject to review under SEQRA. Mr. Fava moved Resolution 151-07; seconded by Mr. Allen. Resolution 149-07 was unanimously approved.
- 2. Resolution 152-07 (Robinson Demolition Project-Authorize Grant to the City of Schenectady)** — Connie Cahill informed the members that the proposed Grant structure was simplified to expedite funds availability to the City, with advances to be made followed by reporting of actual expenditures from the City. She also mentioned that, in addition to public safety, the removal of blight conditions in the City provided further justification for Agency action on the proposal. Ms. Brucker questioned whether any conflicts existed on her part as a member of the City Council and was advised by Ms. Cahill that none existed. Mr. Fava moved Resolution 152-07; seconded by Ms. Reilly. Resolution 152-07 was unanimously approved.
- 3. Other Business** — Mr. Gillen summarized the City applications for \$5 million in funds from the Restore NY program for the City of Schenectady. The application contains two components: rehabilitating the Gazette Press building façade and renovating the Center City complex. In regard to the latter, the Agency's consent is being requested, inasmuch as they

hold a nominal interest in the Wallace Building pursuant to the PILOT agreement currently in place. After discussion of the importance of both proposed projects to the success of the core downtown's redevelopment, Mr. McDonald moved to provide the Agency's consent in support of the Grant application; seconded by Ms. Reilly. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 4. Adjournment** — Mr. McDonald moved to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Fava. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Callander  
Staff