

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
April 3, 2019**

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Dale Weston, Ed Hollenbeck, Mike Roberts, Dennis Mullen

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Wendy Walsh, Rita Hollenbeck

Guests: None

Legislative Chair Sauerbrey was not in attendance

Legislator Weston called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

MINUTES

- Approval of minutes from March 5, 2019 – Legislator Weston asked for approval of minutes from the March 5, 2019 committee meeting. Legislator Roberts made a motion to accept the March 5, 2019 minutes, seconded by Legislator Hollenbeck. All were in favor.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: Andy Fagan – Mr. Fagan's 2018 Annual Report was previously emailed, as well as a summary of meetings & workshops that staff has attended.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION: Wendy Walsh – Ms. Walsh's 2018 Annual Report was previously emailed. Ms. Walsh distributed a summary of the NYS Watershed Implementation Plan and reviewed the annual report and the Watershed Plan. Ms. Walsh reported that a 5-day series of watershed meetings begins next Monday. Tioga County's is on Monday, April 8th, 1:00-3:00 at the Campville 3 Fire Hall. Other meetings are in Madison County, Cortland, Oneonta and Steuben County.

Ms. Tinney introduced Zack Baker, Ag Economic Development Specialist, to give a presentation on Hemp Opportunities and Challenges; an overview of the hemp industry and its progress. Mr. Baker reported that Barb Neal, with CCE, is a great resource for information on the hemp industry.

Ms. Tinney reported the following; agenda previously emailed:

1. PLANNING REPORT

- **239 Reviews**
 - County Case 2019-003 - Village of Owego, Area Variance, Floodplain Special Permit, Site Plan Review, Susquehanna Development, LLC. – Applicant requests

these approvals to establish, construct and operate a sushi restaurant at 174 Front Street located on the corner of State Route 96 and State Route 17C just adjacent to the Court Street Bridge. Staff recommended approval and the TCPB unanimously carried the vote.

- **Municipal Projects/Plans:** Ms. Jardine continues to assist with the following:
 - Village of Waverly – Serving on the Waverly Glen Park Improvement Projects Oversight Committee funded by an OPRHP CFA grant application to ensure project keeps making progress. Assisting the Village Clerk in conducting required grant administrative activities.
- **Other Activities:** Ms. Jardine is working on the following:
 - TEAM Tioga writing a grant application for \$725,000 to the National Parks Service Historic Revitalization Subgrant Program to stabilize four significant but deteriorating historic structures in the Owego Central Historic District – the Owego Fire Station, the Owego Police Station, Tioga Theater and Tioga Trails.
Ms. Tinney reported just learning that the sponsor we were going to use, the LDC, and what was needed for federal designation did not come through; other possibilities are being explored.
 - Assisted REAP in applying for a USDA RDBG Business Opportunity Grant to fund a feasibility study for shared or consolidated Code Enforcement Officer Services.
 - NYS DEC conducted an MS4 Stormwater Program audit. Tioga County received a marginal score. DPW needs to develop and utilize several documentation forms for various operations, and we need to develop a Stormwater Management Program Plan self-audit for evaluation purposes. All these required items must be provided to DEC by June 30.
 - Formed the Tioga County Complete Count Committee and scheduling a date for the Committee's first meeting in April.

Resolutions – None

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – Ms. Tinney reported on the following; agenda previously emailed:

- **Outreach**
 - Owego Apalachin Central School District – Provided assistance with the school district on the Town of Owego Solar Project regarding the PILOT Agreement.
 - Tioga State Bank – Met regarding a DRI project.
 - Community Foundation of South Central NY – Met to discuss what foundation funds are available.
 - Lockheed Martin – Met regarding the possibility of a new project.
 - ENSCO - Met regarding the possibility of a new project.
 - Regional Council Executive Committee – Meeting attended.
 - Regional Council Advanced Mfg. Work Group – Meeting attended.
 - Regional Council Workforce Development Work Group – Meeting attended.
 - Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce - Annual dinner attended on March 20th.
 - Town of Nichols – Meeting attended.

- Fingerlakes Wine Country Tourism Marketing Association – Attended monthly meeting; working on policy changes.
- Rural Health Network - Working on transit possibilities, including a Van to Work Program that is about to launch.
- Home Central Annual Contractors Dinner – Attended and spoke at the annual dinner. This is the second year attended, first year to speak at the event. Good turnout, nice event.
- Workforce Investment Board – Monthly meeting attended.

- **Project Updates**

- Gateway
 - Grant Disbursement Agreement has been finalized; working through closing on the funding for the project.
- Parkview – Project is complete.
 - Grant Disbursement Agreement finalized; final payment request has been made. Looking forward to opening soon.
- Owego Gardens 2
 - IDA voted to approve PILOT request. Will be meeting on Friday; project moving forward.
- V & S (Voight & Sweitzer) – Steel galvanizing business.
 - Land closing completed; PILOT closing completed.
 - Joint meeting with Fire Department representatives, the Town Board and company officials to talk through project and facility expectations.
- Jeff Luciano – Continue discussions on CBD oil processing possibilities.
- Nichols Distribution, LLC (Best Buy)
 - IDA voted to approve PILOT request for sales tax exemption only.
- Restore NY Projects
 - Village of Owego – Moving forward with paperwork.
 - Village of Waverly - Moving forward with paperwork.
- Village of Owego DRI – Following meetings attended:
 - Local Planning Committee meetings – Last meeting on March 13th.
 - Co-Chair Conference – March 6th.
 - Public Workshop – March 5th.
 - Final submission to State – March 29th.

Ms. Tinney reported approximately 13.6 million dollars of projects have been submitted. The State will review the recommended projects and cut back to 9.7 million dollars. Administrative services will be paid directly to BFJ Planning, the consultants hired to assist in the DRI Project.

Ms. Tinney reported the announcement of what projects to be funded will be made in the July/August timeframe. Ms. Tinney reported the ED&P staff has met to discuss the projects and listed the probability of approved projects; high, moderate

and low. The purpose is to get a head start on the process and be ready to provide the necessary assistance to get the projects moving.

- **State Leads** – None
- **Workforce Development**
 - Workforce Pipeline Study – This project is moving forward. Responses from Lockheed Martin, Crown, Cork and Seal, Best Buy, Leprino; nothing from Tioga Downs yet.
- **Housing**
 - Community Investment Task Force formed in each of the following communities:
 - Village of Owego
 - Village of Newark Valley
 - Village of WaverlyEach community has met and identified their target neighborhood. They have been asked to identify a specific area for improvements.
- **Other**
 - IDA - NYS Comptroller Audit is underway. They are gathering information at this time and will let us know what area of the IDA they are going to focus on later this week.
 - Ag Update – Hemp Presentation by Zack Baker done earlier in the meeting.

Resolutions – The following resolutions were presented and approved:

D03-Resolution Recognizing Teresa Saraceno 20 Years of Dedicated Service to Tioga County

D22-Oppose NYS Senate Bill S.1947 and NYS Assembly Bill A.1261 Related to Hours, Wages and Supplements in Contracts for Public Work

Not on the agenda, Ms. Tinney wanted to thank everyone for their support in passing last month's resolutions for the staffing changes to the ED&P Department. In addition to those changes, Ms. Tinney asked about the possibility of the Economic Development budget and the Planning budget becoming one budget. Ms. Hollenbeck explained that the Economic Development budget and the Planning budget do not fall under the same statewide comptroller's budgetary classification. Economic Development, a non-mandated service, is home and community services beginning with a 6, and planning, a mandated service, is culture recreation beginning with an 8. Ms. Hollenbeck suggested that this committee could grant the authority for crossover transfers (ex: planning to economic development) without resolution and pointed out that they could be combined on the Munis Financial Software System as far as reporting and next year's budget entry as long as the budgetary classifications remain the same, 6 and 8.

Ms. Tinney and Ms. Hollenbeck will meet and come back to this committee for discussion.

Legislator Weston asked for a motion to go into Executive Session. Legislator Mullen made the motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Legislator Hollenbeck.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Sampson, Administrative Assistant to Economic Development & Planning