

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
January 9, 2018**

ATTENDEES:

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

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Andy Fagan, Wendy Walsh

Guests: None

MINUTES

- Approval of minutes from December 5, 2017 - Legislator Weston asked for approval of minutes from the December 5, 2017 committee meeting. Legislator Hollenbeck made a motion to accept the December 5, 2017 minutes, seconded by Legislator Mullen. All were in favor.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION: Wendy Walsh – Ms. Walsh reviewed her monthly report previously emailed; a summary of activities for the month of December 2017, highlighting the following: Agriculture, Chesapeake Bay TMDL, Dean Creek Inspections, Hazard Mitigation, Hydroseeding, Stream Program and Miscellaneous Meetings, Trainings and Activities.

Ms. Walsh distributed several attachments to her report regarding work associated with the 2017 Agreement for Hazard Mitigation Coordinator Services, the Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program, as well as before and after pictures of a barn renovation/addition project in the Town of Candor.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: Andy Fagan – Mr. Fagan distributed and reviewed his monthly report; a summary of activities for the month of December 2017, highlighting the following: Agriculture, Community Horticulture, 4H Youth Development, Youth Employment, Family Development, Nutrition, Regional Dairy and Field Crops.

Mr. Fagan also distributed the January 2018 issue of the Farm and Garden Newsletter.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

Ms. Tinney announced that Ms. Maffei will be attending the next Worksession to talk about her 2018 Marketing Plan.

1. PLANNING REPORT – Ms. Tinney reported the following; agenda previously emailed:

- **239 Reviews**
 - County Case 2017- 029: Town of Owego, Special Use Permit, Utica General Peterbilt – To repurpose the old 84 Lumber site as a Peterbilt truck repair and parts sales facility. Staff recommended approval and the TCPB unanimously carried the vote.

- County Case 2017- 030: Village of Newark Valley, Comprehensive Plan – The Town of Newark Valley has developed their first comprehensive plan. Staff recommended approval; TCPB unanimously carried the vote.
- County Case 2017-031: Village of Owego - Locals Laws for Amendments to Subdivision and Zoning Codes. These amendments will allow for small pocket neighborhood overlay zoning districts. Staff recommended approval: TCPB unanimously carried the vote.
- **Municipal Plans/Projects** – Ms. Jardine continues to provide assistance with the following:
 - Town/Village of Spencer – Continuing assistance on the issue of their Site Plan Review Local Law and whether conditions set by the Planning Board as part of local review process is zoning and is enforceable if not within zoning code.
 - Town of Berkshire - Working with the officials to prepare them for their first commercial site plan review case.
 - Village of Owego – Assisting with a possible new housing project at the ESite; also with possible rezoning on Front Street.
- **Other** – Ms. Jardine continues to contribute on the following projects:
 - Worked with EDP Team to create and rollout a new brand and promotional campaign.
 - Provided input for revisions to the draft countywide housing study.
 - Assisted a key downtown Owego business owner with an application to NYS and National Parks for Historic Tax Credits. Will be researching applicability of the HTC Program for other inquiring business owners.
 - Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Four consultant proposals were received by the RFP deadline date. Steering Committee is in the process of consultant selection. Contract with selected consultant is expected to go through the County Legislature approval process in February.
 - Succession Planning – Preparing with the Committee for the first 2018 Institute for Advancement training program.

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

- **Outreach** – The following companies were visited or meetings were attended:
 - Village of Owego
 - Met with the Board of Trustees.
 - Tioga Downs Hotel – Attended the open house event on December 7th; it was well attended.
 - Town of Nichols - Working on the purchase of 10 acres by the IDA; there is a signed contract now.
 - Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo – Met for lunch; has an interest in what's going on in Tioga County.
 - Town of Barton – Met regarding issues with the emergency egress on the railroad; trying to coordinate assistance in that situation.
 - Empire State Development – Met with the ESD representatives to discuss the CFA awards; how they are going to roll out and what the businesses can expect.

- Congressman Reed – Joined a phone conference to discuss the tax bill and how it will impact our businesses.
- VEDA – Attended the monthly meeting.
- Larson Design Group - Met with the President/CEO last week; a good contact to make that could turn into some additional developments they can help us with in the future.

- **Project Updates**

- Gateway - Construction moving forward; community events on the 3rd Friday continue. Ms. Tinney encourages everyone to attend.
 - Bruce Nelson meeting - Welcome Center planning; looks like Mr. Nelson will be doing over and above what he needs to do with some custom design.
- Parkview - Project awarded; work should begin soon.
- Owego Freehold - Engineering of the fill site commencing; Friday meeting with the engineer, the Village and Code Enforcement to make sure we're all on the same page, as well as meeting with the neighboring property owners to make sure they are okay with the project.
- Owego Gardens 2
 - Village of Owego/Home Leasing meeting
- Farmhouse Brewery – Continue to provide assistance.
- Restore NY Application Assistance – Ms. Saraceno and Ms. Woodburn assisted with the following 2 applications that were submitted 12/13 and will most likely hear something in March:
 - Village of Owego – Application for the Briggs/Awad buildings
 - Village of Waverly – Application for the Twigg building
- Wake Up Waffles – New business in Nichols.
- Project Steel – A lead came in by way of a commercial realtor. Looking at the 20 acres that the IDA owns in Lounsberry for a 100,000 sq. ft. facility that would employ 80 – 100 people. Tioga County is on the short list. It's between our site and 2 Broome County sites. We are continually reaching out to the realtor with information and testimonials to encourage another visit.

- **State Leads** – None

- **Ag Economic Development**

- Ag Advisory Committee (W. Walsh, A. Fagan, E. Jardine, L. Tinney) – Met yesterday to discuss agenda items.
- Amish Farm inquiries
 - Berkshire – The Yoder's have an offer in on the Strasser Farm in Berkshire; assisting with financing request through STREDC/Rural Initiative. There is also an interest in Swaney's Farm.
 - Newark Valley – An interest in the purchase of a portion (25 acres) of the Newark Valley Golf Course.

- Candor – An interest in the Howland Farm.
- Ag Ec Dev Specialist – Continue the search for this position. The guys from the Buildings and Grounds Department did a nice job putting a space together in the ED&P office.

- **Other**

- Tioga County Succession Planning Team – The Institute for Advancement Program will kick off on January 17th; there are 19 participants.
- Tioga County Business Services Team – Assisted in the Sanmina quick response Job Fair with Ms. McCall and the Employment Center. Also, working towards the job fair in March.
- Sanmina Closing
 - Job fair was held on December 13, 2017.
 - 30 Employers were at the job fair; a positive response with a lot of employees being placed.
- IDA/Tioga Opportunities/ED&P - The Housing Study is close to completion; making a presentation to the IDA, Tioga Opportunities and ED&P, the partners that paid for the study, first. Then will do a roll out across the County to share the results.
- Tioga Quality of Life Committee – This committee is taking an assessment of the quality of life as it impacts all aspects of County services, not just social services. This is in the beginning stages.
- TEAM Tioga branding rolled out on January 1st; a press release has gone out and was distributed to the committee. Three separate entities, IDA, LDC and EDP working together as one. Now branding ourselves as Team Tioga. Madison Tinney was hired through the IDA to put together our new branding, new look and improve our social media content.
- Tourism – Ms. Maffei has the following projects and events going on:
 - Marketing Plan – Being shared at the next worksession.
 - Visitors Center Planning – Talked about earlier in the meeting.
 - TBEX – Travel Bloggers EXPO being planned for September 2018; a huge event coming to this region. Ms. Maffei will be looking for assistance for this event.
- Tioga Central School District Superintendent Interview Team – Ms. Tinney served on this team. Superintendent Scot Taylor retired and Dr. David Hamilton, from Baldwinsville, has been hired.
- Leadership Tioga – Ms. Tinney is facilitating this group that began today, January 9th and announced that she and Ms. Sauerbrey, Chair of the Legislature, began this program in 1999. There are 18 participants.

Not on the agenda, Ms. Tinney announced that Eva Mae Musgrave has resigned from the LDC Board and moved out of the area. A new board member is being actively looked for and will be coming forward with a new candidate soon.

Also, not on the agenda, Ms. Tinney reported having a discussion with REAP and will be presenting a proposal to them tomorrow to revamp and revitalize REAP. This group can be a valuable tool for us particularly with the new housing study coming up and the board needs to be functioning properly.

Mr. Fagan announced that on February 1st the Waverly Family Resource Center will be celebrating 20 yrs. of existence. A press conference is being planned at the Village Hall on that date.

Resolutions – The following resolutions were presented and approved:

- A11 – Reappointment (Georgeanne Eckley) to Tioga County Planning Board
- A12 – Reappointment (Sarah Titus) to Tioga County Planning Board
- A24 – New Appointment (Cacciola) to Tioga County Planning Board

ADJOURNMENT – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

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