

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

April 18, 2018

March 21, 2018**Not Approved**ALLEGANY COUNTY
BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

Members Present: D. Root, G. Barnes, J. Burdick, P. Curran, W. Dibble, D. Healy, J. Hopkins, J. Ricci, C. Crandall

Others Present: T. Boyde, B. Budinger, D. Decker, K. Dirlam, D. Fanton, K. Graves, L. Gridley, G. Hanchett, B. Harris, S. Havey, K. Hooker, C. Jones, C. Knapp, R. Lynch, B. Riehle, T. Ross, P. Stockin, M. Washer

Media Present: C. Potter – *Wellsville Daily Reporter*, Kathleen Kellogg – *Olean Times Herald*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Planning & Economic Development Committee Chair Debra Root.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Dibble, and carried to approve the Planning & Economic Development Committee minutes for February 21, 2018.

Economic Development/Industrial Development Agency

Planning Director Kier Dirlam stated that Allegany County Economic and Industrial Development Agency Executive Director Craig Clark is currently at the Site Selectors Guild in Cincinnati, OH, talking to site selectors to ensure that Allegany County is known by a number of the site selectors. Dr. Clark continues to work with WDG consulting site selectors to ensure we are ready to attract new investments and will be on lists for the right companies to come to Allegany County.

Mr. Dirlam reported on the following projects Dr. Clark is working on:

ANGEL Fund

This is a local fund using investors that will have funds available for startups and expansion of companies. This will be across the counties of the Southern Tier West area and will benefit where there is a lack of funds in these rural counties for startups and/or expansion of smaller companies. Meetings began in January 2018, with the first full meeting of potential investors scheduled for March 22, 2018. Units will be available in the approximate range of \$25,000 to \$50,000 for investors. Anyone who knows of an investor should contact Dr. Clark.

SIEMENS - Dresser Rand Closing:

Dr. Clark continues to talk to Empire State Development, State and Federal Legislators, as well as SIEMENS and Curtis-Wright on future prospects. At this time, there is no news except what has been announced in the press. Discussions have begun with site selectors regarding the facilities, but they still remain 18 to 24 months away from the closing.

Allegany County Economic Steering Committee

The Committee met on February 27, 2018, as part of the ongoing meetings with business, government, and higher education. Members have agreed to fund having Maker City as a consultant to assist in developing an action plan for Allegany County based on the Maker Movement across the country. Allegany County IDA is involved as well with the facilitation of the project, and anyone interested should contact Dr. Clark.

Invest Buffalo Niagara

Invest Buffalo Niagara is scheduled to visit Crossroads on Thursday, March 29, 2018, to work on a labor demographics study regarding advanced manufacturing across the Western NY region. This study is being done for purposes of attracting companies to the region.

Legislator Healy asked if there are any new updates on the Crossroads Development. Committee Chair Root stated at this time there is not; however, everything remains on schedule. Legislator Barnes asked if any brand names have been confirmed. Mr. Dirlam stated the hotel is said to be a Tru by Hilton, adding that the restaurant and gas station are still being discussed.

Planning Director, Kier Dirlam

Planning Director Kier Dirlam attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review. Mr. Dirlam stated the Planning Board meeting scheduled for March 21, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. has been cancelled. Mr. Dirlam stated he recently met with the Village of Alfred regarding their Comprehensive Plan, and they are currently working together on edits to their plan. Mr. Dirlam stated that the Land Bank is currently reviewing properties to acquire from the Tax Sale and indicated that they have looked at Community Development Block Grants; however, in order to qualify, the Land Bank would need to have a specific property be set in place when applying for the grant. Mr. Dirlam stated the Census information has been received in his office. It arrived on two CDs, and because the information was encrypted, they are not able to view it and are waiting for the codes to open them. Mr. Dirlam addressed the recent website issue the County experienced stating they have been experiencing problems with our host company HostGator. They have moved the entire site to a new server and are making arrangements to either leave it on the new server or find another one. Legislator Hopkins asked what the cost difference will be in switching. Mr. Dirlam stated it is undetermined at this time, but he does not expect a huge difference. Legislator Hopkins added that it's important for our website to always be working. Mr. Dirlam stated they recently interviewed six applicants for the Planning & Development Specialist position and continue to work on getting it filled.

Tourism

Greater Allegany Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gretchen Hanchett attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Hanchett stated they are working with a consulting company, Archer, to move the Watchful Wildlife Program forward. Rather than looking at the big picture, they are going to work on it in phases and will start with birds and move on to the trails at a later date. Ms. Hanchett continues to work with businesses to put together tourism packages that will make visiting our County easier and more pleasurable for our tourists. Ms. Hanchett stated they are also working with EquaTEK on content, digital, and website transfer. Ms. Hanchett announced the following upcoming events:

- The 10th Annual Greater Allegany County Chamber Dinner will be held on April 20, 2018, at Moonwinks Restaurant & Lounge in Cuba, NY. The keynote speaker will be Assistant Federal Security Director Richard A. Farwell. Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m., with dinner following at 6:00 p.m. Those who wish to attend please RSVP to Ms. Hanchett or Legislator Havey by April 17.
- The Spring and Summer Recreation Show will be held Saturday, May 5, and Sunday, May 6, at the Allegany County Fairgrounds in Angelica, NY. Admission is free for both days, and there will be many new activities at the show.

Marketing and Advertising Plan

Greater Allegany Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gretchen Hanchett requested that the committee approve the 3-year Marketing Plan. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried.

2018 Annual Tourism Advertising Plan

Ms. Hanchett also requested approval of the 2018 Annual Tourism Advertising Plan. Committee Chair Root stated that the Greater Allegany Chamber of Commerce will also be required to submit a 2019 spending plan in June. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried.

Employment and Training

Employment and Training Director Reita Sobeck-Lynch attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Lynch noted that they continue to work on their website, and everything is coming along well.

Industrial Development Agency Board Appointments

The Industrial Development Agency recommends that Douglas O. Frank and Ward C. "Skip" Wilday both of Cuba, New York, be appointed to fill vacant four-year terms commencing immediately and expiring December 31, 2021, as members of the Industrial Development Agency and Commercial Incentive Board.

The Industrial Development Agency also recommends that Michael Johnsen of Dalton, New York; Judith Hopkins of Fillmore, New York, Richard Ewell of Wellsville, New York; and Randy Shayler of Wellsville, New York; be reappointed for an additional four-year term commencing January 1, 2018, and expiring December 31, 2021. Legislator Hopkins requested permission to abstain. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Burdick, seconded by Legislator Dibble, and carried. The Industrial Development Agency Incentive and Commercial Board appointments were approved on a motion made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Executive Session

A motion was made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried to enter into Executive Session at 2:31 p.m. to discuss the employment history of particular individuals. Immediately following session at 3:01 p.m., a motion was made by Legislator Barnes, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried to exit executive session and return to the regular meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Burdick, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Washer, Confidential Secretary to Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators