

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

April 17, 2019

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

Others Present: D. Bigelow, T. Boyde, J. Budinger, C. Clark, D. Decker, K. Dirlam, D. Fanton, K. Graves, L. Gridley, S. Havey, C. Knapp, R. Lynch, B. Reynolds, B. Riehle, T. Ross, P. Stockin, M. Washer

Media Present: C. Potter – *The Spectator*, C. Dutton – *Cuba Patriot*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Planning & Economic Development Committee Chair Debra Root.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to approve the Planning & Economic Development Committee minutes of March 20, 2019.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Allegany County Economic and Industrial Development Agency Executive Director Craig Clark attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Crossroads Project

Dr. Clark stated he continues to talk with the hotel developer who is looking for another partner; therefore, progress has slowed down. Legislator Barnes asked what the issue is with finding another partner. Dr. Clark indicated the location and looking for money to invest. Legislator Barnes asked what the possibility is that something will happen this year if a new partner is not found. Dr. Clark stated if they don't find a new partner in the next couple of months, the chances of anything happening in 2019 is fairly slim. Legislator Healy asked if it would have made a difference if the site had been shovel ready with water in place. Dr. Clark stated, yes, we promised the site would be ready, and when it wasn't, the partner decided to go elsewhere. Legislator Burdick stated she recently saw in the newspaper there is a potential hotel being built in Hornell and asked if that will hurt our project. Dr. Clark stated it could; however, we already have our hotel brand approval for Hilton, so Hornell will not be able to build that same brand hotel.

Waterline Project

Dr. Clark stated the water contract with Friendship has been approved by the IDA Board, and they continue to work on a few more easements. Legislator Barnes asked if Saputo has Friendship water. Dr. Clark stated, yes, and we're going to tap into it and go forward.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Director Kier Dirlam attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review.

Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Dirlam stated the Planning Board will meet April 17 to discuss their comprehensive plan comments. Mr. Dirlam noted that he is still waiting on the legislators and some departments to submit their comments and reminded everyone they are due to him by Friday, April 26.

Waterfront Revitalization

Mr. Dirlam stated they are helping out on an upcoming project with the Village of Wellsville and Jones Memorial Hospital for a local waterfront revitalization plan that will develop a long-term 20 to 30-year plan from the Pennsylvania border to Belfast, NY. Legislator Healy suggested they look at Back River Road and limit traffic to local only as it would be the perfect area for fishing and wildlife, adding it is user friendly for walkers, bikers, and fisherman if they could get some parking areas put in. Mr. Dirlam stated that area has been marked as a connector from Belfast to Wellsville. Chairman Crandall stated that the Genesee River was pointed out when they discussed waterfront development a few years ago, and he is glad to see it is being picked up and moved forward.

Southern Tier West Government Conference

Mr. Dirlam stated the Southern Tier West Government Conference will be held Thursday, May 9, at Houghton College and encouraged attendance.

Re-Branding Meeting

Mr. Dirlam stated there is a re-branding meeting on Monday, April 22, at the Wellsville Library Auditorium, adding that 4:30 p.m. is the time to be there to be seen, heard, and get any questions in.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Employment and Training Director Reita Sobeck-Lynch attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review.

ADECCO Recruitment

Ms. Lynch stated that ADECCO held an open recruitment on March 26 with seven people in attendance, adding they were very pleased and have another scheduled for Thursday, April 18.

Cattaraugus County Job Fair

Ms. Lynch stated that Cattaraugus County will be holding a job fair at the beginning of May.

Summer Youth Employment Program

Legislator Hopkins asked what their funding looks like for the Summer Youth Employment Program and how many they will be able to employ. Ms. Lynch stated she can't give a definite number until she knows what the funding is, but assumes she will be able to employ approximately 60 youth again this summer. Ms. Lynch noted that they also began working with the homeschool community this year.

TOURISM DEPARTMENT

Greater Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gretchen Hanchett was unable to attend the meeting but submitted her monthly report to the committee for review.

Upcoming Events

Mr. Dirlam announced the following upcoming events:

- Alfred University will be hosting Hot Dog Day on Saturday, April 27.
- The Great Wellsville Trout Derby will be held Saturday, April 27, through Sunday, April 28.
- The 3rd Annual Wellsville River Regetta weekend will be Friday, May 17, through Sunday, May 19.

Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board Appointments

The Chairman of the Board plans to re-appoint H. Kier Dirlam of Almond, New York, Jerry Scott of Cuba, New York, and Craig Clark of Alfred, New York, as members of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning Board for a three-year term commencing June 1, 2019, and expiring May 31, 2022. These re-appointments were approved on a motion made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

The Chairman also plans to re-appoint the ex-officio members as follows: Chairman of the Board Curtis W. Crandall, and Chairman of the Planning Board Lee Gridley. In addition, the Chairman is appointing a new ex-officio member as follows: Public Works Superintendent Justin Henry. These appointments were approved on a motion made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Allegany County Telecommunications Development Corporation Appointment

The Chairman of the Board plans to re-appoint Jonathan Denehy of Alfred Station, as a member of the Allegany County Telecommunications Development Corporation for a two-year term effective April 24, 2019, and expiring September 30, 2020, subject to confirmation by the Board of Legislators. This appointment was approved on a motion made by Legislator Burdick, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

ATV Trail System

Committee Chair Root distributed a resolution urging passage of Senate Bill S01428 and Assembly Bill A01587 that would amend the Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Law, the Vehicle and Traffic Law, the State Finance Law, and the Environmental Conservation Law in relation to the creation of an ATV trail fund and the use of ATVs. Committee Chair Root stated that currently you cannot register side-by-sides, and these bills will allow them to be registered so they can be driven legally on our roads. Legislator Graves stated that Andover discussed established trails and the reaction to registering them was negative. Committee Chair Root stated this will only permit them to legally ride on roads not private property, and Legislator Graves indicated he has no objection to that. Legislator Hopkins noted that the speed limit for side-by-sides is generally 20mph, not what is posted for vehicles. Legislator Decker stated this resolution puts the issue in the right place so that if the County does establish trails, it's with the right people so we can proceed.

Broadband Update

Legislator Curran thanked the Board on behalf of Broadband for agreeing to extend more money so they can keep going, stating they are planning on using some for day-to-day expenses, but the bulk will go towards infrastructure to create more microcell towers so they can open service up to more people. Currently, they have a little over 90 customers, everything is working well, and they hope coming into spring and summer, they can get this program to a point where it's self-

sufficient. Legislator Barnes stated that he has seen signs offering internet availability on country roads and asked if that is Broadband. Legislator Curran stated, no, they are satellite providers. Committee Chair Root stated that Broadband was discussed at their last Southern Tier West meeting, and Richard Zink stated that areas the Governor said could not be served were granted to HughesNet, so now all of New York State looks like it's being served with high speed internet when it's not. Committee Chair Root expressed frustration because this discourages these companies from going on these back roads because they look like they already have high speed through HughesNet when really they don't.

Questions from the Media

Cindy Dutton representing *Cuba Patriot* asked Dr. Clark if the fueling station will still open without a hotel, and Dr. Clark stated, yes. Ms. Dutton then asked if there is a brand name for the fueling station, and Dr. Clark indicated there is not.

Attorney/Client Session

A motion was made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Burdick and carried to enter into an attorney/client session at 2:47 p.m. Immediately following discussion at 3:08 p.m., a motion was made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried to end the attorney/client session and return to the regular meeting.

Friendship Water Contract

Dr. Clark requested a resolution approving the Friendship Water Contract as presented. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Ricci, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Good of the Order

Legislator Stockin stated Ways and Means will begin five minutes after adjournment.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Dibble, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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