

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**April 18, 2018**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. 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 2:04 p.m. by Planning & Economic Development Committee Chair Debra Root.

Approval of Minutes

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

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. Dr. Clark highlighted the following topics on his report:

Crossroads Development

Dr. Clark stated they continue to work on Empire State Development incentives and continue to make good progress. Legislator Healy asked what the timeline is to break ground. Dr. Clark stated construction should begin August 2018. Hilton Tru has been locked in for the hotel; however, the restaurant and fueling station are still being looked at, and Dr. Clark indicated they will be regional brands.

Waterline Project

Dr. Clark stated they are finalizing easements and continue to work with the engineer for 2018 construction on the Waterline Project. Dr. Clark noted that Friendship continues to work cooperatively on this project.

GE Lufkin

The PILOT agreement with PM Research is being finalized by the Allegany County Industrial Development Agency, and they have also met with Empire State Development regarding incentives.

Bioenergy Development and Commercialization Center (BDCC)

Dr. Clark stated they have received the remaining \$1.5 million grant for the BDCC Project, and the Highlander initial engineering study has been completed. Dr. Clark will be traveling to Germany in the upcoming week to attend Hannover Messe and meet with Siemens and Select USA to work on the biorefinery. Committee Chair Root asked if there is a target date for breaking ground. Dr. Clark stated they should be retrofitting the building this fall.

ANGEL Fund

Dr. Clark stated the ANGEL Fund is making good progress, and they have enough people interested to fund it.

SIEMENS - Dresser Rand Closing:

Dr. Clark stated he recently spoke with Senator Schumer's office to discuss that Curtiss-Wright, along with some manufacturing, remains in Wellsville, NY, and they remain hopeful to make something happen.

Maker City

Dr. Clark stated this project is funded by the Allegany County Economic Steering Committee, and is innovation based economic development to renew and reinvent local economies. The meeting to develop an action plan will take place May 17, 2018, through May 19, 2018.

Legislator Ricci asked if there is any update on the Tracewell building. Dr. Clark stated he continues to reach out as it is one of the most important vacant facilities in the County that needs to be filled. Legislator Hopkins thanked Dr. Clark for his immense investment of time and energy into the work he's doing. Legislator Barnes asked for an update on the Park and Ride. Dr. Clark stated it is fully used and working well; however, they do have some Park and Ride customers who continue to park at the old Truck Stop, and they are working to no longer have customers parking there. Dr. Clark thanked all the legislators who attended the ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, April 13, 2018, for the Construction Workforce Development Center located at the Alfred State Wellsville campus, adding that the facility will make a big difference.

Tourism

Greater Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gretchen Hanchett attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Hanchett stated they continue to work with consulting company, Archer, to move the Watchful Wildlife Program forward. Currently they are outlining who the target audience is as well as where the main attractions are to build this program. Ms. Hanchett stated it was determined at the last Tourism Committee meeting that local businesses will not be putting the tourism packages together. The Tourism Committee will take on the project, and the packages will also be added to their website. Ms. Hanchett stated the Regional Welcome Grand Island Center Project will be a 4" x 9" 16-page brochure that will highlight general information about our five county region as well as what experiences are available within each county. Ms. Hanchett continues to work with a videographer for the Discover Allegany Video Campaign. There will be four 30-second videos, each with a different theme (i.e. outdoor activities, local shopping, local restaurants, and local events.) Ms. Hanchett stated she recently participated in the investors panel for young entrepreneurs. There were 12 to 17 students who all did a great job and had some unique inventions and business ideas. 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.
- Ms. Hanchett and Legislator Havey will be traveling to the NYS Tourism Conference from Monday, April 23, 2018, through Tuesday, April 24, 2018.

- 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 they will be selling raffle tickets for a kayaking package at this year's event.

Employment and Training

Employment and Training Director Reita Sobeck-Lynch was unable to attend the meeting but submitted her monthly report to the committee for review.

Planning Board Appointments

Chairman Crandall plans to appoint the following as ex-officio members to the Planning Board for a one-year term commencing January 1, 2018, and expiring December 31, 2018:

Guy R. James, Public Works Superintendent, Scio
Terri L. Ross, County Treasurer, Angelica
Philip G. Stockin, Ways & Means Committee Chairman, Houghton

A motion made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to request a resolution confirming the appointments. **Prepare Resolution**

Planning Director, Kier Dirlam

Planning Director Kier Dirlam attended the meeting and submitted his monthly report to the committee for review. Mr. Dirlam stated he recently met with the Town of Almond and is working on edits to their Comprehensive Plan as well as creating maps for it. The Shared Services Project is moving along rapidly, and Mr. Dirlam highly recommends attending the April 24 session as there is a lot of good discussion that takes place. Committee Chair Root asked if the last meeting had a good turnout. Mr. Dirlam stated there were approximately 35 to 40 people; however, a good portion were County employees and/or legislators. Mr. Dirlam stated the census data has been received, and there are over 29,000 addresses to review by June. Mr. Dirlam announced an upcoming training with NYSERDA that will be held on Wednesday, May 23, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Crossroads Center. This training will be for town, village, and County officials to come and learn how to handle if/when a solar company requests to build a solar farm in their community. Mr. Dirlam will be sending out additional information once details have been finalized. Committee Chair Root asked if large landowners will be invited to attend. Mr. Dirlam stated they are hoping to bring in as many people as they can, including those who live outside the County.

Business Annual Report Summary

Mr. Dirlam stated Wendall Brown has completed the preparation of the Business Annual Report that is due to the state. The results continue to be impressive for a program that the state chose to eliminate in 2010. The 2016 results are as follows:

- The gross payroll for Empire Zone businesses was \$52,213,730.
- There was \$5,586,896 in new capital investment.
- 30 businesses had total employment in the amount of 1,223 employees.

Mr. Dirlam thanked Mr. Brown for his efforts in putting this report together. Committee Chair Root asked if there is an end date for this annual report. Mr. Dirlam indicated we will have to continue with this for approximately three more years.

Request to Create and Fill Office Aid Position

Personnel Officer H. Robert Budinger requested a resolution to create the temporary position of Office Aide within the County at an hourly rate between \$10.40 and \$15 per hour. This position should be included in the Section IV Salary Plan. This position, under supervision, will provide assistance to clerical staff such as filing, acting as a receptionist, running errands, operating a switchboard, sorting mail, etc. Planning Director Kier Dirlam stated that every year his office requests to create a summer and fall intern, but after discussions with Mr. Budinger, it was decided that a temporary Countywide Office Aide position would be more fitting as there may be other departments that wish to utilize it. Mr. Dirlam noted that he has budgeted for the cost of his position. This request was approved on a motion made by Committee Chair Root, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried. **Refer the request to create the position to the Personnel Committee and the request to fill the position to the Ways & Means Committee after it has been created.**

Executive Session

A motion was made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Burdick, and carried to enter into Executive Session at 2:44 p.m. to discuss the employment history of particular individuals. Immediately following session at 3:16 p.m., a motion was made by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried to exit executive session and return to the regular meeting.

Request to Create and Fill Assistant Director of Economic Development & Planning

Planning Director Kier Dirlam requested a resolution to create a new position of Assistant Director of Economic Development and Planning in the Planning Department within the Section IV Salary Plan at an annual salary of \$55,000. Mr. Dirlam additionally requested permission to fill the position once it has been created. This position will be responsible for local small to midsize business outreach and support, development administration support, marketing design and layout, as well as public relations coordination and implementation. This position is funded 100 percent with County dollars, and has been included in the 2018 Budget. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Curran, and carried. **Refer the request to create the position to the Personnel Committee and the request to fill the position to the Ways & Means Committee after it has been created.**

New Business

Legislator Dibble stated he would like the committee to reach out to Senator Young regarding the rest area that previously was located westbound on I-86, and see what their options are in resurrecting the rest. (No official action was taken at this time.)

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Dibble, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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