



MINUTES
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Wednesday, July 10, 2019, Chambers – 5:30PM

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Paul Pinckney, Chairman at 5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS: Legislators Keith Batman, Andy Dennison, Pat Mahunik, Charlie Ripley (Vice Chair), and Ben Vitale

EXCUSED: Legislator Aileen McNabb-Coleman

OTHERS: Legislators Christopher Petrus, Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Joseph Bennett, Elane Daly, Timothy Lattimore, Michael Didio, Ryan Foley, County Attorney Christopher Palermo, Lloyd Hoskins, Director Assigned Council/Youth Bureau, Doug Kierst, Director Soil and Water District, Tracy Verrier, Director Cayuga Economic Development Agency(CEDA), Catherine Moran, Interim Executive Director Cornell Cooperative, Denise Spingler, Cayuga County 9-1-1 Administrator, Sheriff Brian Schenck, Detective Lt. Frederick Cornelius, Stephen Lynch, Director, Suzanne Gauthier, Administrative Assistant, Planning and Economic Development, Mark Strong, Moravia Fire Department, Renee Strong, Locke Fire Department

MINUTES TO APPROVE: Charlie Ripley motioned to approve the minutes of June 12, 2019, 2nd by Pat Mahunik. All members present voted in favor, passed July 10, 2019.

APPOINTMENTS:

Cayuga –Cortland Workforce Development Board

William Andre, 24 Maple St., Auburn NY 13021, Term – 7-1-19 to 6-30-22 – re-appt.

Motioned by Pat Mahunik to approve the appointment and present to the Legislature for approval, 2nd by Charlie Ripley. All in favor, passed

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

- **Catherine Moran (Cornell Cooperative Extension)**
 - Ongoing Executive Director Search
 - Active Strategic Planning Process
 - Successful completion of Electronic Recycling Event in collaboration with the County Planning and Economic Development Department
 - Working with Big 6 and Ag Society to plan the July County Fair
 - Completed nutrition education and gardening programs in afterschool and school day programs. Summer programs to include groups at Seymour Library, Play Space, Auburn Farmer’s Market, Aurora Farmer’s Market, a program directed at nutrition for diabetes control including a presentation at a diabetes symposium, programming at Booker T. Washington Community Center summer program, and a group in Port Byron in collaboration with the health clinic that will provide nutrition education and a “prescription” that participants can use to purchase fruits and vegetables at local farmer’s markets.
 - Operating a Master Gardener hotline through September
 - Working with Farm Bureau to plan farm and agribusiness tour for Legislators
 - Working with Cornell and Owasco Lake Management Association to promote a Dairy Acceleration Program and Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans.
 - Mailed “Ag Alert!” newsletter to 650 families
 - Working on Cornell Integrated Pest Management (IPM) with local farms
 - Developing Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) meeting and certification for dairy and beef farms as well as livestock transportation and hauling
 - 4-H Dog Obedience classes continue
 - 4-H educators are working with families to plan a summer horse show on July 21 and for the Big 6/Cayuga County/4-H Fair in July as well as the State Fair
 - Updating of the website is continuing to provide the public with timely and accurate information.
- **Additional Updates:**
 - The upcoming Cayuga County Fair will be on July 25th – July 27th with Legislator night to be held on Thursday evening.
 - CCE Nutrition Educator Becky Crawford is working with the Food Bank of Central New York and has set up a mobile food pantry in Port Byron and will setting up a second mobile food pantry in the parking lot across from Booker T. Washington Center at the end of August.

Legislator Dennison inquired about the new banner signs announcing the dates.

- **Karen Kuhl (Tourism) – no update**
- **Doug Kierst (Soil & Water Conservation District)**
 - Staff is busy meeting with landowners and preparing applicable grant proposals for submission to the Ag Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Grant Program
 - Staff is performing numerous site visits to assist landowners that have been struggling with drainage concerns.
 - Staff have completed 160 feet of bank stabilization on West Barrier Bar (Town of Sterling).
 - Staff have been busy using our hydro-seeder to stabilize exposed road ditches.
 - Staff completed 120 feet of rock line channel on an eroding road ditch.
 - Staff worked with CC Solid Waste Program, CC Highway Department, CCE and NUCOR to accept and recycle approximately 3,000 waste tires.
- **Additional Updates:**
 - Farm Tour will be held on July 30th, 2 to 6 pm
 - Weed harvester have been launched on July 1st on Cayuga Lake and will be heading into other waterbodies throughout the summer.
 - Tire recycling event held in June – NUCOR has accepted over 3,000 tires this season.
 - A significant rain event occurred on June 20th which created damages along some streams in the area. NYS DEC and the Army Corps of Engineers have referred many communities to Soil and Water for any assistance the District can provided in repairs to the damages.
- **Tracy Verrier (CEDA)**
 - Work plan Metrics snapshot:
 - Existing businesses met with: 55 (2019 goal=90)
 - Growth opportunities identified: 13 (2019 goal=12)
 - Attraction leads identified: 10 – 8 still active, plus 4 active from previous (2019 goal= 12 new)
 - Entrepreneurs met with: 40 – 5 new businesses opened (2019 goal= 75 and 15 respectively)
 - General Business Demographics snapshot:
 - For 2018 Q4, number establishments was down 2.3% from the year prior, but average employment was up .4% (the first year over year gain since 2014). Average Wages were also up 2.4% from the previous year.
 - Unemployment remains low at 3.8% in May.
 - Labor force participation in May was roughly the same as in 2018. February through March were down slightly from 2018.
 - Marketing: During Economic Development Week in May, CEDA posted a blog about available sites in Cayuga County. The blog organically produced elevated traffic to our Featured Sites page.
 - The Grow NY global business competition for agriculture and agribusiness is seeking mentors and applicants. <https://grow-ny.com>.
 - Consolidated Funding Applications for NY State grant funding are due July 26. CEDA staff will assist businesses seeking ESD, NYSERDA, or Excelsior incentives with their applications.
 - CEDA staff continues to work on workforce development and succession planning initiatives to address areas of need in the business community.
- **Additional Updates:**
 - Central New York Regional Council Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) will be having a meeting at the Point on July 11th at 3:30 with an update on the development hotel project.
- **Steve Lynch (Planning & Economic Development)**

RESOLUTIONS:

PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS:

7-19-PL-2 Declaration of intent that the Cayuga County Legislature be lead agency for environmental review of the Emerson Park Improvements Phase 1 Project.

Keith Batman motioned to approve and move resolution 7-19-PL-2, 2nd by Charlie Ripley. No discussion. All members present voted in favor, passed.

PLANNING:

7-19-PL-1 Authorizing award of a professional services contract for Cayuga County Public Utilities Services Agency (CCPUSA) strategic plan funded by Cayuga County Clean Energy Community New York State grant funds

Ben Vitale motioned to approve and move resolution 7-19-PL-1, 2nd by Andy Dennison. No discussion. All members present voted in favor, passed.

- Emerson Park Capital Project is out to bid with competitive, public works bids due this July 9. We will report results at PEDC.
 - A number of the NYSERDA funded Clean Energy Community grant projects are moving forward: The County has two (2) new hybrid-electric vehicles (100% grant funded), new dual port charging stations at COB and the Village of Union Springs and a Scope of Work for lighting upgrades at the County Jail has been approved and is ready to bid (Buildings & Grounds will solicit bids).
 - Planning staff are currently working on five (5) competitive grant applications for our communities and/or county projects. This week a 6th grant application was added: 2019 CFA Application for a NYS Recreational Trails Program grant for bridge completion on the Cato-Brutus trail (80% grant; 20% match). Resolution supporting submission moving through Public Works Committee – July.
 - The Director continues to provide Administrative & Oversight Responsibilities for the Cayuga County Emergency Management Office – EMO
- Additional Updates:
 - Lake Ontario Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative

The first meetings of local and State officials were held on Governor Cuomo’s new government initiative for Lake Ontario’s Resiliency and Economic Development Initiative. \$300 M has been allocated to be distributed to the communities along Lake Ontario which have been impacted by the recent flooding. The funds are dedicated for infrastructure repairs and updates to enhance the economic development opportunities in the affected areas. NYS has hired O’Brien and Gere to implement this project. The Counties will need to forward preliminary projects and numbers into the NYS team by July 26th for evaluation; with a joint plan for Cayuga and Oswego Counties to be completed by the end of August.

One of the projects to be submitted with the plan would be for assistance in funding for the 2015 Regional Dredging Master Plan. Counties have originally agreed to put some funds within a collective fund to pay for the dredging to be completed. A NYS CFA grant request will also be submitted in the July cycle; and if awarded would require a 20% match for implementation.
 - Steve Lynch gave a brief overview of two Legislative Resolution which be presented to the full Legislature at the end of the month.

7-19-LEG-2 Resolution expressing support to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the designation of the “Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary,” docket number NOAA-NOS-2019-0032

7-19-LEG-3 Resolution of the Cayuga County Legislature seeking suspension and immediate renegotiation of Plan 2014

The committee discussed how dredging efforts are and can be funded; as the Army Corps of Engineers will not be completing the dredging efforts.

Legislator Dennison inquired about the electric cars which were purchased with the NYSERDA grant. Steve explained Real Property and the Office of the Aging will be using the vehicles for their staff. The COB charging is currently only to be used for County vehicles. The charging station to be built in Union Springs will have public access. Through monitoring of the current stations, will be able to use the data to determine whether additional stations can be set up in other locations within the County.

OTHER MATTERS:

Legislator Lattimore presented an overview of potential projects to enhance economic development opportunities in the County.

ADJOURNMENT: Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at 5:30 PM

Andy Dennison motioned to adjourn the Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting at 6:10 p.m., 2nd by Keith Batman. All members present voted in favor of the motion, passed.

Next Planning and Economic Development Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., at the Cayuga County Office Building, Sixth Floor County Chambers, 160 Genesee Street, Auburn, New York 13021