

MINUTES
CAYUGA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
April 5, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm in the Chambers of the County Legislature on the sixth floor of the County Office Building.

The minutes from October 2005 were approved as submitted.

NUCOR Town Hall Meeting

Presented by: David Smith, NUCOR

A presentation was made to promote an upcoming Town Hall Meeting that will be conducted by NUCOR at the Chiropractic College in Seneca Falls on Friday April 7, 2006.

This meeting is designed to show trends in manufacturing job loss to oversee sites. People and politicians do not understand why the jobs are leaving so NUCOR started the Town Hall Meetings to explain the issues the manufacturing industry is facing.

Mr. Smith showed a 10-minute movie that illustrated the difficulties competing with foreign markets and a number of statistics. This was only a portion of the full movie that will be shown on Friday the 7th.

NUCOR wasn't interested in trade issues when they first established themselves. They were a young company and veered away from politics. Now they're large and they have to get involved in politics in order to survive. They feel they are uniquely placed to help all manufacturing because they have companies across the United States and 98% percent of their business is in the US. Other large businesses have a substantial portion of their manufacturing occurring outside the country, so it is difficult for them to pursue actions that would make those operations less profitable.

NUCOR is trying to help all manufacturing, not just steel. NUCOR sees two fronts for government intervention. The first is to end the currency manipulation that allows China to sell their products 40% cheaper (\$50 billion trade deficit with China alone). The second is to work with the way goods are taxed at the European border.

Two to three years ago there was a lot of consolidation in the steel industry due to bankruptcy. Steel is doing better now, but there is a need to advocate for other manufacturing businesses. The US has lost 3.3 million manufacturing jobs since 1998.

NUCOR sees itself as ideally suited to advocate for these issues because they are large, nationwide, and are not multi-national.

Questions:

Q. How can local leaders have global impacts?

A. If enough people advocate for change it will cause the current laws to be enforced by politicians and those that have the power.

Q. Politicians don't seem inclined to talk about union pay. How can manufacturing in the US compete with other countries?

A. Easily, the increase in efficiency that the US has. For example in the steel industry, steel is produced at 1 to 0.3 man hours per ton as opposed to 10 man hours per ton in China.

Statement was made that 75% of the jobs lost from Bombardier are going to Mexico.

Q. Have other manufacturers or manufacturing sectors joined with NUCOR?

A. Yes, a number of manufacturing groups and businesses have joined NUCOR including Revereware and the National Association of Manufacturers.

Q. The currency manipulation you discussed in China, is that occurring in Mexico as well?

A. No, it is occurring in China and the other Asian countries that are tied to China

Statement was made that many of these ideas were presented by John Kerry in the 2004 elections and that one way to effect change is a the polls in 2006 and in 2008.

Q. The state of Pennsylvania has a buy American clause that requires the government to buy American and contract with American based companies. Has that helped?

A. It has helped some, but not enough to make a real nation-wide difference.

The Town Hall Meeting is at 6pm on Friday April 7th. It is a three-hour meeting, and dinner is included. If you would like to attend, please call 253-4561 to make a reservation.

New FEMA Flood Maps

Presented by: Bruce Natale, Cayuga County Flood Hazard Mitigation Officer

Under a Cooperative Technical Partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has begun conducting new Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) for the State of New York. The program employs geographic information technology to produce new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) that are significantly more accurate than the current maps.

The FIRMs are produced at a scale of 1:4800, follow a paneling scheme based on a subset of the 7.5 minute quadrangle, and utilize the most recent base map imagery.

Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data plays a critical role in achieving the high level of accuracy found in the new flood insurance studies. Vertical accuracy of the LiDAR provides 2 to 4 foot contours.

A draft of these maps was released in the Fall of 2005 for review. The Towns and Villages should have received information with instructions on how to comment on the draft maps. During the comment period that ended 3/22/06, the NYSDEC received comments on about 7 or 8 areas that need to be re-checked. The final version of the maps should be available soon.

These new maps will need to be adopted by each Town and Village. NYSDEC is scheduled to assist the Towns and Villages through the local adoption process, likely to begin during the summer of 2006.

Local Status Reports:

T/Victory – Ms. Davis stated the Town is still working towards a Comprehensive Plan.

V/Cayuga – Ms. Komaneky mentioned that they are working on a joint Comprehensive Plan with the Town of Aurelius. They have hired Barton and Loguidice to develop the plan.

V/Cato – Ms. Sweetman confirmed that CIVIC Heritage is hoping to break ground this summer. NYS DOT has begun reconstruction of State Route 370 through the Village of Cato, Town of Ira and Village of Meridian.

T/Aurelius – Mr. Scouten also mentioned that they are working on a joint Comprehensive Plan with the Village of Cayuga. They have hired Barton and Loguidice to develop the plan. There is also a lot of development expected within the Town in the next year. A Home Depot will be built across from the mall by end of summer and the Hotel is expected to go up next year. They are expecting more shopping areas to be built.

V/Union Springs – Mr. Parsnick updated the group on the Village's Comprehensive Plan. The Village is nearly done, they are working with Ms. D'Angelo from the County Planning Department on the project.

V/Aurora – Mr. Taylor highlighted the work that has been done in the Village and summarized the current project that involves moving the Post Office in the Heary Building (Building to the south of current building) and demolishing the current post office building.

T/Locke – Mr. Benson reported that the Town is currently working on revisions to their Property Maintenance and Junk Yard Law.

T/Throop – Mr. Vitale shared with the group that the Town is also working with Ms. D'Angelo from the County Planning Department on a Comprehensive Plan. The Town plans on writing a zoning law upon completion of the plan. Currently the Town is finishing revisions on their Dog Control and Noise Ordinances.

T/Cato – Mr. Lloyd posed the question to the group on the issue of illegal subdivisions. The Town of Cato has had difficulty with property owners filing a subdivision with the County Clerk without it first being approved at the Town level. Ms. D'Angelo stated that this has been a common problem in many of the communities in Cayuga County and that she is working with the Clerk's office, Real Property Services and the County Attorney to try and find a solution.

T/Sennett – Mr. Morris informed the board that it appears as though the Casino will not be coming to Sennett. The Town is also in the process of reviewing a large subdivision on Route 20 for Don Kasper. There are concerns over maintenance of the stormwater ponds, so the Town is going to take over the stormwater structures and create a stormwater district so they can charge the residents for the maintenance costs.

T/Ira – Ms. Southard mentioned that the Town of Ira has decided to hire a consultant to complete their Comprehensive Plan. They are hoping to decide which company at their Town Board meeting tonight. They have had one major subdivision this year with some concerns over sight distances.

Other Matters:

Upcoming Recycling Events – This spring Cayuga County is holding two recycling events. The first is for household electronics and propane tanks. Household electronics includes Computers, TV's, DVD

players, radios, microwaves and so on. There is a \$5 fee per computer monitor and TV (limit 2) but all other electronics are free. You can also bring propane tanks from 1-40 lb size for no charge.

Propane Tank and Electronic Collection – April 29th 9am to noon at the Natural Resources Bldg on County House Road.

Tire Round up Collection – June 3rd 9am to noon at the Natural Resources Bldg on County House Road.

Choose Site for June Meeting – Two suggestions came forward for the location of the June meeting. The Town of Niles' New Town Hall and Bass Pro. Amy D'Angelo will contact each of these to see if they are available.

Upcoming Classes (ZBA, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council's Spring Government Workshop) – There are two training opportunities coming up: Board of Appeals Introductory Training will be held in the Legislative Chamber of the County Office Building on April 10th and the Genesee/Finger lakes Regional Planning Council's Spring Local Government Workshop will be on May 19th in Pittsford, NY.

Stormwater Phase II information packets were distributed to those who did not attend the meeting in October.

The next meeting will be on June 7, 2006 at 6:00 pm at a location yet to be determined.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.