MINUTES
CAYUGA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
June 7, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm in the Lakeside Room of the Aurora Inn in the Village of Aurora.

The minutes from April 2006 were approved as submitted.

Local Status Reports:

T/Mentz – Mr. Moose reported that the Town is working on their Comprehensive Plan.

V/Port Byron – Mr. Hayes also noted that the Village is working on a Comprehensive Plan.

T/Ledyard – Ms. Jordan mentioned that they are progressing on their Comprehensive Plan.

V/Cayuga – Mr. Watkins updated the group on their Joint Comprehensive Plan. The plan is done and is going through final review. They are now starting to look at their zoning law.

T/Niles – Mr. Edmunds stated that the Town will be meeting with County Planning at the end of June to discuss the possibility of doing a Comprehensive Plan.

V/Cato and T/Ira – Ms. Sweetman and Ms. Southard updated the group on the NYS DOT reconstruction of State Route 370 through the Village of Cato, Town of Ira and Village of Meridian. Right now it is a big mess, they are working on drainage, repairing water mains and building retaining walls. They also stated that the Town of Ira was trying to stop DOT from putting a walking path from the Village of Cato to the school. It is approximately ¾ of a mile and very few people walk it. Since part of the funding for the project is federal funds, DOT is required to put it in. Also, the Town of Ira, Village of Cato and Village of Meridian at looking are doing a combined Comprehensive Plan. The Town of Ira has already decided to hire Barton and Loguidice out of Syracuse for the planning work.

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.

V/Aurora – Mr. Taylor invited the group on a walking tour of the Village to see what's been going on.

Other Matters:

Ms. D'Angelo from County Planning presented the group with a matrix to complete. The information from the matrix will be used to develop a GIS model to predict the best areas to protect for open space. The maps generated by this model will then be brought to local communities in order to develop an open space plan for the County.

Tour of the Village of Aurora
Presented by: Steve Taylor, Village of Aurora CCPB representative
Tom Gunderson, Mayor of the Village of Aurora

Mr. Taylor and Mr. Gunderson started by showing the group the remains of the old mill in the back of the Aurora Inn. From there we toured the Heary Building. The Village is hoping to move the post office in to the historic Heary Building and then demolish the existing post office building and expand the municipal parking lot and improve access to the Village park. From there, we walked south on State Route 90 and looked at a number of homes. Mr. Taylor pointed out two pocket parks that are on the old rail bed and are owned by the Village. They are hoping to improve signage and access to these parks this summer to increase public use of them. We looked at the "House without a Home". The Webb House is on stilts and rests in between the Lyons House and the Lake House. The current proposal to the Village is to demolish the Lake House and put the Webb House in its spot. The issues surrounding the Webb House have created tension within the community and with the neighbors.

Mr. Gunderson offered to take the group on a boat tour of the Village on his pontoon boat. The group walked down to the Wells College dock and met Mr. Gunderson there. Mr. Gunderson showed us the new Village park they are trying to create that will go from the creek at the south end of the Village to the Wells College docks, along the lakeshore. He also showed us a number of buildings from the lakeshore and gave some history on structures that are no longer there.

The next meeting will be on October 4, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Legislature Chambers on the sixth floor of the County Office Building.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.