

MINUTES
CAYUGA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
July 7, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm in the Legislative Chambers on the sixth floor of the County Office Building.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Debbie Davis (Victory), Bonnie LaFrance (Fair Haven), John Moose (Mentz), Robert Amerman (Summerhill), John Malenick (Montezuma), June Oulette (Sterling), David Stillwell (Genoa), Chet Dziergas (Weedsport), Michael Glowacki (Brutus), Bruce Hatfield (Scipio)

Others Present: Charles Ripley (Supervisor, Summerhill), Barb Eberhardt (Niles), Keith Welch (Scipio), Steve Lynch (Director, CCPED), Geoff Milz (Staff)

Members Excused: Gail James (Meridian)

Not Present: Steve Selvek (C/Auburn), Gerald Scouten (Aurelius), Pat Bianconi, (Aurora), Tom Lloyd (T/Cato), Peg Sweetman (V/Cato), Jackie Komanecky (Cayuga), Dale Powell (Conquest), Fred Farrell (Flemming), William Miller (Ira), Ron Buxenbaum (Ledyard), Ralph Crandall (Locke), Nancy Weaver (T/Moravia), Sara Crossgrove (V/Moravia), John Nolte (Niles), Earline Sorensen (Owasco), William Hayes (Port Byron), David Morris (Sennett), Lou Fricano (Springport), Richard Stabminsky (Throop), Tom Parsnick (Union Springs), Jeffrey Edwards (Venice)

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Each member introduced himself or herself.

Mr. Dziergas (Weedsport) requested that reminder letters for Planning Board meetings be sent to individual members instead of Towns and Villages.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY BRUCE HATFIELD (SCIPPIO): Approve minutes from April 2009 with the addition of attendance.

SECOND BY JOHN MOOSE (MENTZ): All members vote AYE.

Motion approved and carried.

NEW BUSINESS: ISSUES OF COUNTYWIDE IMPORTANCE

1. Correspondence from Bruce Natale, WQMA Chair & CC Environmental Engineer:
Bruce submitted a written memorandum to the Board that provided briefs on

household hazardous waste and toxics reduction projects, solid waste and recycling issues, water quality issues and the Auburn & Cayuga County Sustainable Energy Plan.

The information presented in the memo led to two discussions. First, Mr. Dziergas (Weedsport) suggested that in cases where electronics are dumped on someone's property there should be another means of disposing of the appliance besides the County electronics recycling events and the charge associated with taking the materials to the Auburn Landfill. Second, on issue of the pending DEC ban outdoor burning, Mr. Hatfield (Scipio) asked about how agricultural plastics would be handled if farmers were prohibited from burning it. Mr. Milz (Staff) described the Cornell University Recycling Ag Plastics Project which aims to provide a mobile bailing service to the County¹. Ms. Eberhardt (Niles) said that the program would not be effective if it imposed too high a cost on the farmer because farms are businesses and have to work within certain financial constraints. Mr. Dziergas (Weedsport) and Mr. Glowacki (Brutus) asked if outdoor wood-fired boilers would be included in the new DEC ban. Mr. Milz (Staff) said he would find the answer and convey it to the Board.

2. Cayuga County Farmland Protection Program: Mr. Milz (Staff) relayed to the Board the outcomes of the 2008 Funding Round of the State's Farmland Protection Implementation Grant (PDR) Program. Almost 1300 acres were protected on two farms bringing over 2.3 million dollars into the County. The Allen farm in the Town of Scipio and the Green Valley Farm, located in the Towns of Scipio, Fleming and Springport, were the owners of the land selected for protection.
3. 239 l, m & n Report: In response to the April 2009 request by the Board for more involvement in the 239 review process, Mr. Milz (Staff) provided copies of the Draft minutes from all 239 Review Committee meetings in April, May and June. There was no further discussion on the topic.

LOCAL STATUS REPORTS

T/Scipio – Mr. Hatfield said that the Town was continuing work on its comprehensive plan with Jeanie Gleisner of CNYRPDB. The progress has slowed due to the season but he expects to complete work on the plan in the Fall.

T/Niles – Ms. Eberhardt explained that the Town was in the final stages of the comprehensive planning process and plans to do a final review of the document in September. She also described a land use question that the Town is currently facing in which some lots, in close proximity to the lake, have been subdivided to meet the minimum lot size required by the Town but have rights-of-way on them that reduces the actual buildable area of the lot to a size smaller than may safely accommodate a house with well and septic. The Town considered including language in their subdivision regulations that would, in effect, require subdividers to subtract the

¹ For more information on the Ag Plastics Recycling Project in Cayuga County contact Brian Aldrich at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County bsa9@cornell.edu .

area taken up by such rights-of-way from the total lot size when determining whether the lot meets the Town's minimum lot size requirements. No other Towns had experience with a similar situation.

T/Genoa – Mr. Stillwell described the Town's ongoing efforts to develop a comprehensive plan. He said that the Comprehensive Planning Committee currently has 8-12 people actively participating and has organized itself into three committees: Inventory and Analysis Committee, Outreach Committee and Survey Committee. He asked the group if others had suggestions for getting more people to the meetings. Mr. Welch (Scipio) said that he was very impressed with the 8-12 people that Genoa was able to get involved and that despite the Scipio planning board's efforts (which includes a paper newsletter) they have not been able to sustain such a high rate of participation. Mr. Moose (Mentz) shared that he had come across a very useful article on engaging with the public. He asked Mr. Milz (staff) to share that article with the Board.

T/Montezuma – Mr. Melenick said that the Town is currently rewriting its subdivision rules, currently they are 75% complete.

T/Victory – Ms. Davis explained that the Town was working with Jeanie Gleisner to produce a comprehensive plan. She also said the Town was continuing to work on the Northeast Christian Conference Center expansion.

V/Fair Haven – Ms. LaFrance said that the second phase of the sewer project was underway in the Village which extends a sewer line up Fancher Ave. The Village has developed a property maintenance law which regulates the height of grass and storage of junk cars and a sewer law which lays out the rules for hooking up to the Village's new sewers.

T/Sterling – Ms. Oullette shared that the Town is nearing completion of their comprehensive plan. They are also starting to work on a well-head protection plan for the Village of Fair Haven's well-field located in the Town. Mr. Milz said he would look for relevant information and forward it to the Town.

T/Summerhill – Mr. Amerman said the Town had met with County Planning to discuss the possibility of beginning a comprehensive planning process. The Town is also interested in developing an adult uses law.

T/Mentz – Mr. Moose said the Town was working on a comprehensive plan and is currently in the inventory and analysis stages.

T/Brutus & V/Weedsport – Mr. Glowacki and Mr. Dziergas reported that the Village and Town's Joint Planning Board was considering beginning the comprehensive planning process.

INTERNAL BUSINESS

Upcoming Trainings: Local Government Training Clearinghouse: Mr. Milz shared the State of New York's new online clearinghouse for information on local government trainings: <http://www1.osc.state.ny.us/LGTraining/search.cfm>

Topics of Interest for Future Meetings: Mr. Milz suggested that an introduction to Cayuga County's new Online GIS Data Center (www.ecayuga.com) be included in the agenda for the next meeting. The Board concurred. Mr. Dziergas (Weedsport) requested information on the Marcellus Shale gas drilling.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21pm. The next Cayuga County Planning Board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 6pm** on the 6th Floor of the County Office Building and will be followed by a CCPB Training on "Planning for Stormwater" at 7:30pm.

Other Cayuga County Planning Board Events:

TRAINING SEQR

Thursday, September 10, 2009
7pm in the Legislative Chambers of the County Office Building