

MINUTES
CAYUGA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
November 16, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Chairman Tom Lloyd (Cato); George Hiza (Fleming); Slade Cox (Ira); John Malenik (Montezuma); William Carmen (Niles); Chairman Keith Welch (Scipio); David Morris (Sennett); June Oullette (Sterling); Patricia Bianconi (Aurora); Darrin Rooker (Port Byron)

OTHERS PRESENT: James Campbell (Brutus); Sue Allen (Sterling); Stephen St. Martin (Montezuma); Geoff Milz (Staff)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room at the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES at

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Each member introduced himself or herself.

INTERNAL BUSINESS

1. Review of Minutes of the 239 l, m & n Committee: Minutes from the September 15th, October 20th and November 4th meetings of the 239 l, m & n Committee were discussed. Vice-Chairman Lloyd (Cato) asked for more information on several of the referrals and Mr. Milz (staff) discussed the Abbot House Special Permit and the Assembly of God Church Use Variance.
2. 2012 CCPB Officer Nominations: After brief discussion, Mr. Slade Cox (Ira) makes a *motion to recommend to the Cayuga County Legislature the appointment of Mr. Keith Welch (Scipio), Mr. Tom Lloyd (Cato) and Mr. Stephen St. Martin (Montezuma) to the positions of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary, respectively, of the Cayuga County Planning Board.* The motion is seconded by Mr. George Hiza (Fleming). All members vote AYE. Motion Carries.
3. 2012 CCPB Agenda: The Board discussed its role and whether it would like to expand its role in 2012. Currently, the Board meets three times a year and primarily serves as a mechanism for exchanging information between the towns & villages and the county and among the towns & villages themselves. Mr. Milz (staff) suggested that many towns have approached the planning department with questions related to horizontal hydrofracking. There was some discussion of whether the Board should have a sub-group work on Horizontal Hydrofracking. While some members thought that it may be helpful, no action was recommended. The consensus of the Board was to wait until next year to see how the issue develops. A second issue was discussed involving the creation of a work group to develop a template Local Code of Ethics for the Towns and Villages of Cayuga County. Mr. George Hiza (Fleming) and Mr. Keith Welch (Scipio)

volunteered to be a part of such a committee. Mr. Milz (staff) will poll other members to create a workgroup for early 2012. Members of the Board suggested that SEQR be included in the 2012 Land Use Training Series.

NEW BUSINESS: ISSUES OF COUNTYWIDE IMPORTANCE

1. November 19, 2011 – Electronic Recycling Event at City of Auburn Landfill: Mr. Milz (staff) shared information related to the City/County electronics recycling event.
2. Cayuga Economic Development Agency finishes the County’s Strategic Economic Development Plan: Mr. Milz (staff) shared the plan in hard copy and provided the URL for digital access. There was no further discussion.
3. Central New York Regional Economic Development Council finishes Strategic Plan: Mr. Milz (staff) shared the plan in hard copy and provided the URL for digital access. There was no further discussion.
4. Green Infrastructure Grant for Owasco Flats Wetland Restoration and Riparian Buffers Initiative. Mr. Milz (staff) described the Owasco Flats Restoration and Riparian Buffers Initiative: Cayuga County has received \$712,500 in funds from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation’s Green Innovation Grant Program for the Owasco Flats Wetland Restoration and Riparian Buffers Initiative. This project will be located on City of Auburn owned land off of Route 38 in the Town of Moravia. The Owasco Inlet will be reconnected with its floodplain with water control structures and the water will flow into existing and created wetlands to filter out nutrients and sediment. Riparian buffers will also be added along drainageways and the Owasco Inlet to further reduce nutrients and sediment inputs. This work will also improve habitat for invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians and birds while reducing phosphorus and sediment that reaches Owasco Lake. There was no further discussion.

LOCAL STATUS REPORTS

T/Niles- Mr. Carmen reported that the Town has adopted a moratorium on horizontal hydrofracking.

T/Montezuma- Mr. Malenik said the Town was continuing to develop the Erie Heritage Park and has received 5 grants so far to support their efforts. With no new houses having been built in the last four years, the Town is trying to use its historic and natural resources to drive its progress.

T/Cato- Vice-Chairman Lloyd reported that the Town was recently awarded the Heissenbittel Award for Planning Excellence for their Plan for Agriculture and Farmland Protection.

T/Sterling- Ms. Oullette told the Board that Sterling is currently reviewing a contentious special permit application for an E911 communication tower. They are also reviewing a PDD application.

T/Ira- Mr. Cox reported that the Town of Ira has been quiet for some time.

T/Sennett- Mr. Morris stated that the Church on Route 5 was progressing well.

T/Fleming- Mr. Hiza described a land use situation in the Vaness Brook watershed which resulted in soil being pushed into Vaness Brook when the owners said they were preparing the property for agricultural use.

V/Aurora- Ms. Bianconi reported that the Village has been working on the Abbott House Project for quite a while.

V/ Port Byron – Mr. Rooker described the zoning district changes that the Village recently adopted.

T/Brutus- Mr. Campbell reported that Brutus was quiet.

T/Scipio- Chairman Welch reported that a rural cemetery was being used for grazing cows in Scipio. The Town is looking into how best to proceed. The Town may end up owning the cemetery.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.