

**PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
**August 17, 2016**  
**AMENDED**

**Members Present:** D. Root, D. Pullen, M. Healy, J. Hopkins, C. Jessup, K. LaForge, and C. Crandall

**Others Present:** T. Boyde, K. Dirlam, L. Gridley, G. Hanchett, K. Hollis, R. Hollis, C. Knapp, T. Miner, B. Riehle T. Ross, M. Washer

**Media Present:** Brian Quinn, *Wellsville Daily Reporter*

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Planning & Economic Development Committee Chairman Debra Root.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried to approve the Planning & Economic Development Committee minutes with amendments for July 20, 2016.

**Economic Development, Craig Clark**

Craig Clark submitted his monthly report and highlighted the following items:

- The unfortunate news of the GE Lufkin shutdown has resulted in discussions with management at GE Lufkin, state and federal representative's staff as well as Governor's staff. Discussions include how to assure the transition to having a manufacturing operation continue or manufacturing company start up in that facility. Everyone agrees, it is one of the nicest buildings in the County and filling this facility is important to both Allegany County and the Wellsville community.
- Mr. Clark continues to follow up with Select USA with one potential company reaching out to discuss relocation to New York State.
- Mr. Clark is working closer with Buffalo Niagara Invest and hopeful to get a company that wants to reside in Western NY.
- Leadership Allegany has agreed to develop a young professional program based on the Athens, Ohio, model. The next phase will be developing an emerging and welcome back program to keep local college graduates in Allegany County as well as to attract alumni back to the County. Mr. Clark stated it is very important for the County and while it may not bring us 500 jobs it's going to help keep our youth as well as alumni here.
- Insyte consulting is scheduled for an August 25 event. This event is for local manufacturing companies to discuss ways to improve manufacturing processes to assist in retention and expansion of local manufacturers.
- The BDCC (Bio-refinery Development and Commercialization Center) Group has had their \$4 million EDA grant reviewed by Senator Schumer and Congressman Reed's economic development staff. It will be submitted in the next week or two and Mr. Clark is hopeful it will be looked at favorably.

- The waterline project is moving along and the team will review and discuss the Friendship engineer preliminary engineering report by the end of August to finalize how the project can move forward for Crossroads.

### **Partnership with Snowmobilers Federation**

County Administrator Timothy Boyde requested a resolution authorizing the Chairman of the Board to sign a funding application (renewal) in partnership with the Allegany County Federation of Snowmobilers whereby the County will act as a pass through for the Federation of Snowmobilers for snowmobile trail development and maintenance assistance grant funds provided by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. The 2016-2017 application funding award is anticipated to be \$125,000 (based on mileage and high snow). No budget adjustment is necessary as the funding has already been included in the 2016 Budget under account A1785.4. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Healy, seconded by Legislator Hopkins, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

### **Planning Director, H. Kier Dirlam**

H. Kier Dirlam submitted his monthly report and highlighted the following items:

- The Hazard Mitigation team continues to work on the plan with their consultant. Last month they met to hear what the risk analysis results were, and this month they will have another series of meetings to determine the methods of dealing with these risks.
- The Mason Digital team is working on the overhaul of the [www.alleganyco.com](http://www.alleganyco.com) website and has the basic layout completed. The data transfer and front page build is expected to be undertaken during the next 45 days. This project will be on-going with different sections of the website built each month for the next year.
- The Broadband ConnectNY contract expired in the beginning of August, and the state has agreed to extend for another year.
- The town of Alma Comprehensive Plan staff met with the town on completing the review of their new Comprehensive Plan. A public hearing is set for September 6 and is expected to be approved at that time. Legislator Healy questioned how we stand with our towns having their own Comprehensive Plan, and Mr. Dirlam stated we are up to about a third that have done one in the past 10-12 years which is far better than where we were.
- The Comprehensive Planning School is moving along. Both Wellsville and Alfred municipalities are working with their teams to put together text. A good portion of Wellsville's has gone to MRB group to be turned into an official document. The goal is to have these completed by the end of this year. Legislator Hopkins questioned if these are the first plans for these two communities, and Mr. Dirlam stated that both of these communities had plans back in 2002 and 2004 and these are just updates.
- The County Comprehensive Plan is being redone, and the target date is next spring to present a revised draft to the Board.
- Michelle Denhoff has been working on updating the database of businesses in the County. The last database was updated in 2013 and was outdated and incomplete. Mr. Dirlam noted it is a large database that will require continued effort and once it is made accurate, it will be utilized by the Chambers of

Commerce, the Employment and Training office as well as the Development team for outreach to our businesses.

### **Development Team Coordinator/Industrial Development Agency, Jack Wood**

Jack Wood was not in attendance due to meetings with hotel developers but wanted to note that he was very appreciative of everyone who made the meetings regarding the fuel project. He felt it was a positive series of meetings and in general everyone is in agreement to move forward with working on the project.

Jack Wood submitted his monthly report and H. Kier Dirlam highlighted the following items:

- The hotel development at Crossroads continues to move forward. There are two developers that have formalized interest in the site and are coming to tour.
- Wind farm is in the research and analysis stage and is a long term project but the outlook is favorable.

### **GGAC Executive Director, Gretchen Hanchett**

Gretchen Hanchett submitted her monthly report and highlighted the following items:

- We are in contact with our web developers and at this time are developing Recreation for Allegany County and it will be on the front page. We will be adding a section to our Watchful Wildlife Program that will show all of our trails are and how to get to them. We are still looking into which type of trail cam to purchase and are making sure with our web developers that it can transfer to YouTube and then to our website.
- We are looking to have a breakfast in September to pull all of our realtors together and let them know the direction we are going and why they are important to the branding and development of Allegany County. We will work to get them on board with the packets we've developed and make sure they are getting them out.
- Southern Tier West has been referred to us by Straight Forward consulting. This company will provide consulting and shipping discounts to our business and manufacturers in a three county area.
- The new start line for the Fire Ball Run will be in Allegany, NY, and we will be providing passes for Allegany County and where they will be stopping. The Allegany County dinner is scheduled for September 22.
- The manufacturing golf tournament was held Friday, August 12, with 10 teams in attendance. There also were suppliers of the manufacturing companies from Buffalo, NY, who stated they are looking forward to next year's tournament and plan to bring more teams next year.
- Tough Mudder is coming up and they are looking for a non-profit organization to donate a \$1,000 to come and park cars. Mrs. Hanchett is following up with some organizations that can assist with this.
- The Legislative breakfast is Friday, September 16, 2016; Mrs. Hanchett wanted to clarify that there is an RSVP that is hyperlinked, and you can complete your RSVP as well as the payment process.

Greater Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gretchen Hanchett requested a resolution authorizing the Planning and Economic Development Committee to act as Tourist Promotion Agency and to apply for State Funds up to \$238,625 for tourism promotion purposes. County Treasurer Terri Ross noted the \$238,628 amount is the entire budget for 2016. The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Pullen, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

**Employment & Training Director, Reita Sobeck-Lynch**

Reita Sobeck-Lynch was not in attendance but submitted her monthly report.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Jessup, seconded by Legislator Hopkins and carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Meghan Washer, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board  
Allegany County Board of Legislators