

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
April 3, 2018**

ATTENDEES:

Legislators: Dale Weston, Ed Hollenbeck, Mike Roberts, Marte Sauerbrey

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Rita Hollenbeck

Guests: Becca Maffei, Tioga County Tourism

Legislator Mullen was not in attendance.

MINUTES

- Approval of minutes from March 6, 2018 - Legislator Weston asked for approval of minutes from the March 6, 2018 committee meeting. Legislator Roberts made a motion to accept the March 6, 2018 minutes, seconded by Legislator Hollenbeck. All were in favor.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION: Wendy Walsh – Ms. Walsh was not in attendance; monthly report was previously emailed, as well as the 2017 Annual Report.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: Andy Fagan – Mr. Fagan was not in attendance; however the monthly report was disbursed at the meeting along with the 2017 Annual Report.

TOURISM: Becca Maffei - Ms. Maffei, Tioga County Tourism Director, was introduced. Ms. Maffei reviewed the monthly report that was previously emailed, as well as disbursed at the meeting along with the 2018 events calendar. The following topics were covered: Partner Engagement, I Love NY funding received, Finger Lakes Regional Tourism Council, Finger Lakes Wine Country, Waverly Glen Park/Two Rivers State Park, Tioga Arts and Agriculture Trail, Tioga Women Lead, Calendar of Events, NYS Maple Weekend, Public Relations and Partner Information Project, reports filed, various meetings attended, digital marketing, the new Visitor Center in the Gateway Building, and TBEX.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

Ms. Tinney reported the following:

1. PLANNING REPORT – Ms. Tinney reported the following; agenda previously emailed:

• **239 Reviews**

- County Case 2018-008: Town of Candor, Site Plan Review, Bostwick Auctions – The applicant wishes to double in size their main building to a total of 15,200 square foot for a proposed antique mall. Auctions will now be a smaller and secondary use. Staff recommended approval and the TCPB carried the vote.

- County Case 2018-009: Town of Candor, Site Plan Review, Judge pole barn reclassification – Application wishes to use the existing pole barn on his property for periodic storage of commercial vehicles, instead of regular domestic materials storage. The County Planning Board turned this case back to the town without recommendation due to lack of intermunicipal or countywide impacts.
- **Municipal Plans/Projects** – Ms. Jardine continues to provide assistance with the following:
 - Town of Nichols – Assisting with the local approvals process for two proposed local laws; solar and site plan review regulations that will be incorporated in the existing town zoning code.
 - Town of Candor – Facilitating securing funding for the community pavilion, as well as for a potential community walking and fitness trail to be developed around the perimeter of the town property. The town's Code Enforcement Officer is now forming a project committee that was appointed by the Candor Town Board.
- **Other** – Ms. Jardine continues to contribute on the following projects:
 - Working with the Tourism Office to plan Tioga County excursions and other arrangements for travel bloggers attending the Finger Lakes Wine Country hosted TBEX 2018 Conference in September.
 - Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Tetrattech held the Kick Off meeting with municipal officials. There are several worksheets of "homework" that need to be completed by the beginning of April.
 - Succession Planning – Held and participated the second I4A training session; Supervision, Performance Evaluations and Hiring Process. This session was very well received by the students.
 - Agricultural Program Assistant – The eight-year anniversaries of both of the Spencer (Towns of Spencer, Barton, Tioga and Candor) and the Owego/Nichols Agricultural Districts expire in December of this year and January of 2019 respectively. Because these Districts include six out of nine of our towns and are all large in land areas, added assistance is needed for a period of one calendar year to accomplish the full eight-year reviews. For these past eight year reviews conducted in 2012 and 2013, an Agricultural Program Assistant part-time, temporary position was created and hired for the calendar year of 2013. This arrangement was successful and beneficial, so EDP is requesting that this position be included in Planning's 2019 Personal Services budget at an amount not to exceed \$20,000.

Following the discussion of hiring the Ag Program Assistant, the subject of the Ag Economic Development part-time position came up. Ms. Tinney mentioned that if the part-time position were to change to a full time position, it's possible the temporary Ag Program Assistant position may not be necessary. Ms. Tinney went on to say that it has been a challenge finding someone with the necessary requirements that will accept part-time only. The last applicant we offered the position to declined to take full time employment elsewhere. Ms. Tinney will be looking at other options to bring back to this committee next month.

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – Ms. Tinney reported the following; agenda previously emailed:

- **Outreach** – The following companies were visited or meetings were attended:
 - Leadership Tioga – Have had 3 classes; next one coming up next week. 19 participants, classes going well.
 - Town of Nichols – Meeting regularly; potential development available.
 - REAP – Revising REAP is in progress. First impact of improvement is that REAP agreed to act for the applicant for USDA funds for the next level of the housing study.
 - STREDC – Continue to meet for loan applications; The Yoder farm just closed on a \$100,000.00 STREDC loan on the 28th.
 - Regional Council – Met with the following committees and workgroups:
 - Executive Committee
 - Advanced Manufacturing Work Group
 - Workforce Development Work GroupEmpire State Development is planning a Regional Council Workgroup Retreat at Tioga Downs on May 15th, bringing all the workgroups together.
 - Town of Owego/DOT meeting - Met to prepare for improvements that are going to be made to the Hiawatha Bridge Area in 2019.
 - Quality Inn visit – Met with the owner about the possibility of changing his business model.
 - Sanmina visit – Met with an interested party at Sanmina; toured the facility. Hopeful for a project in the future.
 - Owego Apalachin School – Tour of their STEAM Academy; Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture/Arts and Math program. Great tour, opportunities to keep young people here with continuing education or going into a trade and entering the workforce.
 - Upstate Shredding property – Last month discussed that Mr. Weitsman was interested in purchasing a surrounding property on Corporate Drive. Ms. Tinney reported that there is another interested party coming to look at the same property.

- **Project Updates**
 - Gateway - Construction continues.
 - Parkview - Construction has started.
 - Owego Freehold - Engineering of site fill commencing; the Village has identified an area that is appropriate to pull the fill from. Larson Design Group will move forward with the next steps; a survey on the area where they are pulling the gravel from, as well as the adjoining properties.
 - Owego Gardens 2 – Approval process commencing; a meeting scheduled next week, April 10th, with Home Leasing and the Village of Owego (new Mayor) to discuss the positioning of the building, the best option for the water system, road, sewer, etc.
 - Project Steel - Tioga County is back on the running for this project.

- Village of Owego – NY Main Street CFA 2018 application to be made by Ms. Saraceno on behalf of the Village of Owego for the North Ave. area. A resolution for support of this application is before this committee today.
- Restore NY Awards Announced
 - Village of Owego – Awarded \$875,000; application submitted by Ms. Woodburn.
 - Village of Waverly – Awarded \$1,000,000; application submitted by Ms. Saraceno.
- **State Leads**
 - Project Fyto – Submitted information; haven't heard anything yet.
- **Ag Economic Development**
 - Ag Advisory Committee (W. Walsh, A. Fagan, E. Jardine, L. Tinney) – Continue to meet regarding Ag.
 - Ag Ec Dev Specialist - Job offer made, applicant declined; discussed earlier in the meeting.
 - Amish Farm visits – Visited three of the farms; enjoyed the visit.
 - 2019 Ag Planning Assistant – Discussed earlier in the meeting.
- **Other**
 - Housing Study
 - Presentation was made to partners on March 7th.
 - Presentation to municipalities scheduled for April 11th at 8:00 p.m.; after the Shared Services meeting.
 - Workforce Development
 - WIB meeting – Sara Liu, Director of Broome-Tioga Workforce, is doing a great job of including Tioga County.
 - AACT Program – A Workforce Development Program that involves partnering with local businesses. Four businesses are interested at present. Meeting with individual employers next week; SUNY Broome and Owego Apalachin School representatives were in attendance.
 - Job Fairs – Two recent job fairs; two locations:
 - ✧ Treadway
 - ✧ Owego Apalachin School

Information was sent in the committee packet; great turn out at both.
 - Tioga County Succession Planning Team – Have had two sessions. The next class July 18th. Excellent feedback so far.
 - Opportunity Zone – A federal program that is not clearly defined yet, just that there will be incentives for developers in distressed areas. The Regional Council met and two areas were recommended: Village and Town of Spencer, the Village and Town of Nichols/Tioga.

Resolutions - The following resolutions were presented and approved:

D04 - Resolution to Submit Application NYMS Owego North Ave Revitalization Program

D05 - Appoint Member (D Astorina) to the Tioga Co LDC Board

ADJOURNMENT – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Sampson, Administrative Assistant to Economic Development & Planning