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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
December 5, 2017**

ATTENDEES:

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

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Andy Fagan, Wendy Walsh

Guests: None

MINUTES

- Approval of minutes from November 7, 2017 - Legislator Weston asked for approval of minutes from the November 7, 2017 committee meeting. Legislator Hollenbeck made a motion to accept the November 7, 2017 minutes, seconded by Legislator Mullen. All were in favor.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION: Wendy Walsh – Ms. Walsh reviewed her monthly report previously emailed; a summary of activities for the month of November 2017, highlighting the following: Agriculture, Chesapeake Bay TMDL, Dean Creek Inspections, Hazard Mitigation, Hydroseeding, Stream Program and Miscellaneous Meetings, Trainings and Activities.

Ms. Walsh distributed a report on the Southern Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program (STAIEP) and the impact it had on the Bast Family Farm in the Town of Spencer.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: Andy Fagan – Mr. Fagan distributed and reviewed his monthly report; a summary of activities for the months of October 2017, highlighting the following: Agriculture, Community Horticulture, 4H Youth Development, Youth Employment, Family Development, Nutrition, Regional Dairy and Field Crops.

Mr. Fagan also distributed and reviewed the Tioga County Cornell Cooperative Extension Annual report, as well as reporting on the annual dinner and meeting that was held on Monday, December 4th.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

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

• **239 Reviews**

- County Case 2017-027: Village of Owego, Floodplain Special Use Permit, Two Plus Four Brick Pond Apartments – Staff recommended approval; TCPB could not reach a consensus therefore no action was taken.
- County Case 2017-028: Village of Waverly, Site Plan Review / Special Use Permit, Teauga Development LLC – Staff recommended approval with conditions; TCPB unanimously carried the vote.

- **Municipal Plans/Projects** – Ms. Jardine continues to provide assistance with the following:
 - Village of Waverly – Assisting them through the SEQR process in relation to Waverly Glen Park; conditioned Negative Declaration submitted to ENB.
 - Village of Spencer - Preservation League of NYS Technical Assistance Grant to fund a building condition report on the Nichols Park grandstand has been approved.

- **Other** – Ms. Jardine continues to contribute on the following projects:
 - Arts District in Village of Owego – Working with the Tioga Arts Council to design survey to Council Board and artisans
 - Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – RFP for consultant solicitation has been distributed
 - Succession Planning

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

- **Outreach** – The following companies were visited or meetings were attended:
 - Tioga Downs – Attended the ribbon cutting event on Friday, December 1st; well attended, nice event.
 - Village of Owego – Attended the following meetings regarding the Brick Pond Apartments project:
 - Board of Trustees
 - Planning Board
 - Zoning Board of Appeals
 This project is no longer moving forward.
 - Leadership Tioga – Ms. Tinney has volunteered to facilitate Leadership Tioga classes this year and is looking forward to it.
 - WEBO – Ms. Tinney and Jill Teeter (Chamber) were on the radio this morning to encourage people to apply to participate in the program that meets once a month, January to November.
 - Broome/Tioga Workforce Symposium - Attended and learned a lot about what other communities are doing. Made good connections and came back with some good ideas on workforce development for our community.
 - Finger Lakes Wine Country Tourism Marketing Association – Attended this meeting and reminded this committee the Legislature had committed to contributing annual dues for membership. Tioga County had to be a member in order for Tioga Downs to participate. The agreement was put off until the hotel was opened. Now that the hotel is open, 2018 will begin the annual payment of dues for membership of the Finger Lakes Wine Country Tourism Marketing Association.
 - STERPDB - CEDs planning – Participated in their 5 year planning session for economic development in our region.
 - Town of Nichols – Met regarding continued possibilities for development in the Lounsberry area.

- Larson Design Group – Met with someone there who works specifically with retail development.
- Public Service Commission (PSC) - NYSEG case - A group of counties have filed a case against NYSEG for their lack of interest in upgrading in the more rural areas. When we compete for a project and there is no electric or gas we are kicked out immediately, it puts us at a disadvantage. Ms. Tinney reported that two counties, Tioga County and Otsego County, went to the meeting in Albany to meet with the PSC. We were well received and had a great meeting. Came away with some good contacts that may be able to help when necessary, while in the past, it been difficult to get assistance from NYSEG.
- Chamber of Commerce – Attended the regular meeting.
- Consolidated Funding Application awards – The awards will be announced on December 13th. We had three priority projects; Raymond Hadley, Mid-Western Pet Foods, and Minka, LLC.

- **Project Updates**

- Gateway - Construction continues; community events are held every 3rd Friday of the month for anyone interested to stop by.
- Parkview – Rebid opening was Friday, December 1st. Several bids came in.
- Owego Freehold – Continue to work on the engineering of the possible filling of the North and Central Avenue site.
- Owego Gardens 2 - PSC assistance – This project is moving forward on the ESite; meeting with Home Leasing and Edgemere on Friday of next week. While at the PSC meeting, our challenges with Suez came up in the discussion and now, with their assistance, feel encouraged regarding the possibility of a tank going up on the ESite.
- Two Plus Four Construction - Brick Pond Apartments project – This project was withdrawn. Funding for this project was in two parts. One with the Housing Community Renewal and the other was through Achieve, which was not approved for Tioga County. Without both parts of the funding they were not able to move forward.
- Farmhouse Brewery – This project was originally for the storage of their grain, malting, brewing and taphouse to be located at 62 Central Avenue. (the old Tioga Transit). Unable to pull this altogether, it looks like the taphouse will be on Lake St. and will continue to work on the other part of this project. A one-day liquor license permit was acquired for the night of the Lights on the River event and it was very successful.
- Restore NY application assistance
 - Village of Owego – Ms. Woodburn is working with Alan Briggs and George Awad on the buildings that used to be Beer Bellies.
 - Village of Waverly – Ms. Saraceno is working with Deb Twigg on her building on Broad Street.

- Wake Up Waffles – A young couple in the business of making waffles and sending them out; all done by way of social media. They were making them in Sayre and packaging them in Owego and have recently moved the business to Nichols, so the operation is all in one place. We have been able to assist them with a water problem, with the help of Lisa McCafferty, and have met with George Miner, STERPBD, and it looks like we will be able to assist them with funding for new equipment.
- **State Leads** – One lead came in this month; Project Bay. An Ag related project, but we did not make short list.
- **Ag Economic Development**
 - Project Bay – State lead mentioned above.
 - Ag Ec Dev Specialist position – Continue to explore the possibility of an IDA partnership. Hoping to hire someone in January 2018.
 - Ag Advisory Committee – Ms. Walsh, Mr. Fagan, Ms. Jardine and Ms. Tinney are on this committee and have invited Mr. Myers to join the committee to discuss the Ag Ec Dev Specialist position.
 - Amish Farm inquiries – Met with three Amish families, two from Pennsylvania and one from Ohio, yesterday. They are working with Tom Mullen with possible interest in the following three areas in Tioga County:
 - Berkshire
 - Newark Valley
 - Candor
 - Ag Economic Impact Statement - Bast Farm – Ms. Walsh covered this in her report.
- **Other**
 - Tioga County Succession Planning Team - 2018 Program Kick Off is January 18th. There are 18 participants so far.
 - Tioga County Business Services Team - Workforce Training – Putting together a training program that would allow for a guaranteed job at the completion of the program. Working with Sheri McCall, Department of Labor (DOL), and looking for permission for applying for and work toward the following:
 - Application for DOL Sector grant
 - Application for ARC Funding for the possibility of a mobile training van
 - Career Days at both Owego Apalachin and Tioga – Tioga would like a specific Ag related career day.
 - Job Fair is coming up in March
 - IDA/Tioga Opportunities/ED&P - Countywide Housing Study should be complete by mid to end of this month. The roll out is planned for January 8th, 6:00, at Tioga Opportunities. A copy will be sent out for review before the public roll out. Ms. Tinney will also try to set up a meeting prior to the roll out.

- TEAM Tioga branding – The IDA hired an intern to help us rebrand our partner organizations; IDA, LDC and Economic Development & Planning as one entity. We will be rolling out Team Tioga, including a new social media presence, in January 2018. Ms. Sampson displayed samples on the screen; new logo, letterhead, posters, etc.
- Sales tax is up 5.4% this year over last year at this time.
- **Resolutions** – The following resolutions were presented and approved:
 - L14-Appoint At-Large Member (T Saraceno) to STERPDB Regional Board
 - L34-Reappoint Member (P Moore) to Ag and Farmland Protection Board
 - L35-Resolution to Renew SWCD Hazard Mitigation Plan Coordination Services 2018The following resolution will be presented by way of the Personnel Department:
 - L16-Staff Changes EDP – Approval of Economic Development Specialist (PT Ag position)

ADJOURNMENT – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:22 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Sampson, Administrative Assistant to Economic Development & Planning