

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING November 2, 2021

ATTENDEES:

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

Staff: LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson, Peter DeWind

Guests: Becca Maffei, Tourism Director, Justine Harding, Nichols Resident

Legislator Roberts was not in attendance.

Committee Chair, Legislator Dale Weston called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

MINUTES

- Approval of minutes from October 5, 2021 – Committee Chair asked for approval of the minutes from the October 5, 2021 committee meeting. Legislator Mullen made a motion to accept the October 5, 2021 minutes, seconded by Legislator Hollenbeck. All were in favor.

TIOGA COUNTY TOURISM: Becca Maffei – Monthly Report previously emailed. Ms. Maffei reviewed her report highlighting: Water Trail Projects, Experience Tioga Tourism App, Owego Creek Project, Event Promotions, Recruitment Website, Online Technical Services, DRI Wayfinding Sign Project, Finger Lakes Wine County, Holiday Events coming up.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING (ED&P): LeeAnn Tinney – Agenda, attachments and highlights previously emailed.

Following are the Director's Highlights:

Meetings– Ms. Tinney reported the following meetings attended:

- Tioga County Chamber of Commerce Board- New President and CEO has been hired, Sabrina Henriques; looking forward to working with her. We are planning a reception; inviting women owned businesses in Tioga County for a meet and greet.
- Tioga County IDA- Memo distributed; loan late fee request regarding the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Program (ERLP) follows:
 - ✓ All loan principal and interest payments are returned to the Treasurer's Office quarterly and bank interest is returned to the Treasurer's Office annually. The IDA will ultimately be returning the full \$475,000 plus loan interest and bank interest.
 - ✓ Late fees are collected when a payment is more than 10 days late. The late fee is 3% of the payment or \$5.00, whichever is greater; \$238.15 in late fees have been collected to date.

- ✓ The IDA Loan Committee is requesting authorization to keep all COVID-19 ERLP late fees because this income is generated by IDA's administration of the program.
- ✓ If inclined, please provide authorization to transfer the sum of all COVID-19 ERLP late fees from our COVID-19 Account to our General Checking Account annually in December of each year until administration of the program ceases.

The committee was in agreement, however, it was decided a resolution should be brought forward next month.

- Tioga County LDC – Monthly meeting attended.
- Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner
 - Dr. Eric Knolles was honored as the Business Person of the Year.
 - Assemblyman Christopher Friend was at the dinner to present to Dr. Knolles.
 - A proclamation from the Senator was presented.
- Finger Lakes Wine Country
- Waverly Central School District- Eric Knolles honored.
- Employee Recognition Dinner- Elaine Jardine recognized for 26 years of service; very nice event held at the Terra Cotta.
- Tioga Women Lead – Putting on a reception at the Tioga County Historical Society for Sabrina Henriques, the new Chamber President/CEO.
- ST8
 - Broadband Initiative moving forward.
 - Opportunity Zone – Continue to support and promote our Opportunity Zones.
 - CEDS- Committee meetings attending.

Legislative Chair Sauerbrey reported being contacted 3 times by someone who is working with the Public Service Commission saying they are doing a study of broadband here. They are asking for community involvement. When asked if there is competition out there, Ms. Tinney reported reaching out to Mr. Loveland in IT, but has not gotten a response yet. We did participate with the Fujitsu study that identified unserved and underserved residences across the county. Will continue to try to contact to Mr. Loveland for answers.

- Regional Council
 - Executive Committee Meeting attended.
 - DRI presentations- Endicott, Ithaca and Norwich made their presentations. This year the award is \$20M; two \$10M awards. Two of the three communities that presented will win. Results expected in December.

Ms. Tinney reported the intention to prepare for the 2022 round; looking at the possibility of partnering with the Village of Waverly.

- Municipality Visits
 - Town of Nichols – Met with Kevin Englebert
 - Village of Owego – Met with the Planning Board
- Business Visits
 - Crown Cork & Seal
 - Tioga Downs
 - Suez
- Presentations- none

Not on the agenda, Ms. Tinney reported on the proposed office relocation. If it is approved by the Legislature, ED&P is looking to relocate to the CCE office space that is now vacant. Ms. Curtis and Ms. Pratt will be joining us in our new location; looking forward to the move.

Department Highlights

- Village of Owego
 - DRI (18 projects) – Moving forward.

- Shear Paradise– Contract awarded; work has begun.
 - Home Central- Contract awarded; work has begun.
 - NY Main Street, North Avenue, Owego (5 projects)- Finishing up preliminary paperwork; moving forward soon.
 - Owego Gardens 2- Lower and upper townhouses are framed in; first floor of apartment houses are framed in. First coat is down on the road. They are trying to get everything enclosed before the weather changes.
 - Tank construction has begun.
- Village of Nichols
 - USDA Shared Services- Sweeper/Vacuum Truck has been ordered; going to be shared within the County.
- RESTORE NY
 - Owego and Waverly projects nearing completion; ribbon cutting for the Owego project is next week, November 9th. Waiting on final paperwork for both.
- Land Bank- Ms. Woodburn continues to work on the following:
 - New York Land Bank Association
 - Rural Land Bank Committee- Meeting attended.
 - OASCD Project- School district is partnering with the Land Bank to purchase a house that needs to be renovated. Both the school and the Land Bank are putting up funds. The students will be doing the rehab on the house. The house will be sold and the profit will go to buying another house to rehab; giving students hands on experience. The Hooker Foundation is also involved in the project. Hoping to bring in surrounding school districts in the future.
 - Temple and Liberty LLC
 - Local Approvals
 - ❖ Village of Owego Planning Board- Project stalled at this time.
 - Tenant Relocations- One outstanding issue being resolved.
 - Property demolitions- Moving forward possibly mid-November.
- Community Development – Ms. Ortu continues to work on the following:
 - Tioga County Non-Profit Network
 - REAP
 - Tioga County Foundations Coalition
 - Waverly Glen Park
 - Elks Capital Project
 - Leadership Tioga Program facilitator
 - Susquehanna Heritage Area Committee
 - Waverly Gateway Beautification- Looking into Mural projects.
- Workforce
 - Workforce Pipeline Development Study- Implementation
 - Education Workforce Coordinator; County employee vs. Contract employee- Resolution listed below

Ms. Tinney has been asked to present to the full Legislature at worksession on Thursday to discuss why this position is necessary, what department should handle it and should this be a County position vs. IDA or another entity. Steps taken:

- ✓ Contract employee with the IDA- This did not provide benefits which presented a problem; needed to find a way to offer salary with benefits.

- ✓ Looked into running the position through the school districts, Soil and Water, Tioga Opportunities, Cooperative Extension, only to meet road blocks. A county employee through ED&P was the best solution.
- ✓ Ms. O'Rourke has determined an appropriate salary range, Mr. Bailey has looked at associated fringe benefits, and the grant fund will cover this for 3 years.
- ✓ The resolution states: to review the position after 2 years to make sure we're on track and again at the end of 3 years. If we cannot secure buy in from school districts, local employers or another grant source the position would be terminated.

Ms. Tinney asks this committee to support moving the resolution forward; vote follows:

Legislator Mullen -	yes
Legislator Hollenbeck -	yes
Legislator Weston -	yes

- CCE Tioga Youth Opportunity Now Coalition
- Economic Development- Ms. Schnabl continues to work on the following:
 - DRI Project administration- Provides assistance to Ms. Woodburn.
 - NYMS Project Administration- Owego and Candor
 - Solar Project Mapping
 - GIS Mapping Activities
 - State Lead Responses
 - COVID Relief Loan Program- IDA request
- Planning- Ms. Jardine continues to work on the following:
 - 239 Reviews- None for this month.
 - ST8 CEDS- Proposal submitted for ARPA funding for the Build Back Better Program; two Tioga County projects included.
 - Uniform Building Permit and Inspection Fee Schedule Report- Final draft presented to COG and to all Municipal Supervisors and Mayors.
 - Presentations
 - Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA)- Maintains status of who is opting in or out. Spreadsheet distributed.
 - Renewal Energy Best Practices Study- Looking to put out a RFP to identify best practices surrounding solar projects including a good explanation of changes to determine taxable value and what is typically negotiated for amounts per megawatt. The hope is to standardize what a solar company might find when they come to Tioga County. Right now it's different in every municipality.
- Grants
 - Potential (11)
 - Temple and Liberty LLC- affordable housing
 - Village of Owego- CDBG, Housing Rehab
 - NYS HCR Community Investment Fund
 - Candor EMS, Tioga State Bank Foundation
 - Tioga County- 2021/2022 (Phase II)
 - Evergreen Cemetery- Mildred Faulkner Truman
 - REAP- Owego Elks, Hooker Foundation
 - Tioga Terrace- Hooker Foundation
 - Village of Waverly- Waverly Glen Park, Hooker Foundation
 - ESD Capital Grant

- Carantouan Greenway- Mildred Faulkner Truman
- Pending (16)
 - Racker- USDA/CDBG Neighborhood Depot
 - Town of Richford- Senator Schumer, town hall
 - REAP- NPS Historic Preservation Subgrant Program
 - TCIDA-ARC- Education Workforce Coordinator
 - Tioga County- 2020/2021 Phase III
 - Tioga County- 2021/2022 Phase I
 - CPSI- CFA, ESD Planning grant, incubator plan
 - TC IT- CFA LGE, shared services Owego/Candor
 - Village of Waverly- ESD Planning, Economic Analysis
 - Town of Richford- FEMA (engineering of railroad stream crossing)
 - Village of Owego- OPRHP, OPD building restoration
 - Nelson Development; 48-50 Lake St- ESD Capital grant
 - Evergreen Cemetery- TSB Foundation
 - Home Central, ESD Capital grant
 - Candor Historical Society- CFSCNY
 - Evergreen Cemetery- Weitsman
- Active (26)
 - Village of Owego- RESTORE NY, Briggs/Awad
 - Village of Owego- Downtown Revitalization Initiative
 - Village of Waverly- NYS Parks, Waverly Glen Park
 - Village of Waverly- RESTORE NY, Twigg
 - REAP- USDA, Public Well (equipment)
 - TCPDC- Enterprise Community Partners (land bank funds)
 - Village of Owego- Main Street (CFA)
 - Racker (CFA)
 - Raymond Hadley (CFA)
 - Owego Apalachin Central School District- WDI (workforce)
 - Village of Candor- NY Main Street
 - REAP- Community Foundation (Code Enforcement Plan Implementation Tasks)
 - Candor EMS- Community Foundation, operating funds
 - Tioga Arts Council- Community Foundation, Retail for Good
 - REAP, Owego Elks Lodge- Fannie C. Hyde, building repair
 - Boys & Girls Club- Hooker Foundation, operating funds
 - Hooker Foundation- Education Workforce Coordinator
 - TCLDC-USDA RDBG- Tioga County Recruitment Tool
 - TCLDC-USDA RDBG- Technical Assistance to Business
 - Catholic Schools of Broome County- Fannie C. Hyde
 - REAP, Owego Elks Lodge- Mildred Faulkner Truman, building assessment
 - Candor Historical Society- Tioga State Bank
 - Village of Nichols- USDA Community Facilities (vacuum truck)
 - Candor Historical Society- Tioga County Senior Citizens Foundation
 - Candor EMS- Tioga County Senior Citizens Foundation
 - Carantouan Greenway- waterfront trail, TSB Foundation
- Completed (1)
 - Town of Richford- SAM, Assemblyman Friend (highway equipment)

2021 Budget – Year to Date Budget Report in packet

- Economic Development- Tracking
- Planning- Tracking

Other

Resolutions- This committee was in agreement to move the following resolutions forward:

- K08-Authorization to Create Full time Education Workforce Coordinator EDP
- K09-Reappoint At-Large Member (BWoodburn) to STERPDB Regional Board
- K11-Reappoint Christina Brown to the TCPDC Three Year Term to 12-31-24
- K12-Reappoint Michael Baratta to the TCPDC Two Year Term to 12-31-23
- K13-Reappoint Patrick Ayres to the TCPDC Two Year Term to 12-31-23

ADJOURNMENT – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Sampson
Administrative Assistant Economic Development & Planning