

ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Minutes –April 1, 2009

The Ulster County Planning Board Meeting
7:30 p.m. – Surrogate Courtroom, 3rd Floor
County Office Building

The Executive Committee did not meet this month

Chairperson Hokanson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

- 1. ROLL CALL Present:** R. Pecora, M. Beuf, P. Hakim, D. Martorana, T. Natale, L. Biggin, T. Hokanson, R. Oakes, T. Wilkin, S. Hudson, J. Walsh, R. Praetorius, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, R. Budziak, G. Matichuk, A. Yuran, R. Elwell, R. Pritchard, D. Doyle, M. Gallagher R. Leibowitz, B. Samuelson
Absent: J. Konior **Excused:** E. Hooper, S. Finkle **Guests:** David Kjod, Michael Baden, Enrique Ford.

Chairperson Hokanson welcomed Paul Hakim, new member from Town of Hurley.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

The March Minutes were approved. Motion by Mr. Martorana, seconded by Ms. Pecora. Ms. Biggin abstained.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the County Executive has announced a freeze of all non-union management personnel's salaries for 2010. He added that the County Executive has discussed challenges affecting the county budget: State aid (availability of revenue), sales tax down by 14% for the first 2 months and State Retirement System is down due to the stock-market. Demands for Social Services are also beginning to rise. Mr. Doyle stated that most of our department is non-mandated so we have been looking at contingency plans to maintain staff. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that under the charter, the county's budget will be due earlier than normal from the County Executive, which means our own budget process will begin very early.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT – No Public Comment

5. COMMUNITY REPORT

Mr. Martorana stated that Town of Lloyd has hired a new part-time planner, Brian Keogh. Ms. Pecora stated that a group from the Town of Esopus has had a global solution meeting (Representatives from the Town, County and the developer) with Dave Sheeley, representing the County Executive, regarding the drains and well systems for the River Road issue.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Wallkill H.S. Thanks Burt Samuelson for Participating in Career Conference at SUNY Ulster
Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Samuelson to describe the Conference. Mr. Samuelson informed the Board that various professionals spoke to the students about career paths. He and another man represented Social Sciences and they addressed about 60 students.
- b. County Attorney's Opinion on the Applicability of the Ulster County Ethics & Disclosure Law to Members of the UCPB
Mr. Doyle stated the question was asked of the county attorney whether our Board was required to file financial disclosure and he stated that our board is not.
- c. Property listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
 - ◆ Moses Yeomans House – 252 Delaware Ave, Kingston
Mr. Doyle made note of the above.

- d. Town of Rosendale – Public Hearing Notice for Proposed Local Law #3 – “Amending Town Code to Adopt Policies and Procedures for Professional Review Expense Reimbursement for the Various Boards Within the Town.” Public Hearing – April 1, 2009 at 7:30 PM at the Rosendale Rec Center Mr. Doyle made note of the above.
- e. Mr. Doyle informed the Board of an Ag & Markets seminar that Mr. Wilkin recommended: *Backyard for the Barnyard* - Wed, April 29th in the Orange County Emergency Services Center –Bob Somers from Ag & Markets will be down to discuss the relationship between local zoning and ag districts – no fee for admission.
- f. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that we are setting up the following Training Seminars:
 - ◆ Protecting Biodiversity as Your Community Grows - Tuesday, April 28th at SUNY Ulster. Guest speakers: Laura Heady from DEC & Nava Tabak, Mapping Coordinator from Hudsonia.
 - ◆ Landscaping & trees, water quality & stormwater – a date has not been confirmed yet but we are looking at two dates in May – NYS Forestry Council will present.
 - ◆ Technology in the Planning Process - Looking for dates in June
- g. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that staff has been working on ways to streamline the development review process to be put out in a planning guide format. He had a draft version that was not ready to be handed out. Mr. Doyle added that a 3-4 page planning guide will be created for each individual type of streamlining procedure.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. **The Generative Discussion was held after referrals were finished**

Issues, Problems and Opportunities

Mr. Doyle asked the Board to think about what they want to talk about. He stated the payoff is a connection to what matters most - the risk is a challenge to the safety zone. Mr. Doyle added that he would like the Board engaged in deciding what the policies should be.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Town of Lloyd requests letter of support for NYS Main Street Grant to include continued technical assistance for the 4-point Main Street Program.

Mr. Doyle stated Lloyd is submitting an application to DHCR for the hamlet of Highland he added this is in line with the County's Main Street Program.

Motion to approve support letter made by Mr. Praetorius, seconded by Mr. Hudson. All were in favor.

b. Stimulus Projects

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the County has put together a Stimulus funding request that has been entered on the Governor's website for consideration. Mr. Doyle added that Ms. Gallagher has done a lot of the work with the descriptions. We have submitted Economic Development area and an Educational area for SUNY Ulster and general provisions for the County's Capital facilities needs. We submitted \$1.3 million of requests for energy efficiency and have received an announcement of an award for \$750,000 through NYSERDA and the federal government. Mr. Doyle stated the Transportation Council had an enormous responsibility to program transportation funds. FHWA money must be advertised in the NYS contract reporter within 120 days, which gives us till June 29th to complete the design reports and bid documents. We have approximately \$20 million worth of transportation projects to complete. Mr. Doyle stated about \$23 million in transit money has been assigned to a tri-county area (Ulster, Dutchess & Orange). We are in the process of deciding how to split the money. Ms. Gallagher stated she is working on a project application to bring Broadband to rural areas.

c. CDBG 2009 Application(s) and 2005 Flood Grant Monitoring Visit

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that this was a 2005 grant to help replace mobile homes that were destroyed in the 2005 flood. The grant was completed in 2006, we had our monitoring visit and audit and there were no substantive findings. The sub-recipient received congratulations for

program delivery. We had one note requesting access to client's files. We also need names of participants in public hearings, although people are not required under law to give their names.

- d. Environmental Notice Bulletin – *No Member Comment*
- e. Zoning Referrals – *See Separate Zoning Minutes*

Public Comment

Watchtower Farms Improvement – UCPB #2009-051 & 2009-053

A representative of the project described the site and explained the proposed improvements during a presentation to the board.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.