

ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Minutes –December 2, 2009

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

- 1. ROLL CALL Present:** R. Pecora, M. Beuf, P. Hakim, J. Konior, D. Martorana, L. Biggin, T. Hokanson, R. Oakes, T. Wilkin, S. Hudson, F. Greitzer, R. Praetorius, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, R. Budziak, A. Yuran, R. Elwell, D. Doyle, J. Schwartz, M. Gallagher, R. Leibowitz, B. Samuelson, V. Craft, M. Davis
Absent: T. Natale, G. Matichuk, T. Briggs, M. Lockwood, S. Finkle **Excused:** R. Pritchard
Guests: Brad Will – Ashokan Arch & Planning, Guy Kemp – RUPCO, Valerie Dwyer – City of Kingston

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion to approve November Minutes made by Ms. Pecora, seconded by Mr. Konior. Ms. Hokanson and Ms. Beuf abstained.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

No Member Comment

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

5. COMMUNITY REPORT

Ms. Pecora reported that the Esopus Town Hall is well under way for solar energy and the Esopus Library will be getting solar also. Dollar General is coming to Port Ewen and the credit union will be coming before the Esopus Planning Board this month.

Mr. Doyle asked the Board to remind their communities to contact our planning office if they have any major projects coming up to set up an initial review meeting.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

No Member Comment

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Board Membership/Training Status

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that everyone slated for reappointment met the training requirements (4 hours per year). We have two resolutions for reappointment - Ruth Elwell and Mark Watkins, and new appointments for Suzanne Frederick from Village of Saugerties and Nadine Lemmon and alternate Joe Katz for Town of Gardiner.

A seminar is planned for December 15th at UCCC at 7:00PM if anyone needs more credit. Mr. Doyle asked the Board to send any proof of training requirements into Ms. Davis in the Planning office.

b. Mileage Vouchers Due (mailed separately)

Mr. Doyle stated that everyone should have a mileage voucher and asked that members sign and turn in their vouchers if they would like reimbursement for mileage.

c. Ms. Schwartz reported that in July the State passed legislation for enhanced rehab preservation tax credits for lower income areas. The credit is intended to create economic activity. Several census tracts in Kingston are included. This also fulfills a goal of the Open Space Plan.

d. Capital Projects Program

Mr. Doyle instructed the board to look for draft comments in their folders. The comments include: an overview of responsibility, process for providing comments and recommendations according to the language in the Charter. Mr. Doyle went over the overview and recommendations. The Board questioned how the County could justify this Capital Budget when it doesn't have money to fund

the projects. The Board also wanted more information on the process. Mr. Wilkin stated that our board will be reviewing site plans for some of these Capital Projects and should have a say.

Mr. Doyle stated we are dealing with the priority recommendations. The Board wanted to add a comment in order to know the alternative to funding for projects. Mr. Hakim indicated that Board needs information on each project in order to make intelligent comments on priorities. In addition, additional time would also be necessary. Ms. Pecora questioned why the Board was being asked to review capital projects. Mr. Doyle noted that only one set of comments were received from the Board. He apologized for the late submittal of staff comments for consideration and asked that the Board consider its response for this year on the broader policy base. Discussion then centered around the level of detail of the comments in relation to information on the individual projects. Ms. Beuf indicated that a need to include an understanding of what happens if projects were not funded to aid in establishing priorities, as well as change the order of the comments, placing several of the policy discussions at the front.

Motion to submit the report amending its order and adding a recommendation concerning a “but for” discussion if projects were not funding. Motion made by Ms. Elwell, seconded by Mr. Konior. All were in favor.

A second motion was made to draft a letter for the Legislature and County Executive indicating the Board’s concern about the level of information available to them to make recommendations. Motion made by Ms. Pecora, Seconded by Mr. Wilkin. All were in favor.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Nominating Committee recommendations for Officers to serve in 2010**

Ms. Pecora spoke on behalf of the Nominating Committee and stated the following were recommended as officers for 2010: Bob Oakes for Chairman, Tom Wilkin for Vice-Chair and Ruth Elwell for Secretary. All were in favor.

The Board thanked Toni Hokanson for her past two years of service.

- b. Environmental Notice Bulletin – *No Member Comment*
- c. Zoning Referrals – *See Separate Zoning Minutes*

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned. All were in favor.