

# ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

## *Minutes – November 4, 2009*

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm and Mr. Leibowitz read the roll call.

- 1. ROLL CALL Present:** R. Pecora, P. Hakim, J. Konior, D. Martorana, T. Natale, R. Oakes, T. Wilkin, S. Hudson, F. Greitzer, R. Praetorius, K. Holmquist, R. Budziak, G. Matichuk, A. Yuran, R. Elwell, R. Pritchard, S Cahill, D. Doyle, R. Leibowitz, V. Craft.  
**Absent:** M. Beuf, L. Biggin, T. Briggs, M. Lockwood **Excused:** T. Hokanson, M. Watkins, S. Finkle  
**Guests:** Nadine Lemmon

### **2. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The October minutes were approved – motion by Mr. Martorana, seconded by Mr. Hudson. Ms. Matichuk and Mr. Hakim abstained.

### **3. FINANCIAL REPORT**

No member comment

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment

### **5. COMMUNITY REPORT –**

Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Hakim if he had any comments on economic development. Mr. Hakim thanked Mr. Doyle and the staff for their participation in the Economic Development Seminar three weeks ago. He mentioned the December 2<sup>nd</sup> UCDC seminar on Ratables and the Planning Board's seminar on November 12<sup>th</sup>. It was pointed out that December 2<sup>nd</sup> is our Planning Board meeting. (Please Note: the UCDC Seminar on Ratables has been rescheduled to December 15<sup>th</sup> at SUNY Ulster.)

### **6. COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that they had a handout from the NY Law Journal regarding full statements and failure to refer documents in their folder. He asked they share the information with their communities. Mr. Doyle stated that we have been receiving FOIL requests to determine if referrals had been sent in for review. Mr. Martorana asked if it would be beneficial to have a workshop on what needs to be sent in for referral requests. Mr. Doyle stated we have had workshops discussing full statement but added we could do another seminar. Mr. Doyle informed the board that we have not had a good response to our request for municipalities to sign the exception agreement and urged the Board to go back to their communities. Having signed agreements saves both our board and the local boards' time.

Mr. Doyle stated we have received a proposed letter of support for a Masters in Climate Science Degree from Bard Center for Environmental Policy. Bard would like to apply for a National Science Foundation Grant for this Masters Program. Mr. Praetorius asked why we were asked for a support letter from Bard when it is not in Ulster County. Mr. Doyle stated this would be the Board's decision.  
**Motion to support made by Mr. Martorana, seconded by Ms. Elwell. Opposed by Mr. Konior and Mr. Praetorius.**

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the County has a Whistleblower Act, which policies apply to and protects, the staff and officers of the county.

The County and State Comptroller will be giving a training at the Holiday Inn on the "Blind Spots of Governance." Mr. Doyle did not have any other particulars.

### **7. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Training Scheduled – Using Technology in Planning - November 12<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm @SUNY Ulster

Discussed above.

- b. Referral Exception Agreement (Matrix of Municipalities who have signed & Agreement)  
Discussed above.
- c. Mr. Doyle stated we are waiting to see if there will be any new appointments to the Board before we plan the governance seminar. We are continuing to look for facilitators for that seminar.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Nominating Committee for Officers to serve in 2010**  
**Ms. Pecora, Mr. Martorana and Mr. Hudson volunteered to be on the committee.**
- b. Mr. Doyle stated that a copy of the Tentative Capital Program was handed out last month along with section of the statute that governs this. Mr. Doyle asked if there were comments or recommendations. He added that comments would be put together for the Board's consideration. County Planning Board staff submitted two capital programs. One program is for \$50,000 for Open Space Preservation efforts. The second program is for \$45,000, on an annual basis, for conceptualization of Capital Programs.
- c. **Rental Housing Survey (f) – Presentation**  
Ms. Craft presented the 2008-2009 Rental Housing Survey to the Board. She stated that there were some interesting changes from previous years in that rents have gone down and vacancies have gone up. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the Legislature, at their October meeting, declared November to be "Raising housing awareness month" in Ulster County.
- d. Environmental Notice Bulletin – *No Member Comment*
- e. Zoning Referrals – *See Separate Zoning Minutes.*

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:31 pm. Motion by Mr. Martorana, seconded by Ms. Elwell.