

ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
Minutes – May 6, 2015

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

The Executive Committee Will Meet at 6:30PM

Chairman Baden called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Leibowitz to read the roll call.

1. **ROLL CALL – Present:** R. Pecora, D. Whitaker, K. Lovelett, H. Baker, M. Calimano, D. Boggess, T. Wilkin, M. Baden, J. Brown, P. Andreassen, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, F. Almquist, V. Markowitz, M. Rudikoff, M. Weitman, D. Doyle, R. Leibowitz **Absent:** E. Cafaro, R. Kinnin **Excused:** M. Vaia, R. Sokolov, J. Konior, P. Brooks, G. Swanzey **Guests:** David Rolfe
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
The April Minutes were approved. Motion by Ms. Pecora, seconded by Mr. Lovelett. None were opposed.
3. **FINANCIAL REPORT**
Mr. Doyle stated that we have not submitted the Transportation Council's fourth quarter reimbursement. We have about \$430,000 expended in the contract budget. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that staff is working on an Intermodal study in New Paltz, a corridor study on Broadway in Kingston, a Long Range Transportation Plan study and the Finding Rosendale wayfinding study (for signage) and have issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a Human Services Coordination Plan and will be issuing an RFP for a Priority Bridge study for all of the bridges in the county. In Marlborough we have a study on Route 9W and funding for traffic safety. Mr. Doyle stated that a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) study is ongoing. All the original work is done in New Paltz, Highland and Shawangunk. We have extended the contract to include a school in Saugerties, plus this year's budget will include two additional schools. We also have a SRTS Toolbox website online. Mr. Doyle stated there is just two staff besides himself working on this transportation work; so they are very busy. Mr. Doyle added that we will begin preparing the 2016 budget in June.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
David Rolfe stated he talked to the Mayor about the City of Kingston vacancy on this Board. He stated that he serves on the Board of Trustees for the Kingston Library, is Chairman of the Operations Committee and on the Board of Trustees for Mid-Hudson library system. Mr. Rolfe has lived in Mid-Hudson Valley since 1973 and in the City of Kingston for 8 or 9 yrs. Mr. Baden welcomed Mr. Rolfe and thanked him for coming. He added that the position has been vacant for a while.
5. **COMMUNITY REPORT**
Mr. Baker wanted to give his position regarding the report in the Southern Ulster Times about the action the Town of Marlborough Town Board took on the Business Overlay District and the changes they wanted to make. He stated the board did not ignore the county's comments, they just didn't agree with them. He added that maybe the town made a mistake moving ahead with the corridor, but he hoped not. Mr. Baker stated the Route 9W corridor through Marlborough is unique, there isn't water or sewer for most of it and development is difficult there. Mr. Baker stated that based on recommendations of the UCPB, the Town's planning board and ZBA will be working together on the Mobil Mart/Dunkin Donut convenience store. Mr. Leibowitz added that we have a gateway meeting set up for this project on Friday. Mr. Baker added that that he felt Marlborough was in a better place thanks to the comments and input from the county and added that the Town does not have any disdain for the county. Mr. Baker stated that Cindy Lanzetta, his alternate and member of the Town planning board, will be attending most of the county planning meetings.

KEY: (f) = handout will be in folder at meeting
(m) = handout included in the mailing

Mr. Boggess stated that 8 or 9 people serving as the Catskill Central Collaborative went to the DOT to present the Route 28 Scenic Byway advisory board presentation. It was the Advisory Board's opinion that it was approved and will go to the Legislature and the Governor. The Byway covers the eastern boundary of Olive to Andes.

Mr. Weitman stated the Village of New Paltz has a new Mayor and two new Village board members. Mr. Doyle asked if the Planner position had been filled. Mr. Weitman said it was not.

Mr. Wilkin stated the Plattekill training session on Agri-tourism (listed in communications) came up because they have a few different situations happening in the Town that could use clarification. Mr. Wilkin stated that Plattekill received help from County Planning staff for distribution of the flyer and a sign-in template. He added that 54 people have signed up (20 are from Plattekill). Mr. Wilkin stated that he was concerned when he was the only representative from Plattekill at the County training on Agriculture in January with Bob Sommers. He added that although the Town would have liked to have Bob Sommers at their training, it will be good to have a different point of view from the Association of Towns.

Mr. Baden stated that the entire hamlet of Alligerville has been recommended to the Federal Keeper of the National Register from NYS to be a historic district (also in communications).

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Doyle stated the Gardiner Planning Board has sent in a lead agency request for a change in sanitary system design for Ohioville Acres. The project was originally approved for a 136 lot subdivision with central water and individual septic systems, but the UC Health Department refused to grant the waiver. The subdivision has been revised to 134 lots with community septic and central water with one lot to remain commercial.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Ag District 4 Certified by Ag & Markets Commissioner

Mr. Doyle informed the board that Ag District 4 was reviewed by the Ag & Farmland Protection Board and has now been approved by NYS Ag & Markets. The Board sent their congratulations to Burt for completing his first certification process.

b. Ulster County Transportation Council – Projects Update

(Covered during Financial Report) Mr. Doyle added that we have public meetings coming up for the New Paltz Intermodal Center and the Countywide Long Range Transportation Plan. On the week of May 11th we should have traffic counters going up on county roads. We are doing about 40 counts this Spring and another 40–60 counts in the Fall. Mr. Doyle added that we usually do all of the counts in Spring, but have split them up due to the road work going on.

Mr. Leibowitz showed the Board the rTown application being used for the Community Outreach part of the Long Range Transportation Plan. (Google Transportation Plan 2040 to find the app.) The public can make comments on areas of concern (and good things too) about the transportation system around the county for roadway, bicycle and pedestrian issues. Mr. Doyle added that we will compile the comments to use for the Plan.

Mr. Doyle stated that we are doing work in Saugerties at the middle and high school for the Safe Routes to School program. He added that the contract should be finished by July.

Mr. Doyle informed the board that we continue to manage the Transportation Improvement Program. We hope to program funds for deck replacement for the Route 213 bridge. He added that additional work also needs to be done on the Wurt's Street Bridge.

Mr. Weitman asked about the public meeting in New Paltz. Mr. Doyle answered this is the second public meeting on the intermodal center. The bus station is essentially a ticketing agent and the current station has many issues with parking, pedestrian access, etc. The study has been requested by Trailways, the community and NYSDOT. Mr. Doyle stated that 8 or 9 sites

have been studied and has been pared down to 3 conceptual plans. The Transportation Council is setting money aside to fund the center if the community decides to move forward with the project.

c. Status of Community Development Block Grant Programs

Mr. Doyle stated these grants are competitive. We apply each year through the Legislature for housing rehabilitation or homeownership funds and generally use RUPCO as a sub-recipient. We can't fund any projects in Kingston because the City receives their own allocation of funds. This year, we are finishing up a \$750,000 housing rehab program that has helped 28 or 30 homeowners with housing that was damaged by Hurricane Irene and not fixed. This year we have begun a homeownership program for \$500,000 that provides \$10,000-\$15,000 in gap financing. The County takes a lien on the house and requires the applicant to live in it for 10 years to avoid repayment.

d. Farmland Preservation Program - \$20 Million available for Mid-Hudson Region

Mr. Doyle stated that the Governor has announced the availability of \$20 million for the Mid-Hudson Region for PDR funding (Purchase of Development Rights). OSI and Scenic Hudson have reached out to us. There is a required 25% match, the county has been asked by some non-profits for half of that match. Mr. Doyle stated that the county has indicated that we will require the support of local government. He added that there.

8. SPECIAL TOPICS DISCUSSION

a. Trails Update

Mr. Doyle stated he would ask Mr. White to attend the June meeting and give a report.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Meeting with Town of Wawarsing Officials – Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Doyle stated the Town sent us a proposal for a moratorium with respect to its Comprehensive Plan and we wrote a review. The Town hired Peter Fairweather, who invited us to meet with the Town Board and the Comprehensive Plan Committee. Mr. Doyle stated that the Town's focus has changed since our review, particularly with respect to multi-family units and placing specific focus on economic development, making the Comprehensive Plan and zoning statute more friendly for areas for economic development, particularly the Nevele and former Schrade sites. They are also looking at the 209 corridor to see what can be done. Mr. Doyle stated that there was also a discussion about the western part of the municipality (in close proximity to the Sullivan County casino) about workforce and transportation issues beyond the Sullivan county border.

b. Mr. Doyle stated that Consolidated Funding Applications are out. In addition to normal funding streams there is "Revitalize Upstate" – where 3 out of 7 regions in upstate NY will be eligible for additional funding. He added that we are talking with other counties about a regional trail initiative. Mr. Doyle urged the board to attend the informational meeting on June 19th in New Paltz. Applications are due at the end of July.

c. Environmental Notice Bulletin & Grant Opportunities– No Member Comment

10. ZONING REFERRALS – See Separate Zoning Minutes

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

