

**Planning and Economic Development
September 22, 2009**

Present:

Richard Keaveney, Chairman
George Jahn
Philip Williams
Roy Brown
Douglas McGivney
Bart Delaney, Jr.
Jessie DeGroot

Absent:

Lawrence Andrews-notified
Elizabeth Young-notified
Lynda Scheer-notified

Also Present:

Alberta Cox, Deputy Clerk
Kenneth Flood
Ann Cooper
Joseph Finn

Press: 1

Chairman Keaveney called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Department of Planning and Economic Development- Kenneth Flood

K. Flood and A. Cooper gave an updated report on the recent Farm Fest that was held at Golden Harvest, Valatie, NY. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Plan to do it again next year with hopes of making it even better. A. Cooper thanked P. Williams for making the suggestion on doing the Fest. A. Cooper also spoke on the Chili Fest on October 10th. Will be working with Columbia County Bountly on this project.

It was brought to the Committee's attention that the E-mail system was not working property, and the department may be losing many requests.

George Jahn questioned about the Bike/Rail Trail and stated that he would like to move forward on this. Discussion on the Bus Tour to Dutchess County. A. Cooper stated that it may be too late for this year but we should try to schedule something for next spring.

Economic Development Activity includes the coordination with city and towns for a CEO Round Table to be held at the Columbia County Airport. There will be a speaker from G. E. Expecting a large crowd to attend.

Working with the purchaser of the V & O building, in Greenport, as a possible Motel site.

Working with CEDC, and very close to closing the deal with Aerocity Wind Power, a new company looking to manufacture wind turbines in Columbia County.

Agriculture Farmland Protection Grant was submitted last week.

County Public Transportation: Reported that the consultant, from Soule Consulting Services, is making progress with hopes to have a report in 3 months. This Coordination Study's purpose is to eventually coordinate Columbia and Greene County into having an efficient, single county transportation provider.

Discussion on the Coxsackie Transport Contract that is due to expire December 31st of this year. It was suggested that the contract should go out to bid. K. Flood will talk to David Ames, Purchasing Agent, on redoing the bid for a 2010 transportation contract with a new schedule. Motion to move forward was made by B. Delaney Jr., seconded by G. Jahn, motion carried.

Resolution Request: Authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to execute the ARRA Transit Capital Assistance Agreement Grant for \$134,000.00 and any and all necessary related documents. Motion to accept the Grant was made by D. McGivney, seconded by R. Brown, motion carried.

Resolution Request: Appointing a member to the Columbia County Planning Board representing Region #2 consisting of the Towns of Austerlitz, Canaan and New Lebanon to a term beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2012. Motion to approve made by B. Delaney Jr. seconded by G. Jahn, motion carried.

Question was raised about forming a Transportation Sub-Committee and it was stated that we should wait until the formal report from the Consultant was done and go from there.

With no further business at 5:49 PM a motion to adjourn was made by B. Delaney, Jr. seconded by R. Brown. Motion carried.