

# ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

## *Minutes – July 2, 2008*

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

### The Referral Guide Committee Met

- 1. ROLL CALL Present:** R. Pecora, M. Beuf, T. Natale, T. Hokanson, R. Oakes, T. Wilkin, S. Hudson, F. Greitzer, R. Praetorius, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, R. Budziak, A. Yuran, E. Hooper, R. Elwell, R. Pritchard, D. Doyle, R. Leibowitz, B. Samuelson.  
**Absent:** H. Anderson, R. Ferrigan, D. Martorana, L. Biggin, M. Lockwood, S. Finkle.  
**Excused:** G. Matichuk.
- 2. PREVIOUS MINUTES** Mr. Praetorius asked to have the June minutes corrected to show that he abstained from the vote on the Bottini Fuels Site Plan – Village of Saugerties- UCPB referral #2008-115. Motion to approve the minutes as amended made by Ms. Elwell, seconded by Mr. Hudson. Ms. Hooper and Mr. Holmquist abstained.
- 3. FINANCIAL REPORT** Mr. Doyle informed the Board that we needed to transfer money between accounts in order to have the Open Space Plan professionally printed. He also stated that the Federal government has announced a rescission of funding for some transportation planning funds. Mr. Doyle added this would not affect us significantly this year because the federal fiscal year begins and ends in April.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT –** No Comments
- 5. COMMUNITY REPORT** Ms. Hokanson stated that all of the Towns with updated FEMA maps have to adopt them by September. Any changes would also require updating zoning maps. If the FEMA maps are not adopted people living within those areas of concern would have difficulty obtaining flood insurance. Ms. Beuf stated that an Intermunicipal Colaboration Committee Grant is available; the match is being provided by the County. This would only require a Towns time and some nominal cost for copywork. The County needs to be notified before the first Legislative meeting in July. Mr. Doyle stated that communities can challenge these FEMA maps. He also stated that the National Flood Insurance Protection rules have changed, in some instances – dramatically. After Katrina and some other flooding issues FEMA has adopted a new standard for flood protection. In our region this may affect the Kingston Plaza, putting it back into the 100-yr flood plain. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that he attended a meeting discussing a feasibility study of the Walkkill, the Rondout, and the Esopus as recommended by the Corps of Engineers who will make a recommendation to Congress that these areas should be eligible for local watershed planning money. The estimated cost of the studies would be \$2 to \$3 million per watershed. They would require a 50% match. The state, county and towns all do not have the money. The Corps will not do the study without the match. Mr. Doyle stated he will provide the Board with the minutes of that meeting once they are produced. Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Pritchard to let City of Kingston know about this as Mr. Finkle has been ill.
- 6. COMMUNICATIONS**
  - a. NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation - Public Information Meeting - Draft Master Plan/DEIS for Minnewaska State Park Preserve – Tuesday July 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-9:30 PM @SUNY New Paltz Lecture Hall 100 or Thursday July 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-9:30 PM @Ellenville High School Auditorium. Written comments will also be accepted until August 11<sup>th</sup>.  
Mr. Doyle made note of the above.
  - b. Historic Preservation Commission of the Village of New Paltz – presenting draft nomination of historic business center to Village Board on Wednesday June 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM New Paltz Village Hall. (Note: this item received on June 24<sup>th</sup>.)  
Mr. Doyle made note of the above.

- c. Open Space Institute and UC Farmland Protection Board announced the permanent protection of the 346 acre Arrowhead (Davis) Farm on Route 209 in the Towns of Rochester and Wawarsing. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that we have closed on this farm but the paperwork has not been completed yet. The new Farmland Preservation grant applications (NOFA) are out and due back in September. Mr. Doyle sent Supervisors an e-mail. The Towns of Gardiner, Marbletown and New Paltz will be doing their own applications. All applications must be endorsed by Farmland Protection Board at the County level before they are sent on.

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that Planning Board staff wrote a resolution that recommended 23 parcels (approx 880 acres) to be added into the Ag Districts. The resolution was amended by the Economic Development Committee to omit the 2 Wine parcels containing the Rivendell Winery in New Paltz. That amended resolution will be voted on by the Legislature.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Priority Strategies to Support Housing Development Report to Legislature  
Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the resolution to adopt the plan as an element of the County Comprehensive Plan was passed by the Economic Development Committee and is on the Legislative agenda for next week. Mr. Doyle spoke with both caucuses and there does not appear to be any issue with it.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Mr. Doyle informed the Board of a Department of State grant opportunity and stated a request for a Regional Waterfront Revitalization Plan has been put together with the support of all the communities along the river. The grant is for \$100,000 with a \$100,000 match, which will be in-kind services. We also have matching support from the communities and UCDC. He stated that Ms. Schwartz did the paperwork in a short period of time in order to get the application finished. We have approval from the Economic Development Committee and will be preparing resolutions to go before the Legislature.
- b. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that we are involved with UCDC and the IDA on the discussion of the adoption of the Ulster Tomorrow report (Ulster Tomorrow: A Sustainable Economic Development Plan for Ulster County). Ms. Beuf informed the Board that four public meetings have been scheduled: July 28<sup>th</sup> in Ellenville, Aug 4<sup>th</sup> in the Town of Olive, Aug 5<sup>th</sup> in the Town of Gardiner and to the UC Legislature on Aug 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Doyle stated that we will send out a notice. Mr. Doyle said he anticipates us doing the environmental work for this project. The Ulster Tomorrow Report is available to view on both the Planning & UCDC websites.
- c. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that a Negative Declaration was produced by Planning staff for the Town of New Paltz Salt Storage Shed at the request of the County Attorney and others.
- d. Mr. Doyle was asked about the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. He explained that the final public information meeting has been held and the plan was well received. He added that the number one recommendation was to continue the Committee's work, which has support from the staff. We will ask the Technical Committee to form a Non-Motorized Operations Committee that would function under the operating procedures of the Council.
- e. Ms. Hokanson handed out information on changes that will affect the County Planning Board once the Charter is in effect. She added that a discussion by the Referral Guide Committee prior to this meeting brought up items that we would like to exempt from referral and other items beyond the 500 ft rule that we would like to include. Mr. Leibowitz informed the Board of some of the specific items. Ms. Hokanson also stated that they discussed changing the cutoff date for accepting referrals from the Friday before the meeting to 12 calendar days prior to the meeting. Mr. Praetorius stated this could create a 42-day lag on some applications due to the local boards' meeting dates and he asked to see a list of towns this could affect. Mr. Doyle suggested we review our referral database to see what percentage would be affected by a 12-day submittal. Mr. Doyle said we hope to have the Referral Guide for the Board's review by September.

f. **2009 Budget**

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that we need to submit a budget to the Legislative Committee by the end of the month. He added that we have a budget review meeting set with the County Administrator's office late in July. Their budget message is no new staff or programs added in the coming year. Mr. Doyle stated the need for two new computers and a laptop to replace older models in the office. Mr. Doyle stated that anyone who would like to attend the budget meeting is welcome. He offered to e-mail the date of the budget meeting to members. Mr. Doyle added that we will see some increases in travel.

g. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that discussions have been held at the Housing Consortium level concerning the oncoming winter season and the cost of energy and what we are going to do as a County. Meetings have been held with different county agencies, fire departments, oil companies and elected officials. Mr. Doyle added that an emergency summit has been called in Albany to discuss the winter fuel situation.

h. Environmental Notice Bulletin – *No Member Comment*

i. Zoning Referrals – *See Separate Zoning Minutes*

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm. Motion by Mr. Praetorius, seconded by Ms. Hooper.