

ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Minutes –August 6, 2008

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

The Referral Guide Committee Met

- 1. ROLL CALL Present:** R. Pecora, M. Beuf, H. Anderson, D. Martorana, T. Natale, L. Biggin, T. Hokanson, R. Oakes, T. Wilkin, S. Hudson, F. Greitzer, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, R. Budziak, G. Matchuk, A. Yuran, E. Hooper, R. Pritchard, D. Doyle, R. Leibowitz, B. Samuelson.
Absent: M. Lockwood, S. Finkle **Excused:** R. Praetorius, R. Elwell

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

The July minutes were approved. Motion by Ms. Pecora, seconded by Ms. Hooper. Ms. Biggin abstained from voting.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the budget has been frozen; meaning no unnecessary conferences or spending at this time. He added that we are able to sign contracts for the work program for the Transportation Division's work.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - No public in attendance

5. COMMUNITY REPORT

Mr. Wilkin stated that "Clear cutting of Reserves" was brought up during a training session he attended recently and he added that he would like to know if there were requirements associated with it. He stated that he had asked Dean Palen of the Health Department and has received no answer as yet. Mr. Doyle offered to follow-up on the topic.

Ms. Hokanson stated the Town New Paltz is working on a new loop bus that will circle the Village and a portion of the Town every half hour. Students will ride free (with ID) and all others will pay 50 or 75 cents. The buses will operate through UCAT.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. NYS Assembly – An Act to amend Ag & Markets Law in relation to providing state assistance payments to not-for-profit conservation organizations.
Mr. Doyle made note of the above adding that consultants will be funded to advise the Board but the local board will not be funded directly.
- b. Recusal & Abstention From Voting – published by NYS Bar Association (f)
Mr. Doyle stated a recording from one of our meetings was FOILED and a discussion from that meeting ended up in the newspaper. Mr. Doyle firmly reminded members that recusal is important. He clarified by adding that if anything comes before your local board for voting or discussion - you need to recuse yourself from discussion or voting at our meeting.
- c. Town of Wawarsing Planning Board – Mahamudra Buddhist Hermitage – SEQR findings
Mr. Doyle made note of the above.
- d. DEIS for Sailor's Cove on the Hudson Received - 76 acres - located north of Delaware Ave and Willow St (200 North Street) Mixed use residential, office, retail, and restaurant with public access to waterfront and on-site recreational amenities
Mr. Doyle made note of the above. He added if anyone has concerns we can review and send comments.

- e. NYSDOT – Re: HWP Application Crossroads at New Paltz – request for information/documentation
Mr. Doyle made note of the above.

- f. NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation – Div of Water – concurs with Reconnaissance Study recommendation that the study proceed into feasibility stage – Rondout Creek & Wallkill River Watersheds and Esopus Creek Watershed. (f)
Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the DEC has agreed with the three reconnaissance studies performed by the Corps of Engineers recommending they should be advanced and have provided a letter requesting funding from the federal government. The studies cost approximately 1.5 to 2 Million dollars each and have a 50% local match. He added that we have agreed that the studies need to move forward but we need to define “local match.” There is a concern that the Corps will do the three studies, which may take up to 4 years to complete, and there will be no effort to change the streams to alleviate flooding. Mr. Doyle stated there is a State bill for low to moderate income persons affected by the flooding and also that discussions are on-going regarding how to deal with obtaining properties that have been flooded and what can be done with them.

Regarding adopting the Flood Insurance Maps, which are based on LIDAR, Mr. Doyle informed the Board that communities had 90 days to challenge the maps. He has sent an e-mail to municipal officials. Ulster County maps are not yet officially released for comments. Mr. Doyle explained that this was due to enforcement of FEMA requirements. The requirement for the amount of freeboard for levees is three feet. Mr. Doyle stated there are levees in Rosendale, Ellenville and the Kingston Plaza that will be reevaluated to ensure that they meet the freeboard requirements. This may affect the maps. Mr. Doyle stated this is the reason that the Ulster County maps have been held up. He recommended the communities use the draft maps for zoning decisions particularly for communities not affected by levees.

- g. Rosendale - Lead Agency Designation - Wild Rose Subdivision - 22 lot subdivision on Bruceville Road 80 acres in the "A" Zoning District. - 21 single family homes and one existing/remaining commercial structure.
Mr. Doyle made note of the above.

- h. City of Kingston - Lead Agency Designation - CVS Pharmacy - 416 Washington Avenue - Demolish Existing and Construct 12,900 SF retail pharmacy.
Mr. Doyle made note of the above.

- i. Alexander Grannis, Commissioner–NYSDEC – Commissioner’s Determination for Lead Agency for proposed Hudson River Valley Resort, Town of Rosendale (a/k/a: William’s Lake, Canopy Development) – Designation of NYSDEC through its Region 3 office is most appropriate lead agency. (f)
Mr. Doyle made note of the above. He added that the commissioner’s determination is extremely strongly worded indicating issues of state and national significance such as the Indiana Bat population at this site is 50% of the US population.

- j. NYS Thruway Authority – Thruway Bridge over Abandoned Railroad at Milepost 72.77, Town of Lloyd - removal proposed as most viable and economical treatment.
Mr. Doyle is looking for input from the communities of Plattekill and Lloyd as to whether or not we should agree to this. He added that we objected to this proposal five years ago.

- k. Population Projections provided by Cornell University (f)
Mr. Doyle read some of the statistics to the Board to underline a dramatic change in Ulster County growth. He stated that he has asked Cornell for explanations for the figures as they do not coordinate with other projections that we have. Mr. Leibowitz offered to get the methodology.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. 2009 Budget (f)

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that our budget is down from last year due in part to changes in revenue available to spend from the Transportation division. Conferences and travel will be leaner next year in response to Administrative guidelines. Mr. Doyle added we have budgeted money for Legislative initiatives, we have money to fund a portion of the Main Street program and the rest will fund the Transportation Council.

b. Ulster Tomorrow Public Information Meetings (m)

Mr. Doyle stated that public information meetings were held around the County with the last being prior to our meeting this evening in Kingston. Ms. Beuf added that there was good representation in Gardiner and Ellenville and she stated that the feedback was positive. Ms. Beuf stated that the plan was put together by a consortium of about 150 volunteers and they are hoping the Legislature adopts Ulster Tomorrow as part of the county's comprehensive plan. Mr. Doyle added that this Board has a role in the comprehensive plan and we will make comments back to the Legislature in September.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. UCPB Membership Update – Robert Ferrigan, Alternate Member Town of Kingston resigned, John Konior proposed to fill vacant Member spot for Town of Kingston
List of Members with terms expiring this year (f)

Mr. Doyle stated the proposed Kingston member's paperwork will be run through the Legislative process. He asked all members whose terms expire this year to go back to their communities to get the paperwork needed to reappoint them. If members are not reappointed or replaced by December they are still acting members under Public Officers Law and can continue to attend meetings. Mr. Doyle reminded members that it is important they file an Oath of Office within 30 days of appointment. Letters will be sent out to municipalities requesting official endorsement.

b. Environmental Notice Bulletin – *No Member Comment*

c. Zoning Referrals – *See Separate Zoning Minutes*

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm. Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Watkins.