

ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Minutes –August 4, 2010

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

The Executive Committee did not meet this month

Mr. Wilkin called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm and Mr. Leibowitz read the roll.

1. ROLL CALL – Present: R. Pecora, J. Katz, J. Konior, T. Marion, M. Calimano, H. Grant, T. Wilkin, L. Smith, F. Greitzer, J. Kane, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, R. Budziak, J. Constable, A. Yuran, A. Zlatkin, M. Weitman, R. Kinnin, D. Doyle, R. Leibowitz **Absent:** P. Hakim, T. Natale, L. Biggin, S. Frederick **Excused:** M. Baden, R. Elwell, S. Finkle **Guests:** Robert M. Smith, Pamela Smith Scote

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mr. Greitzer wished to correct the July minutes to show that he voted “No” to the Body of Truth Spa in Rochester. Mr. Kinnin stated that he would like to see the agenda for the Executive Committee. The July minutes were not approved due to lack of quorum. Moved: Kinnin, Second: Grant Abstentions: Smith, Holmquist, Weitman, Calimano, Constable, Konior

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Doyle stated that we are getting revenues in and have recently submitted an \$83,000 invoice to the state. We are also signing a contract with the State for a \$100,000 grant we received 2 years ago and a second Main Street contract with Peter Fairweather for hamlets in the Towns of Olive and Shandaken. We have recently received payment from the state for the Ulster Tomorrow work, and submitted an invoice for reimbursement for MS4 work done in 2002. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that we’ve had our initial budget meeting with the County Executive’s office. Our proposed budget for 2011 is less than our 2010 budget. The County Executive will let us know if there are any revisions.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT There were no public comments.

5. COMMUNITY REPORT

Ms. Pecora stated that the solar power at the Town of Esopus Library is now active, generating 23 kilowatts, and they still have money left from the grant. Mr. Doyle stated that solar installation has begun on the salt storage facility in New Paltz. A solar sign for the county fairgrounds in New Paltz is up and working in time for the Ulster County Fair. Mr. Doyle added that the county has just completed its energy audit with Siemens. Looking at which projects can sustain energy savings vs. bonding costs.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Doyle made note of the *Planning for Nature in Your Community* seminar to be held in Greene County in October. Mr. Doyle stated he made a presentation to speak in favor of the City’s application for a challenge grant to develop a new Comprehensive Plan for the City of Kingston. The common council has authorized it to move forward. Mr. Doyle added that staff has offered assistance. Mr. Doyle informed the board that our staff does in-kind matches (staff time) for various grants for other agencies’ projects. We are currently working on coordinating interested parties and mapping uses of agricultural lands held by the Department of Corrections in Napanoch and Shawangunk.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update on Regional Sustainability Plan Application

Mr. Doyle informed the board that staff has met with approximately 40 individual agencies and non-profit groups in preparation to submit a regional planning grant and understand what a regional plan partnership would look like. We have initiated discussions between the planning organizations of all three counties and would like to form a Mid-Hudson Valley Regional Planning Partnership.

The three planning departments would work together to lead the project. If awarded, this will be a 36 month cooperative agreement. The partnership has to represent at least 50% of population of the region, must include the MPOs and will involve sharing staff.

The Board made a motion to support moving ahead with this HUD NOFA effort. Motion made by Mr. Watkins, seconded by Konior. All were in favor.

b. Greenway meeting training credit – 1.5 hours

Mr. Doyle mentioned that members who attended the Greenway meeting last month in Marlborough are eligible for 1.5 hours of training credit.

Mr. Doyle mentioned that an article on hydrofracking was included in the packet. The State Senate has passed a one year moratorium on hydrofracking, but it has not passed the House. Also in the packet was the Status of Referral Exception Agreements. We are going to reach out once again to the Boards who have not signed the agreement yet. Mr. Doyle mentioned that we have not been getting Subdivision referrals and asked the members to reach out to their communities.

c. Ag District Inclusions

Mr. Doyle informed the Board that the Legislature has voted on the Ag District inclusions after eliminating certain parcels in the Towns of New Paltz, Plattekill and Shawangunk. The reason for elimination was objections by neighboring property owners who voiced their opinions during public hearings, as well as requests from the Towns to exclude.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Environmental Notice Bulletin – *No Member Comment*
- b. Zoning Referrals – *See Separate Zoning Minutes*

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.