

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DATE: MAY 31, 2007

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	OTHERS PRESENT:
SUPERVISORS STEC	REPRESENTING PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:
BELDEN	PATRICIA TATICH, DIRECTOR
GABRIELS	WAYNE LAMOTHE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
MONROE	JAMIE WHITE, SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
TESSIER	COORDINATOR
CHAMPAGNE	CHAIRMAN THOMAS
MASON	PATRICIA NENNINGER, SECOND ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY
	HAL PAYNE, COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FISCAL
	SERVICES
	JOAN SADY, CLERK
	SUPERVISOR GERAGHTY
	PETER WOHL, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC
	DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
	AMANDA ALLEN, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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Mr. Stec called the meeting of the Planning & Community Development Committee to order at 11:13 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Mason and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2007 Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Patricia Tatich, Director of Planning & Community Development, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members. *A copy of the agenda is on file with the minutes.*

Beginning with the Pending Items portion of the agenda, Ms. Tatich apprised that a listing of these items was included in the agenda packet and she detailed them as follows:

- 1) Ms. Tatich stated that this item would remain on the pending items listing until the Department was able to develop a procedure for updating the Abbreviated Consolidated Plan. She said that they expected to launch the update in October of 2007 because the plan would involve extensive ground work with the various communities of Warren County which would be best suited for the winter months. In addition, Ms. Tatich noted, October was National Planning Month and the timing would be appropriate;
- 2) With respect to the Outdoor Drama Theater project, Wayne LaMothe, Assistant Director, apprised that during a joint meeting of the Planning & Community Development and Parks, Recreation & Railroad Committees held earlier in the week, the decision had been made to put all aspects of the project on hold until the 2008

- Legislative Session to develop an acceptable agreement with the Village of Lake George for the desired property. Patricia Nenninger, Second Assistant County Attorney, apprised that she had addressed the matter with staff of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation that specialized in alienation legislation issues and had been advised that they were willing to work with the County to resolve all property issues for presentation of the request during the 2008 Legislative Session;
- 3) Ms. Tatich advised that the vacancy on the County Planning Board should remain on the list of pending items as a decision had not been made as to who should fill the vacancy as of yet;
  - 4) Mr. LaMothe stated that this item should also remain on the pending items list because, to his knowledge, a meeting had not yet been scheduled with the Warren County Bar Association to discuss the increased interest in the Image Mate Online System;
  - 5) Ms. Tatich presented a large map reflecting potential sites for cell towers as per the Committee's request. She noted that the map was developed without any input from a cellular phone company and it identified peaks of the County by elevation. In addition, Ms. Tatich advised, the map reflected potentially suitable structures able to accommodate a cell tower.

Discussion ensued with respect to the map presented by Ms. Tatich.

It was the consensus of the Committee that a copy of the map should be forwarded to Marvin Lemery, Fire Prevention & Building Code Enforcement Administrator, for use in his ongoing research with respect to radio service available in Warren County.

Moving to the next portion of the agenda, Ms. Tatich apprised that three resolution requests were included for the Committee's consideration. She explained that the first was a request to amend Resolution No. 307 of 2007, regarding the submission of an application to NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation as it pertains to the Kellog Property in North Creek, to expand funding opportunities.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Gabriels and carried unanimously to approve the request to amend Resolution No. 307 of 2007 as outlined above and the necessary resolution was authorized for the June 15<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Mr. LaMothe advised that the second resolution request reflected a request to increase the Capital Project of the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor 2005 in the amount of \$8,500. He noted that these funds were available as the result of unused funds remaining from another completed project.

Motion was made by Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. Tessier and carried unanimously to approve the request to increase the Capital Project for the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor 2005 in the amount

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of \$8,500 as outlined above and refer same to the Finance Committee. *A copy of the request is on file with the minutes.*

Ms. Tatich explained that the final resolution request was for permission to authorize an agreement between Warren County and the WCLDC (Warren County Local Development Corporation) for administrative assistance associated with mutual projects, programs and funding awards. She noted that the resolution would identify the scope of services to be provided by the staff of the Planning and Community Development Department, as well as the County Attorney's Office. Ms. Tatich stated that this item was being presented at the request of the County Attorney's Office, who had already begun the development of the agreement.

Ms. Nenninger expounded that there were actually two different agreements relating to Warren County and the development of the re-structured WCLDC that were currently in progress. In addition to the agreement detailed by Ms. Tatich, she said that another agreement would be necessary between Warren County, WCLDC, WCEDC (Warren County Economic Development Corporation), ORDA (Olympic Regional Development Authority - *Operators of Gore Mountain*) and the Town of Johnsbury for administrative assistance associated with activities concerning the North Creek Ski Bowl project. She explained that as additional grants were received under the Ski Bowl project, it would be required for Warren County to be named as the grant administrator in order to accept funding.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Champagne and carried unanimously to authorize both agreements as outlined above, and the necessary resolutions were authorized for the June 15<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. *Copies of the requests are on file with the minutes.*

Continuing to the final portion of the agenda, entitled Planning & Community Development Items, Ms. Tatich advised that the first two items listed pertained to a copy of the Forestry Letter Series, distributed by the Greater Adirondack RC&D Council and information received from J. Salvadore concerning historical boundary line issues between the Town of Queensbury and the Town of Bolton, both of which were included in the agenda packet. She asked the Committee members to review this information at their leisure and contact her with any questions they might have.

Ms. Tatich apprised that the third item listed pertained to discussion on the need for an improved working relationship with the Weatherization Office to maximize residential improvement programs funded with HOME and Small Cities grant awards to the County and local communities. She reminded the Committee that this item had been discussed at prior meetings and there had been no improvements in the situation, although overtures had been made to the Weatherization Office to rectify the situation.

Mr. Belden stated that he felt a meeting of the Committee, the Weatherization Office and Planning & Community Development staff should be scheduled to determine all of the issues present, and in doing so, determine a strategy for a better working environment.

Mr. Champagne asked for clarification of the services offered by the Weatherization Office, as opposed to those offered by the Planning & Community Development Department. Mr. LaMothe explained that Planning & Community Development managed housing programs funded by the DHCR (Division of Housing and Community Renewal), while the Weatherization Office received weatherization funding from DHCR. He said that it was the DHCR's contention that Planning & Community Development and the Weatherization Office should work together, and a workshop had been held between the two groups in an attempt to develop a better relationship. Mr. LaMothe said that at this workshop meeting a staff member of the Weatherization Office had publicly stated that they had no interest in working with the Planning & Community Development Department, to which the DHCR had taken exception. In the meantime, Mr. LaMothe said that they had attempted to work with the Weatherization Office on improvement projects in the Town of Chester, with the DHCR working as the mediator; however, it had been one year since the start of the project and the Weatherization Office still had not completed their portion of the project. He said that because the Weatherization Office was receiving administrative and program funding from DHCR, the DHCR was opposed to Planning & Community Development's use of HOME funds for weatherization services while they already funded another organization, the Weatherization Office, for these services.

Discussion ensued.

William Thomas, Chairman, entered the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Champagne and carried unanimously to schedule a meeting at the Warren County Municipal Center between the Community Action Agency Board of Directors, the Planning & Community Development Department and the Committee to discuss the issues causing problems between the two groups and to attempt to rectify the situation.

Mr. Belden asked Ms. Tatich to forward a letter to the pertinent parties notifying them of the meeting, once scheduled, and Ms. Tatich replied that she would be sure to do this.

Mr. Thomas left the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Resuming agenda review, Ms. Tatich stated that the fourth item listed referred to a report on conference attendance. She noted that Jamie White, Small Business Development Coordinator, was scheduled to attend the New York State Economic Development Conference in Cooperstown, NY on June 11, 2007 through June 13, 2007 with all travel costs to be paid by the WCLDC. Ms. Tatich stated that it was important for Warren County to maintain a presence at this conference, and with the Small Cities Office, because the County had received grant funding from this group in the past and there was much more to be gained in the future. She noted that this item was being presented simply for the Committee's edification.

Ms. Tatich stated that the final agenda item pertained to the results of the recent HUD (Housing and Urban Development) monitoring visit which occurred on May 1, 2007 through May 3, 2007.

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She said that a representative of the Buffalo HUD office had made the visit and they had since been working on documents that would allow Warren County to close out grant awards that were ten years old. Since beginning this process, Ms. Tatich apprised, they had run into a couple of dilemmas relating to benefits and meeting the national statutory objectives. She said that her Department continued to work with the Buffalo HUD office to complete this process. Ms. Tatich said that she was presenting this information because in the future she would be required to detail the results of the process to the Committee and reflect what additional steps would be required. Mr. LaMothe added that these grant close-out reports had been submitted to HUD for closure in 2002; however, the accounts still had not been closed, through no fault of the Planning & Community Development Department.

As there was no further business to come before the Planning & Community Development Committee, on motion made by Mr. Mason and seconded by Mr. Belden, Mr. Stec adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Allen, Legislative Office Specialist