

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUNE 7, 2007 – 4:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman A. Johnson; Supervisors Gutheil, Janik, Peck, Sausville, and Grattidge; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Bill Schwerd, Cornell Cooperative Extension; Dorothy Christianson, NY horse Park, Inc.; Marsha Himler, NYS Horse Council; Press.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Peck, seconded by Mr. Sausville, the minutes of the May 3, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Schwerd requested committee approval for Cornell Cooperative Extension to hire a consultant to conduct a feasibility study, market analysis and business plan for a Greater Saratoga Region Horse Park.

Mr. Schwerd said the RFP would be completed by June 19th, and would be put out for bid by July 1st. The RFP would be returned to Cornell Cooperative Extension with a committee made up of members of the Board of Supervisors and the Cornell Cooperative Extension board president to prioritize the proposal. Approximately five days later a selection would be made with contracts signed and studies to begin by August 20th. There would be monthly updates.

Mrs. Keyrouze requested that she and possibly two members from the NYS Horse Park, Inc. be a part of the feasibility committee.

Mr. Schwerd stated, the committee needs to be unbiased and when the report comes out it has to have the seal of approval on it that everyone is behind it. Mrs. Keyrouze agreed.

Mr. Schwerd said everyone would be invited to the table.

Mr. Sausville asked how everyone would be brought to the table?

Mr. Schwerd said there would be countywide meetings with specific topics at specific times.

Mrs. Keyrouze said she and other members of the New York State Horse Park, Inc. have done extensive research in addition to Marsha Himler who has worked on this idea over the past ten years.

A motion was made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Gutheil to move forward with the feasibility study by Cornell Cooperative Extension for a Greater Saratoga Region Horse Park. Unanimous.

Mr. Johnson said the Zim Smith Trail is moving forward and a sub-committee will need to be formed to address the proposed use policy. The subcommittee will consist of Mr. Sausville, Mr. Peck and Mr. Johnson

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Gutheil the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom