

Economic Development Committee Minutes
March 14, 2012 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Daly; Supervisors A. Johnson, Kinowski, Lawler, Richardson, Lawler, Grattidge, Wood, and M. Johnson; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Jason Kemper, Planning; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the minutes of the February 8, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Kemper said this is the second timber harvest for 2012. He said he estimates that this will bring approximately \$21,000 in revenue to the county. This one combined with the one that was approved last month should meet the \$100,000 that was projected for the 2012 Timber Harvest Program. There were 43 bidders contacted with three bids, G&T \$21,200; Heath Reynolds \$20,600; K&B Logging \$20,200.

Mr. Kemper requested that a clause be included in the contract that states if the first bidder does not perform services within 30 to 45 days that the contract is given to the second bidder.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve an agreement with G&T Enterprises for the harvesting of timber in the Town of Moreau. Unanimous.

Mr. Richardson said the Historic Saratoga-Washington on the Hudson Partnership was formed approximately five years ago. The goal of the partnership is to bring economic growth to all the small communities not only surrounding the Hudson River, but the Saratoga Battlefield and to keep the Battlefield pristine as it is. Mr. Richardson said several grants have been received for a total of \$4,319,000.

Mr. Richardson said the National Heritage Trust puts out an annual report each year and the partnership is mentioned in the 2010-2011 volume as well as the 2009-2010 volume. We are being mentioned in a lot of different areas and the partners that have been brought in have really extended opportunities from Fort Edward to Waterford. He said when the property is purchased in Schuylerville; there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony, which is expected to take place this summer.

Ms. Daly said the county has been asked to participate in a grant application that is being done by the Capital Region Collaboration for Government Efficiency. The principal, Omar Usmani, of Aeon Nexus originally formed out of Washington D.C., and has opened an office in Washington County. Mr. Usmani works with municipalities on ways that they can collaborate on purchasing to help reduce costs. This company along with (CEG)Center for Economic Growth, has put together an opportunity for a grant application. They are looking for the support of all of the surrounding counties in the capital region, and cities, to apply for a grant through the Consolidated Funding Application process of the Regional Economic Development Council.

Ms. Daly distributed a copy of the Aeon Nexus presentation giving an overview of what the application is going to be about. She said they are a partner in the Local Government Efficiency Grant Program where there is \$4 million available for direct assistance to government. The goal is to reduce expenses and property taxes by helping local government plan and implement new service deliveries. The grant will provide financial and technical assistance to local government to implement a project that may be able to produce potential savings. The grant will support the local leaders and their ability to address the complex issues and plan regionally.

Ms. Daly said every county in the region with the exception of Columbia County has agreed to participate.

Ms. Daly requested committee support for a letter of support that would be used to draft a resolution in support of a grant application. She said the \$2,000 in matching funds would not be needed unless the grant was obtained.

Mr. Lawler said he would like to have more information about Aeon Nexus.

Ms. Daly asked for a letter of support from the committee for an application of support from Saratoga County, with a resolution to be forthcoming in April. She said she would schedule to have Aeon Nexus either at the Economic Development Committee meeting or the Agenda Meeting for a presentation.

The committee agreed to have the presentation at the April Economic Development meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Sausville to approve a letter of support for the Local Government Efficiency Grant. Unanimous.

Ms. Daly said Saratoga County is partnering with Global Foundries, inviting City, Town and Village officials from the county to an event to learn about semiconductors. Specifically, what they are going to do is tell what it is; how it works; and what the steps are that go into the actual production of a semiconductor. The meeting will be at the Tec SMART Building where there will be a reception and then a presentation and discussion to follow. Ms. Daly said there is an RSVP date of March 23rd. The event will take place between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Daly said on March 23rd she would be hosting the Professional Development Day for teachers from Shenendehowa with Global Foundries.

Ms. Daly said the subcommittee has been meeting to re-evaluate the charge of the committee and to put together a plan for economic development in Saratoga County. She said she is hopeful that they will be able to bring a report to the committee this summer.

On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom