

Economic Development Committee Minutes
December 4, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Vice Chairman Daly; Supervisors A. Johnson, Kinowski, Richardson and Sausville; Spencer Hellwig, Administrator; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Jason Kemper, Planning; Felipe Moon, Veterans; Peter Martin, County Clerk.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Sausville the minutes of the November 6, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Kemper said an RFP was sent out for a catering contract for the annual Planning Conference in January. A proposal was received from Panza's, Black Diamond Caterer's, Long Fellows, and Saratoga Hilton. He said Panza's prices continue to be the lowest. This will be a major contract request in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. Mr. Kemper said the cost is usually between \$14,000 and \$16,000 depending on how many attendees there are, as the costs are covered by registrations and sponsors.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Richardson to enter into a major contract with Panza's to provide catering services for the January 2014 Planning Conference at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. Unanimous.

Mr. Moon gave a brief update on the Veterans Employment Outreach Program, stating that a Saratoga County Veterans Employment Task Force was established comprised of members from both Chambers, the Veterans Business Outreach Center, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Rural Preservation Company, Saratoga County Employment and Training and the Veterans Service Agency. The mission of the program is to develop sustainable initiatives where Veterans are able to become self-sufficient.

Mr. Moon said the first Saratoga County Veterans Hiring Conference will be held on March 12, 2014 with a location yet to determined.

Mr. Moon said the Veterans 5K Race had 205 registered runners, with 170 people actually running the race. There were twenty five sponsors with nearly \$20,000 raised in donations. Mr. Moon said the current balance in the Veterans Trust Fund is \$14,072.05. Discussion took place about how that figure was arrived at, and Mr. Hellwig requested that Mr. Moon review his figures and email them to the committee members for their review.

Under direction from Mr. Bardunias from the Southern Saratoga Chamber of Commerce, a Fund Drive was initiated on Veterans Day and will end on Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. To date, \$875.00 has been raised for the Veterans Trust Fund.

The third annual Veterans Trust Fund 5k has been scheduled for November 18, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hudson Crossings Park.

Mr. Moon said through the Veterans Employment Initiative, Don Little, Noney Grier and Mike Fitzpatrick have teamed up to focus on assisting homeless Veterans and those Veterans at risk of being homeless achieve employment through employer partnerships with AngioDynamics; Janitronics; Westaff; and Stone Industries.

Mr. Moon said over the summer he met with the office of Senator Marchione, Assemblyman John McDonald and Assemblyman Stec to put together a bill that would provide Veterans and Veteran owned businesses with the same access to economic programs and incentives, including increased opportunities in state contracting that are now offered to minorities and women owned businesses.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom