

Planning and Economic Development
February 24, 2009

Present:

Richard Keaveney, Chairman
Elizabeth Young
Philip Williams
Roy Brown
Lynda Scheer
Lawrence Andrews
Bart Delaney, Jr.
Doug McGivney

Absent:

George Jahn- notified
Jesse DeGroot- notified

Also Present:

Jacquelyn Lydon, Asst. Deputy
Joseph Finn
Ann Cooper
Mary Howell
David Colby
Kenneth Flood
Linda Mussmann
Gwen Gould
Judy Grunberg
David Anderson
Elena Mosely
Gary Schiro
Stephanie Monseu
Benedicta Bertau
Christopher Farrington

Press: 1

Chairman Keaveney called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.

Tourism- A. Cooper

Resolution Request: Requesting authorization to enter into a contract with Benchmark Printing, Inc. for printing the 2009 Columbia County Travel Guide at a cost of \$15,375.00 for 70,000 copies. Motion by R. Brown, seconded by B. Delaney, Jr. Motion carried. Refer to Finance.

Distribution and discussion regarding 2008 festival funding report & 2009 festival funding program. Requesting authorization to distribute \$4,000.00 to the Flag Day Parade for Security and EMS instead of the \$5,000.00 that was distributed to them last year and redistribute \$1,000.00 to other festival funding organizations. Motion by P. Williams, seconded by R. Brown. Motion carried.

FYI: Restructuring the Partners in Tourism Committee. Tabled for March Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting.

Department of Planning and Economic Development- K. Flood

Presentation: Chamber of Commerce Performing Arts Collective of Columbia County comprised of 24 small business organizations in 11 towns around Columbia County. Demonstrating the economic impact of the performing arts to Columbia County by presenter David Colby, President and Chief Executive Officer. The economic impact in 2007 is \$7.93 million with 225.8 jobs created. The 2009 goals are Branding our Brand "Perform Columbia", launching www.PerformColumbia.com website, rack card, radio advertising, and a booth and brochure at the Columbia County Fair.

L. Scheer asked if the presentation could be made at the March Full Board meeting and possibly bring forward a resolution to ask NYS for Council of the Arts funding to be reinstated and sent to Governor Paterson and all Senators.

R. Keaveney asked D. Colby for a list of other business that the Chamber of Commerce would like to see become members that the Supervisors could talk to.

P. Williams thanked D. Colby and his guests. L. Scheer stated she would support the Performing Arts in any way possible.

Discussion regarding county and state funding for the performing arts.

Discussion regarding Local Ocean, LLC.

Resolution Request: Requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with the Columbia Economic Development Corporation to benefit Local Ocean, LLC. To assist in the development of an aquaculture facility in the Town of Greenport in the amount of \$190,000.00. Motion by R. Brown, seconded by L. Scheer. Motion carried.

FYI: “Planning Conversations” Event tentatively scheduled for April 6th at CGCC which will include each towns Planning Board Chairman’s to talk to each other regarding economic development in Columbia County.

FYI: Geographic Informational System- K. Flood is working on receiving funding.

FYI: Requesting bids for two new buses funded by New York State Grant in the amount of \$360,000.00.

K. Flood will look into any NYS stimulus money that is available for the possible purchase of Hybrid or Flex Fuel busses. Motion by B. Delaney, Jr., seconded by E. Young. Motion carried. K. Flood advised prior to requesting bids he will notify committee members.

FYI: Activity update- Farmland Protection Plan and Agricultural Initiatives Plan. K. Flood meeting with Ag and Markets and USDA.

Historian- M. Howell

Resolution Request: Requesting authorization to fill part time budgeted position of per diem clerk typist for 5-10 hours per week. Motion by L. Scheer, seconded by E. Young. Motion carried contingent to Budget and Salary review.

With no further business at 6:02 PM a motion to adjourn was made by L. Andrews, seconded by B. Delaney, Jr. Motion carried.