

**Planning and Economic Development
January 27, 2009**

Present:

**Richard Keaveny, Chairman
George Jahn
Philip Williams
Roy Brown
Lynda Scheer
Jesse DeGrootd
Bart Delaney, Jr.
Doug McGivney
Lawrence Andrews
Elizabeth Young**

Absent:

Also Present:

**Jacquelyn Lydon, Asst. Deputy
John Mussall
Joseph Finn
Kenneth Flood
Ann Cooper
Roland Vosburgh
Patrice Perry
Pierre Gontier
Ellen Thurston
Carole Osterink**

Press: 1

Chairman Keaveny called the meeting to order at 5pm.

Tourism- A. Cooper

FYI: Overview of Department, A. Cooper will e-mail marketing plan to all committee members.

FYI: 2009 Department Projects & Initiatives. Revenue Generators, working with Economic Development on a branding project, working with a public relations advisor, and Culinary and Ag Festival.

February meeting A. Cooper will distribute the 2008 report on festivals and local support, and the "PIT" plan Re: Tourism Board.

E. Young asked a question regarding the promotion of the new dialysis center for vacationers. A. Cooper replied that it is listed on the Columbia County Web-site but is currently not in a brochure.

B. Delaney asked if the Tourism Department had received a request form from the Flag Day Committee. A. Cooper replied that she did receive it on January 27th and it will be brought forward at the February Committee meeting.

Discussion regarding Flag Day

Discussion regarding the Rail Trail and other Trails that Columbia County owns.

Department of Planning and Economic Development- K. Flood

Resolution Request: Authorizing the signing of the SEQRA Environmental Assessment form determining that the addition of Section 303-B property to Columbia County AG District No's. 8,9, and 10 will not have a significant environmental impact and will not require an environmental impact statement. Motion made by E. Young, seconded by J. DeGrootd. Motion carried.

Resolution Request: Approving the addition of section 303-B property to Columbia County AG District No's. 8,9, and 10. Motion made by E. Young, seconded by J. DeGrootd. Motion carried.

Resolution Request: Authorizing the signing of the SEQRA documents determining that the modification of Columbia County agricultural district no.'s 3 and 4 will not have a significant environmental impact and will not require an environmental impact statement. Motion made by L. Scheer, seconded by R. Brown. Motion carried.

Resolution Request: Approving the continuation of Columbia County Agricultural District No. 3 and the modification of the district boundary map as set forth in the official description and as it appears on the map designed to include active, viable agricultural lands in the town of Claverack, Ghent, and Greenport, and the Village of Philmont. Motion made by L. Scheer, seconded by R. Brown. Motion carried.

Resolution Request: Approving the continuation of Columbia County Agricultural District No. 4 and the modification of the district boundary map as set forth in the official description and as it appears on the map designed to include active, viable agricultural lands in the towns of Livingston, Taghkanic, Gallatin, Clermont, and Germantown. Motion made by L. Scheer, seconded by R. Brown. Motion carried.

FYI: Overview of Economic and Planning Department

FYI: 2009 Department Projects & Initiatives: GIS System, Increase communication with local planning boards and each town Supervisor

- Transportation- major improvements and reporting

-Agriculture- working with the Farmland Protection Board for a grant, Agricultural Initiative for Culinary and Ag Festival.

FYI: Environmental Management Council- P. Gontier distributed and reviewed the 2008 Annual Report

Resolution Request: Appointing a member to the Columbia County Environmental Management Council. Motion made by D. McGivney, seconded by R. Brown. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the CEDC.

Discussion regarding the Vacant Congress Seat.

Discussion regarding GIS System.

Chairman Keaveney stated that the February Planning and Economic Development meeting will be held at 5pm on February 24th.

With no further business at 5:50PM a motion to adjourn was made by R. Brown, seconded by B. Delaney, Jr.. Motion carried.