

**ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, PLANNING & TRANSIT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – February 28, 2007
MEETING HELD AT: TRUDY RESNICK FARBER CENTER - ELLENVILLE**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT: Hector Rodriguez – Chair
Michael Berardi
Donald J. Gregorius
Peter M. Loughran
Mary F. Sheeley

EXCUSED: Elizabeth Alfonso
Joseph P. Roberti, Jr. – Deputy Chair

OTHERS ATTENDING: Dennis Doyle, Director, U.C. Planning
Nancy Schaefer, Office of Employment & Training

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

NANCY SCHAEFER – OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Ms. Schaefer spoke about the appropriateness of workforce development reporting to the Economic Development Board as well as changes taking place at the state level.

CHAIRMAN RODRIGUEZ – UCDC UPDATE

Legislator Rodriguez stated there were six finalists being considered for the position of Executive Director. Board makeup, marketing and productivity were discussed. Mr. Doyle stated the COPE Study would be presented at the March 7th meeting and a final presentation will be on March 20th. He also spoke of the consortium effort identifying priority growth areas. Mr. Doyle added that this "Ulster Tomorrow" study will move into follow-up work with Quality Communities Grant and hopefully into a component of the County's Comprehensive Plan which gives it formal legal status.

DENNIS DOYLE – PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Action Items

- 1. Resolution – Establishing Qualifying Training Activities for the Ulster County Planning Board Members as Required by Article 12 of General Municipal Law Section 239-C**

Motion to approve by Legislator Berardi, seconded by Legislator Gregorius. All were in favor.

- 2. Resolution – Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into Contracts and Agreements with the Hudson River Valley**

**Greenway Communities Council for the Purposes of Effectuating a
Greenway Compact Grant - \$15,000 In Kind Match**

**Motion to approve by Legislator Sheeley, Seconded by Legislator
Loughran. All were in favor.**

Informational Items

1. Greenway Update

Mr. Doyle stated that outreach work has begun as well as meetings with involved groups. He said we are trying to talk about the Main Street component at the same time to incorporate it as one principle of the Greenway. Hoping to have work done by June.

2. Update on Open Space and PDR

Mr. Doyle gave an update on the Open Space Plan and the status of discussions with the Environmental Management Council. At the EMC meeting there was an appointment of a new Open Space Committee. Mr. Doyle stated we have a signed contract with Davenport Farm, however the state contract runs out March 31st. He added that we are hoping to use dollars that were allocated to another farm to Davis Farm in Rochester instead. There was a discussion on rail trails and the Catskill Mountain Railroad.

3. CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Application

Mr. Doyle stated he is in direct conflict as he is the President of the Board of Directors of RUPCO and therefore cannot make a recommendation on the matter. He informed the Committee that RUPCO provided testimony at a public hearing and has asked the County to apply for funds for a homeownership program. Mr. Doyle also advised the Agricultural Farmland Protection Board to submit an application for farm worker housing. Mr. Doyle stated we need to make an application available to the Legislature and submit it by April 9th. He added that we would need to submit a resolution authorizing the Chairman to submit an application at a special meeting of the Legislature on Caucus night on April 4th. Legislator Rodriguez requested materials from previous grants and offered to make a recommendation.

4. Update on UCTC Work Items

Mr. Doyle gave an update on the status of the Transportation Improvement Program, the 2007-08 Work Program and he listed the upcoming meetings of the Council. Mr. Doyle spoke about the SAMA (Saugerties Area Mobility A) study and what happens next in Saugerties.

CHAIRMAN RODRIGUEZ - UCAT UPDATE

Legislator Rodriguez stated that Ms. Ruiz is still working on the kinks with shuttle service to MTA and hoping meetings with DOT will help with service to Poughkeepsie.

Legislator Rodriguez stated that Ms. Ruiz has offered the services of her Account Clerk to help Lisa Cutten in Auditing with their work load in the afternoon for the next three weeks.

Chairman Rodriguez asked for a voice vote that this would be okay with the Committee. All were in favor.

Request for Special Services

New Paltz Area Chamber of Commerce for New Paltz Clean Sweep
All were in Favor

Conference Approval

DOT Rural Specialized Transit Conference– State Money
Approval sheet was circulated.

Invoice

Towing from Shandaken to Kingston
Approval sheet was circulated.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 – Motion by Legislator Loughran, seconded by Legislator Berardi.