

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE
ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 19, 2001

The regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Committee of the Ulster County Legislature was held on Wednesday, September 19, 2001 at 6:15 p.m., in the Legislative Library, Sixth Floor, Ulster County Office Building, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY.

The following legislators were present:

Susan Cummings Chairman
Scott Moone
Jeanette Provenzano
Sam Magarelli

The following legislators were excused:

Richard Gerentine
Steven H. Klein
Joseph Roberti, Jr.

Guests included:

Herbert Hekler Director, Ulster County Planning Department
Chester J. Straub, Jr. President, Ulster County Development Corporation
Peter Gallagher Director of Business Development, Ulster County
Development Corporation

Chairman Susan Cummings called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

1. Herbert Hekler, Director, Ulster County Planning Department

A. Ulster County Rural Transportation

- Mileage, passenger counts and incomes all show an increase. Copy of report on file.

B. Tech City Article

- An unfavorable article by Jason Blair regarding Tech City and Kingston appeared in the NY Times, Sunday, September 16, 2001.
- Chester Straub, President, Ulster County Development Corporation, indicated that a formal response to this article was currently being drafted.

- C. Sheriff's Department
 - The Ulster County Sheriff's Department has placed a preliminary request for a bus to take volunteers to New York City to assist with the Twin Towers tragedy. No official date has been set at this time.
 - D. Ulster Sewer Study
 - Brinnier and Larios have been enlisted to provide a feasibility study of providing sewer service to the Town of Ulster Traffic Circle and Sawkill Road. The cost of the study is approximately \$20,000, which the Planning Department has in reserve in their consultant's account. A general discussion was held regarding this study.
 - E. Rivers and Estuaries Center on the Hudson Task Force
 - Mr. Hekler advised that the deadline for submission of applications has been extended two weeks in view of the tragic events in New York City.
 - Ulster County will submit applications for four sites. He believed that this was the right decision to make as each site had its own individual merits.
2. Chester J. Straub, Jr., President, Ulster County Development Corporation
- A. Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Tax-Exempt Bonds by the Ulster County Industrial Development Agency (UCIDA) in an Amount Not to Exceed Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000) for Kingston Block and Masonry Supply, LLC.
 - Legislator Magarelli, seconded by Legislator Moone, motioned to present this resolution at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Ulster County Legislature. The motion was adopted unanimously. A copy of the resolution and supporting documentation in on file.
 - B. New York City Disaster Assistance
 - Mr. Straub provided the members of the committee with a copy of a joint press release distributed to the media regarding economic recovery assistance to the metropolitan area affected by the recent World Trade Center tragedy.

- Mr. Straub indicated that an unanticipated positive appears to be emerging, as telecommunication companies servicing Ulster County seem to be rising to the occasion and expediting and/or upgrading broadband capabilities within the area.
 - The members of the committee discussed the County's role and it was determined that Lee Taylor would be invited to the next meeting of the committee to present the County's options.
- C. Updates on Shovel Ready Grant Program and Technology Revolving Loan Fund
- Mr. Straub indicated that currently a working draft existed for both programs. These drafts were under review by various committees of UCDC. These included a Q&A Brochure, Basic Parameters and Guidelines. Copies are on file. It was hoped that the committees would finish their review and make their recommendations to the Executive Committee of UCDC and its' Board in October. A plan has been proposed to pre-announce the programs to legislators, town supervisors, mayors and members of the media so when the public announcement is made they will know the particulars. A press release will be prepared at that time.
- D. Committee Meetings
- Mr. Straub informed the committee that many of the newly formed committees have had their initial meetings and will be scheduling dates in the future to delve into operational issues.
- E. Business to Business Showcase
- All exhibitor space has been sold.
 - It is hoped that the event will attract 600-700 people during the course of the day on September 25, 2001, at the Hudson Valley Resort in Kerhonkson, NY.
 - Additional funding was obtained which allowed for some additional advertising, such as billboards, radio advertisements, newspaper inserts, etc.

3. New Business

A. Hudson River Valley Greenway Project

- Legislator Magarelli, seconded by Legislator Provenzano, recommended we prepare a resolution to participate in the Hudson River Valley Greenway Project.
- A discussion was held regarding the recommendation. Chairman Cummings thought that it would be wiser to postpone this resolution until she had had an opportunity to circulate the materials regarding the Greenway to all the members of the Legislature. In addition, at the last committee meeting, Legislator Klein indicated that he would be consulting with the County Attorney regarding several concerns/questions that he had and it was felt that in view of his absence, that it was best to wait to hear the results of his inquiries.

There being no further business, Chairman Cummings adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

The next meeting of the Economic Development Committee has been rescheduled to Wednesday, October 24, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cummings
Chairman
Economic Development Committee

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