

MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 7, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Present: Supervisors Johnson, Groat, Chatfield, Robusto, Lasher and Eygnor, Fiscal Assistant Brian Sams, Tourism Director Christine Worth, Wayne County Cornell Cooperative Extension Representatives Maggie McHugh and Sandy Bastedo, Economic Development/Planning Department Director Brian Pincelli and Purchasing Agent Christopher O'Connor.

Minutes from the May 3rd Committee meeting were approved as written.

Tourism's monthly activities report was included with the agenda. The report listed meetings and events attended by Mrs. Worth. The ad for *Outdoor News* was finalized. Participants for this year's Apple Tasting Tour are being re-confirmed. The Office remains involved in discussions about the 2024 solar eclipse. Mrs. Worth is working with the County's Emergency Management Services Director and will be hosting another meeting regarding the eclipse, event opportunities and how the County is preparing for the large crowd. The Office continues to support Wayne County Bicentennial efforts. The County's Visitors Guide was distributed.

Senior Nutritionist and SNAP-Ed Project Director, Sandy Bastedo, updated the Committee on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Education (SNAP-Ed) Program. This free nutrition education and obesity prevention program serves low-income adults and youth with funding through the Food Nutrition Services branch of the United States Department of Agriculture. It focuses on individuals and families eligible for SNAP (formerly known as food stamps). Cooperative Extension delivers this community-based program to help individuals, families and communities make informed choices about food and lifestyles that support their physiological health, economic and social well-being.

Supervisors were updated on Extension's Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program. Ms. McHugh noted the interest from many other Extension Offices in mimicking the local program. The Program helps participants learn tips for eating healthy while saving time and money. The Program involves six nutrition workshops of 60 minutes each. Class participants receive vouchers to spend on fresh fruits and vegetables at local food retailers and farmer's markets once they complete the program. Eight farmers market in the County, Wegmans, TOPS and some other grocery outlets honor these vouchers. Mrs. Bastedo said the program assist in treatment of diet-related illnesses, including diabetes and hypertension and works with Medicaid, SNAP and WIC recipients. How individuals are referred to this program was reviewed. Classes are held throughout the County, with an effort to have the class located near a health care facility. Program funding through the State Department of Health will run out on June 30th. Extension is looking at other funding sources to keep the Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program operating, as food insecurity is at a high level in Wayne County.

PAGE 2

Lyndsey Ward, Regional Director for Small Business Development Center at Brockport, and Chloe Anderson, Wayne County Representative for the Program, addressed today's Committee. The Office of Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) promotes entrepreneurship, small business growth and the economy by providing critical funding, oversight and support needed by a network of SBDC. The program provides management assistance to current and prospective small business owners. There are SBDC throughout the State that share a network of services and available resources. SBDC services include, but are not limited to, assisting small businesses with financial, marketing, production, organization, technical problems and feasibility studies. They offer special small business programs and economic development activities, technical assistance, procurement assistance, venture capital formation and rural development. The SBDC makes special efforts to reach minority members of socially and economically disadvantaged groups, veterans, women and the disabled.

Ms. Ward said a fast track on how to Start Your Own Business seminar is scheduled, the event offers 20 hours of training and information over three days. Other seminars are forth coming, including one on cyber security. As the local representative for the SBDC, Ms. Anderson will work with the County's Economic Development/Planning Department.

Mr. Pincelli informed the Committee Regional Economic Development Agencies are accepting applications until the end of July for a verity of municipal projects, if anyone should need assistance with a grant application, please contact his Office.

The following transmittals were presented for the Economic Development/Planning Department:

--Authorization for the Chairman of the Board to sign a Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning grant application for \$100,000. The County's Industrial Development Agency will have to match funding if the grant is received. Mr. Pincelli said monies will be used to complete a Countywide Strategic Comprehensive Plan for communities to implement smart-growth strategies that reduce the impact on agricultural lands. Approved 5-0.

--Authorization to award Requests for Proposals for the former Butler Prison Site Market Study to MRB Group for a cost of \$67,000. This price includes develop of Request for Expression of Interest in Purchase of the property. Mr. Pincelli said \$30,000 of the cost will be paid for with State grant funds, the remaining amount will be paid for with Industrial Development Agency funds. Mr. Chatfield voiced concern that the proposal came in over the \$60,000 budget. Mr. Pincelli noted the items requested in the proposal were cut down so the cost would be reduced to this level. Approved 5-0.

Mr. Pincelli informed the Committee K2 Brothers Brewing are running out of space at their Empire Blvd. tasting room and brewery in Penfield and have purchased the former Freewill Elementary School in Walworth for a second brewery, restaurant and event center. The County's Economic Development/Planning Department assisted with this project.

PAGE 3

Other activities staff have been working on include:

- The study on locations for electric vehicle charging stations is complete. NYSERDA and other utilities have funding available to assist with purchase of the units. There is a need for charging stations in each municipality. Mr. Pincelli will share information regarding the study and potential funding sources with all Supervisors via e-mail by the end of the week.
- Mastercraft Decorators, a Perinton company, will be redeveloping the former Ames Plaza on Route 31 in Macedon. This company has worked with the Industrial Development Agency on tax abatement and PILOT packages. They plan to perform major renovations to the former plaza.
- Work continues on the Countywide Housing Study.
- The Farmworker Housing project is 90% complete, utilizing a \$1 million Community Development Block Grant, with funds spent on construction of new housing units for farmworkers. The Department continues to seek future grant opportunities.
- Work continues on the Countywide Solid Waste Management Plan. The State has a draft Plan that is currently under review. The State holds municipalities responsible for developing and implementing successful local solid waste management plans to ensure a long-term recyclable recovery program and reduce the amount of waste managed through disposal. Mr. Pincelli stated the importance for the County's local law on solid waste removal and plan to match. Mr. Groat questioned if there is a system in place at this time to know how many garbage trucks are collecting trash in the County. Mr. Pincelli said haulers register each truck with his Department; but stated difficulty with this process as currently administered. It was noted, any business that sells electronics is now responsible, under State law, to take them back for recycling at no cost to the consumer.
- The County's Ag. District will begin its 8-year review later this year. Properties can go into the District annually; however, can only come out of the District every eight years.
- Renewable energy projects throughout the County are being considered. If farmland in an Ag District is being converted for commercial use, including solar, the State Department of Ag. and Markets must be notified of any change involving farmland. The Industrial Development Agency is contemplating additional charges included in PILOT agreements for use of mineral soil groups 1-4 to protect farmland in other areas in the County.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting of the Economic Development/Planning Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 5th at 10:00 a.m.