

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING  
TOURISM/AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
October 8, 2019**

**ATTENDEES:**

**Legislators:** Dale Weston, Ed Hollenbeck, Mike Roberts, Dennis Mullen, Marte Sauerbrey

**Staff:** LeeAnn Tinney, Linda Sampson

**Guests:** Becca Maffei, Tourism Director

Legislator Weston called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

**MINUTES**

- Approval of minutes from September 3, 2019 – Legislator Weston asked for approval of minutes from the September 3, 2019 committee meeting. Legislator Mullen made a motion to accept the September 3, 2019 minutes, seconded by Legislator Hollenbeck. All were in favor.

**TIOGA COUNTY TOURISM: Becca Maffei** – Monthly Report previously emailed. Ms. Maffei reviewed her monthly report and announced that the I Love New York Budget for all of New York was cut by 10%, which means the Tourism advertising budget has been cut by about \$10,000.00.

Ms. Maffei brought up the following website: <https://fingerlakesfarmcountry.com>; stating this is a five county initiative. Ms. Maffei explained this was brought about by a grant that Steuben CCE wrote and is a partnership of Tourism and Cooperative Extension offices in the following counties: Steuben, Schuyler, Yates, Chemung and Tioga. The purpose is to have a more regional marketing tool. There are over 200 agri-tourism businesses listed; 12 from Tioga County. Tioga County Tourism office will be responsible for updating the site.

Ms. Maffei also distributed a report reviewing the Tourism 2020 Market Plan highlighting the following: Tioga Outdoor (promote outdoor activities), Collateral (printing brochures and maps), Passport/Prize Program (creating a series of challenges to win prizes, patches, pins), Digital Marketing, Evaluation (tracking data to establish annual benchmarks), Event Promotion, Internship (working with Owego Apalachin School), Staff Analysis (develop tasks for Intern, outline volunteer program).

Ms. Maffei reported the last two weeks in September 170 people came through the Visitor's Center; she will continue to track the numbers.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING:** LeeAnn Tinney – Agenda, attachments and highlights previously emailed. Following are the Director’s Highlights:

**Meetings Attended**

- Voigt & Schweitzer
- Southern Tier 8- Energy Infrastructure Study/Southern Tier 4<sup>th</sup> Wave joint meeting.
- Tioga Opportunities- Discuss housing opportunities.
- Small Business Development Corp.
- Regional Council Board meeting
- Chamber of Commerce
- The Agency
- Labella Open House – Visited their new space in Elmira, an Elmira DRI project.
- Larson Design Group
- Village of Waverly
- Town of Nichols
- Central NY Oil & Gas (Stagecoach) municipal meeting
- Regional Council Executive Committee luncheon
- Workforce Investment Board
- Stephen Donnelly Associates Open House
- K-20 Work Group- Broome Tioga Talent Workforce
- IDA
- LDC
- Southern Tier 4<sup>th</sup> Wave (future funding)
- STEAM 21 Steering Committee

**Department Highlights**

- Land Bank
  - 9 properties- Demolitions completed.
  - 2 properties- Rehab commencing.
  - 1 property- Was going to rehab, but decided to demo instead.
  - Vacant lot sales- Looking at the vacant lots created by demolition; Ms. Saraceno has had appraisals done and is beginning the sale process.
- 2020 Census Complete Count Committee- Outreach ongoing. Ms. Jardine attended the Waverly Fall Festival; well attended. Continue to get the word out how important it is to participate in the census.
- Village of Owego DRI- Soon to enter contract with the Housing Community Renewal for 17 of the 33 projects. Projects are managed by the following:
  - Housing Community Renewal- Contract with IDA, IDA will have contracts with individual project owners.
  - Department of State
  - Empire State Development

Ms. Tinney reported some work may begin by the end of the year.

- Community Development
  - Waverly Glen Park – Ms. Hendrickson is working on this project. A grant was awarded \$495,000 a couple years ago; work is beginning.

- Tioga County Foundations Coalition- Ms. Hendrickson is working on getting all Tioga County-based foundations working together. A listing of all the foundations are on the County website with links to each of the foundations; also working on a universal application on-line.
- Pending Housing Projects:
  - Innarella – 3 properties on North Avenue.
  - INHS- Ithaca Neighboring Housing Services; a possible project in the Village of Owego.
  - OACSD- Owego Apalachin Central School District partnering with Tioga Opportunities on a tiny house project. Students would construct the house at the school and move it to a lot; making these houses available to veterans.
  - Tioga Opportunities- Continuing to work on forming a 50C4 to support the housing initiative; another tool to bring housing to the County.
- REAP Strategic Planning- Providing assistance with the Strategic Plan process.
- Workforce
  - Broome Tioga Talent Task Force – Used to be Broome Talent Task Force, it is now “Broome Tioga”; a joint effort in workforce development.
  - K-20 Work Group- Addressing school issues; encouraging relationship building between the business community and schools.
  - Workforce Development Pipeline Strategy- Phase II is moving forward. Phase I was data gathering and analysis, Phase II is implementing issues identified in Phase I.
  - STEAM 21- OACSD- Steering Committee met to discuss how to engage the community in this program.
  - Work Based Learning in Waverly Central School District- Has a different approach to this program; however, finding ways to encourage relationships with the school, community and businesses.
- Ag
  - Tire Recycling Program- Ms. Griffiths is working with Ms. Pratt on this project; making an application for funding for disposal of tires for farmers; they face different issues than residents. Ms. Griffiths has put together a survey to send out to the farm community to get a sense of the number of tires for recycling.
  - Agribusiness Spotlights- Ms. Griffiths is highlighting Ag businesses around the County.
- Grants
  - REAP USDA Code Enforcement Officer Shared Services Feasibility Study – Assisting on this project.
  - Restore Gateway Project- Has been completed.
  - Housing Study Phase II- Has been completed; working on implementation.
  - NY Main Street Anchor Project- The Parkview; has been completed.

- 239 Reviews
  - County Case 2019-014: Town of Richford Subdivision Local Law update; Tioga County Planning Board recommended approval.
- 2019 Budget
  - Economic Development- Tracking
  - Planning- Tracking

**Resolutions** – The following resolutions were presented and approved:

J12 - Resolution in Support of Extension of 2007 PILOT Agreement Between CNYOG LLC NKA Stagecoach Gas Services LLC and TCIDA– Ms. Tinney explained the OACSD approached the IDA asking for support for extension of this PILOT for another year. The impact going off Roll Section 8 onto Roll Section 1 is detrimental to the school district. A meeting was held with the Town Supervisor, Town Attorney, Town Assessor, County Treasurer, OACSD Superintendent and Ms. Tinney were in attendance. The IDA said they would agree to the extension on two conditions: that all affected municipalities were in support; that the Town, County and school would have to pass a resolution in support and, that the school would continue to lobby with Albany to figure out a solution to this because we are not the only ones to face this situation.

J14 - Appoint Member (C DiStefano) to the Tioga Co LDC Board

J24 - Appoint REAP Board Member (A Hendrickson)

**ADJOURNMENT** – With no further topics of discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Sampson

Administrative Assistant to Economic Development & Planning