

Economic Development Committee Minutes
September 7, 2016 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Art Johnson; Supervisors John Collyer, Vince DeLucia, Edward Kinowski, Jack Lawler, Paul Lent, Tom Richardson, Jon Schopf, Tom Wood and Chairman of the Board Mo Wright; Spencer Hellwig, County Administrator; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer; Jason Kemper, Planning; Lauren Roberts, County Historian; Marty Vanags, Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. DeLucia the minutes of the August 3, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.

County Historian Lauren Roberts presented her “Hungry for History” series that will begin this month and includes local well known restaurants, The Wishing Well in Wilton on September 29, Cock ‘Bull in Galway on October 13 and The Charlton Tavern on October 27. The events will begin with a history happy hour from 5-6pm, presentation on the history of the restaurant at 6pm and dinner will be offered at a special reduced rate at 6:30pm. Reservations should be made directly with the restaurant. A souvenir pint glass will be given to people that attend all three events.

Jason Kemper provided an update of the Trails Committee. The committee met on August 10 to review the trails applications. He handed out a report and spread sheet on grant awards. A total of \$53,000 of grant funds are scheduled to be awarded with a total project cost of \$551,560.21 in five municipalities, Saratoga, Stillwater, Stillwater, Hadley, Halfmoon and Corinth. All communities that applied for funds were approved.

Marty Vanags gave an update on the Prosperity Partnership. The Partnership currently has 3 full time and 1 part time employees. They had two interns this summer. The SCPP is currently working with 32 active clients or projects of which 17 are local and 13 are attraction projects or clients.

Mr. Vanags attended the Logistics Development Forum in Chicago in August. This symposium matches economic development organizations with site consultants and industry experts.

The SCPP has invited a number of site consultants for a familiarization tour of Saratoga County in September. SCPP will be attending a number of conferences in the upcoming months.

SCPP has continued their initiative to meet with at least two companies per week to see what they are facing and plans for growth. Many companies have indicated the need for additional quality employees and they are working to develop a number of short and long term strategies.

SCPP are continuing to identify supply chain companies and are working with GLOBALFOUNDRIES, SUNY and others to continue work on developing the Next Wave Center.

Government Relations - SCPP are working with IDA under their new agreement with them to develop marketing and new presence on the web. They also recently attended a wrap-up meeting of Congressman Tonko’s 20-20 initiative.

SCPP are organizing a half day economic development summit for elected and appointed government officials on November 10th at the Saratoga City Center. The event will be free for elected officials.

Mr. Vanags handed out a promotional flyer; with the IDA agreement the SCPP policy is refund their portion of the IDA application fee back into the project.

Mr. Vanags also handed out a sample of their new e-newsletter. 8 @ 8 is a newsletter with eight articles on topics related to the economy in Saratoga County. This newsletter will be sent out twice a month. Mr. Vanags also stated that he has been to visit all the municipalities since he started but would like to re-visit all of the municipalities and attend their town board meetings.

A motion was made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Richardson to proclaim October 2016 as “Manufacturing Month” in Saratoga County. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Lent the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Legislative Clerk