

Economic Development Committee Minutes
October 5, 2016 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Art Johnson; Supervisors Vince DeLucia, Paul Lent, Tom Richardson, Jon Schopf, Tom Wood and Chairman of the Board Mo Wright; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Shelby Schneider, Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership; Pete Bardunias, Chamber of Southern Saratoga County; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Schopf the minutes of the September 7, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Bardunias distributed a report on 2016 activities to date and projects scheduled for 2017. 2016 projects include the Fireball Run in September, renovations to the XO Tower, Community Business Alliance and maintenance of Lock 19. Mr. Bardunias presented samples of the slides shown on the Exit 9 rest area TV. Supervisors are encouraged to send notice of any special events to Mr. Bardunias for promotion on the Exit 9 TV. The request for funding for 2017 is \$34,500. Plans for 2017 include continuation of past initiatives, Mechanicville Train Station rehabilitation, STEM related initiative with Ballston Spa Central School District and Waterford Canal and Towpath Society, an information display in the proposed Ballston Spa Walmart, and chronicle important milestone years with special anniversaries in 2017.

Shelby Schneider gave an update on the Prosperity Partnership. Mr. Vanags was recently awarded the designation of Certified Economic Developer by the International Economic Development Council. At this time Mr. Vanags is the only Certified Economic Developer in Saratoga County.

The SCPP is currently working with 32 active clients or projects of which 17 are local and 13 are attraction projects or clients. One project is a combination of the two. The SCPP recently brought the Developer MJ Properties to the Saratoga County IDA, they are working to build a 25,000 square foot building on Stone Break Road. A public hearing for that project will be held in the Town of Malta on October 31st.

SCPP will be attending a number of conferences in the upcoming months. Mr. Vanags recently took the lead in assisting Empire State Development and National Grid coordinating an I love NY dinner in Indianapolis at the International Asset Management Council conference.

SCPP has continued their initiative with the two Chambers to meet with at least two companies per week to see what they are facing and plans for growth. Many companies indicate 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 which is a long term project.

Government Relations - SCPP are working with IDA under their new agreement with them to develop marketing and new web presence. Ms. McClenning will be attending the next IDA meeting to roll out the new proposal and website.

SCPP are organizing a half day economic development summit for elected and appointed government officials on November 10th at the Saratoga City Center. Topics will include how to prepare your community for economic development, the state of federal and local programs to help communities with economic development and how a project comes together from start to finish. The event will be free for elected officials and a nominal fee for everyone else.

The SCPP are co-sponsoring Start-Up Saratoga event at the Saratoga Spring City Center on October 6, 2016 from 6-8pm. 500-600 young professionals are expected to attend.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Legislative Clerk