



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board
126 N. Salina St., 100 Clinton Sq., Suite 200, Syracuse, N.Y. 13202 • Tel. (315) 422-8276 • Fax 422-9051
Paul Vickery, Chairman David V. Bottar, Executive Director

AGENDA

February 2009 Meeting Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

Wednesday, February 18, 2009
Noon – 1:30 p.m.

CNY RPDB
Lower Level Conference Room
100 Clinton Square, Syracuse, New York

Chairwoman Kathleen Rapp, Presiding

1. Call to Order K. Rapp

2. Approval of Day's Agenda and Minutes from the December 17, 2008 Annual Meeting K. Rapp

3. Executive Director's Report D. Bottar
 - Membership Appointments
 - Meeting Schedule
 - Budget 2009

4. Work Program 2009 Staff
 - Economic Development
 - Environmental Management
 - Community Development
 - Energy
 - Transportation
 - Research and Communication

5. Old / New Business K. Rapp

6. Adjournment K. Rapp



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MINUTES

CNY Regional Planning and Development Board Board of Directors Meeting February 18, 2009

126 North Salina Street
Syracuse, New York

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Kathleen Rapp, David Turner, Elizabeth Moran, Paul Vickery, Morris Sorbello, Casey Jordan, Peter Tortorici, Larry Baker, Clarence Rycraft, Don Spaulding, Jim Murphy, Dan Schuster, Steve Lynch, Ann Petrus, Linda Murphy, Mary Ann Messinger, Stephen Zabriski, Shawn Doyle, Jack Miller, John Kruk

Guests: Congressman Dan Maffei, Jason Chiesa-Congressman Maffei's Office, Tracy Driscoll - Assemblyman Magnarelli's Office, Chuck Murphy-Senator DeFrancisco's Office, Tony Kolinski - ESD, Jennifer Haines-City of Auburn Planning, Greg Hichin-Onondaga County Economic Development, James D'Agostino-SMTC

Staff: David Bottar, Kathleen Bertuch, Michael Rosanio, Anne Saltman, Theresa Stephen, Karen Novak, Paul Thompson, David Kubek, Chris Carrick

BUSINESS MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Kathleen Rapp called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. at the office of the CNY Regional Planning & Development Board and stated that a quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA/ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The first order of business was a review of the day's agenda and minutes from the December 2008 annual meeting. Chairwoman Rapp noted that Congressman Dan Maffei would be joining the Board meeting this afternoon to offer a few comments concerning the federal stimulus package that was recently enacted by Congress. Chairwoman Rapp asked if Board members had any other

changes to the day's agenda and minutes from the December 2008 annual meeting. A motion was introduced and seconded to accept the agenda and minutes as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

3. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Bottar opened his remarks by introducing several new members that have been appointed to the CNY RPDB in 2009 including:

- Linda Murphy, Chair of the Cayuga County Legislative Planning Committee
- John Daniels, Chair of the Cortland County Legislature
- Casey Jordan, Chair of the Onondaga County Legislative Planning Committee

Mr. Bottar announced that Board member Terri Bridenbecker, who served as the Executive Director of the Auburn and Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce, died unexpectedly on January 9th at her home in Auburn. Mr. Bottar noted the very strong outpouring of sympathy from the community for Ms. Bridenbecker's family and went on to indicate that Terri's presence will be missed by everyone who knew her, including her colleagues with the CNY RPDB.

Mr. Bottar directed everyone's attention to a memorandum outlining the Board meeting schedule for 2009. As part of this review, it was noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for April 15th in Syracuse. Members also were informed that the organization's August meeting would be held in Oswego County at a location to be announced in the coming month.

Following a brief discussion of the meeting schedule, Mr. Bottar presented the agency's proposed operating budget for 2009. In discussing this information, Mr. Bottar noted the budget was presented to the Executive Committee for review at meetings held in November 2008 and January 2009 and the Executive Committee has unanimously recommended approval of the 2009 budget as presented.

Mr. Bottar noted that total revenues for the year are projected to equal \$2,047,358 and expenses will equal \$2,032,358. As part of the review of the proposed budget, it was noted that in 2008 the adopted budget totaled \$1,321,781 and the actual year-end revenues are expected to equal \$2.5 million. Staff noted the significant difference in revenue was based upon the unexpected progress that was made in 2008 on construction activities at Hancock Airpark. This work was funded by an EDA grant being passed through the CNY RPDB. Staff noted that this type of activity is not typically accounted for in the agency's budget. It was also noted that similar activities and the related pass through of EDA funds are expected in 2009. .

In discussing the budget further, Mr. Bottar noted the revenue and expense figures for 2009 include \$400,000 for construction activities at Hancock Airpark. Also noted was \$215,000 for consulting expenses associated with work being done on a community development plan for St. Joseph's Hospital. Staff also noted the strong financial support from member counties, which is expected to total \$185,224 in 2009. Also highlighted was the number of funding sources used by the agency to provide for its operating expenses, which will total more than 30 different sources in 2009.

Following further review, a motion was introduced and seconded to accept the budget as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Congressman Maffei was introduced and asked to provide some remarks regarding the recently enacted federal stimulus legislation.

Congressman Maffei initiated his remarks by thanking the members of the CNY RPDB for providing him an opportunity to come and speak before the Board. In discussing the federal legislation, the Congressman noted the primary goal of the legislation was to provide funds which could be invested in such a manner as to stimulate the economy and provide jobs for hard hit communities across the nation that are struggling from the significant downturn in the nation's economy. The Congressman noted the funds are being directed to a range of public infrastructure projects across the country and to state and local governments to help offset the costs of municipal services, education, and health care.

Following the Congressman's presentation, Board members and guests asked a number of questions and provided comments regarding a number of issues concerning the federal stimulus legislation. These questions included a request for information about the use of funds to support the development of nuclear power in Upstate New York. The Congressman was also asked to pursue the use of stimulus funds to support the development of biogas production in Central New York. In a related comment, it was recommended that Congress should advance legislation in House Bill 7097/Senate 306 that is designed to provide tax incentives for the development of biogas. Responding to another question, the Congressman noted that a significant amount of funding is slated to go to local school districts in Central New York. In concluding his remarks, Congressman Maffei expressed his interest in working closely with the CNY RPDB to ensure the effective use of federal stimulus funds in the region.

5. **CNY RPDB'S 2009 WORK PLAN**

Mr. Bottar referred members to a handout, dated February 18, 2009, which summarized the agency's proposed work plan for 2009 and noted that staff would provide additional information in the presentations that were to follow.

Community Development – Senior Planner Jeanie Gleisner was introduced and provided an overview of the Community Development Program. In discussing this program, Ms. Gleisner noted staff would be focusing their attention on the completion of comprehensive plans for a number of communities in CNY. These communities include joint efforts being undertaken by the Town of Richland and Village of Pulaski and the Town and Village of Sandy Creek. In addition, the agency will continue working with several communities in Cayuga County including the Towns of Locke, Niles, Scipio, and Victory. It was noted that staff efforts will also be directed to ongoing work with the Finger Lakes Land Trust concerning the Owasco Flats and Skaneateles Highlands conservation

planning and stakeholder survey projects. Staff also commented on work with the Village of Phoenix regarding the completion of an Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor project.

At the conclusion of her remarks, Shawn Doyle commented on the quality of work being done by the agency in Richland and Pulaski community. Mr. Bottar noted that the agency hopes to use the comprehensive planning work staff is doing in Pulaski as a template for similar projects across the region. Mr. Bottar also commented that in a recent issue of the Finger Lakes Land Trust's newsletter; that work the FLLT has done under contract with the CNY RPDB regarding the Owasco Flats area provided the basis for the FLLT to recently acquire a key parcel of land in the Village of Moravia. Staff indicated this land acquisition was being done as part of an ongoing land conservation effort in the county that is designed to protect and improve the water quality of Oswaco Lake.

Environmental Management - Program Manager, Kathleen Bertuch was introduced and provided a summary of the agency's environmental management program for 2009. In discussing the program, Ms. Bertuch noted staff would be focusing on several key projects including work that is being done under a contract with the US Army Corps of Engineers to assist the Onondaga Lake Partnership in their efforts to update the 1993 Onondaga Lake Plan of Action Plan. Staff noted the final report would build on the significant lake improvements already achieved, by identifying additional actions that need to be undertaken to complete the remediation of Onondaga Lake.

It was also noted that staff would continue to focus efforts on Oneida Lake and its watershed throughout 2009. In addition to organizing the annual Oneida Lake Information Symposium, staff will work to secure funding to implement projects that address erosion and non-point source control, infrastructure improvement, and agricultural best management practices across the watershed.

Encouraged by the recent completion of the Board's multi-year agricultural best management practice implementation project in the Lake Neatahwanta watershed, and documented water quality improvements in the lake itself, staff indicated they would continue to work with the Lake Neatahwanta Reclamation Committee, the City of Fulton and the Town of Granby, to address watershed and in-lake phosphorus and sediment issues that continue to threaten the very existence of this important local resource.

Also noted was work that will be directed toward a number of individual small lake and homeowner associations to establish a unified Onondaga and Cortland County Lake Coalition. Staff indicated this effort will focus on developing approaches for addressing common concerns such as the impact of excessive land development, erosion and sediment control, nutrient runoff, and aquatic weed growth.

Ms. Bertuch completed her presentation by highlighting the work that will continue to be done under the agency's Inter-Municipal Stormwater Management Assistance Program. It was noted that through this program, staff is working under contract with 29 municipalities in CNY to assist in the administration of a federally mandated stormwater program in their communities.

Economic Development – Program Manager Michael Rosanio was introduced and provided a summary of the agency's Economic Development work program for 2009. Mr. Rosanio noted the

program would continue to focus on several key elements including project development, business assistance and finance, regional marketing, and research and planning. Regarding project development work, staff noted efforts will be focused on several key projects including Hancock Airpark, the Finger Lakes East Business Park, Port of Oswego, Aurelius Business Park, the Madison County Ag-Energy Park, and the Clay Business Park.

Regarding business assistance, staff noted the agency would continue management of the Central New York Enterprise Development Fund. It was noted the CNY EDF has a sufficient capital base to be an active lending program in 2009. Mr. Rosanio also indicated the agency would continue to be involved in a range of regional marketing activities throughout the year that are designed to help county based economic development agencies recruit new companies to Central New York. It was noted that these activities would include the development of a regional site profile data base.

In the area of research and planning, staff noted efforts would continue to be directed toward the annual update of the CNY Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, which includes a list of key projects that are being recommended for funding consideration at the federal, state, and local level. In another significant planning activity, staff indicated they would continue their work with representatives from Madison County, who have requested the agency's assistance in the preparation of an economic development strategy for the county. It was also noted that staff would complete work with a consultant team in 2009 on a master plan for St. Joseph's Hospital and the Prospect Hill neighborhood in the City of Syracuse.

Energy – Senior Planner Chris Carrick was introduced and provided information regarding the Energy Program for 2009. In discussing the program, Mr. Carrick noted staff would be focusing on four major program areas including public education, training, planning, and project development. Staff noted this work would be done in conjunction with the agency's role as the NYSERDA designated "regional energy smart coordinator" for CNY. In the area of education and training, staff noted that emphasis would be placed on informing municipal officials and commercial contractors on the federal and state resources that are available to support energy conservation and renewable energy projects in CNY. In planning, it was noted that staff is looking to work with various energy task forces that have been established at the local and county level to prepare energy plans for their communities. Comments were also provided regarding work staff will be completing in 2009 on a regional district cooling study that is being spearheaded by SUNY ESF. Staff indicated this planning work could be used as the basis for developing a range of renewable energy projects in communities across Central New York. It was noted that these projects could include a regional biomass initiative, community wind farms, a biodigester program, a comprehensive energy conservation program for selected building contractors and owners in CNY, and a district cooling program.

Intergovernmental Cooperation and Coordination - Mr. Bottar concluded the staff presentations by noting that the agency will also be involved in a range of other program areas throughout the year as dictated by various public policy concerns and issues in the region. As part of this effort, it was noted that staff would continue to provide administrative services to the SMTC and will work with SMTC on key transportation planning projects in 2009, including the Interstate Route 81 corridor planning study. It was also noted, that staff would continue to participate on various committees and with organizations that have been formed at the federal, state, and local level to help develop policy and coordinate programs in CNY. Mr. Bottar also indicated that the agency would continue

to have bi-monthly board meetings that will feature a discussion of major public issues in Central New York.

Following a discussion of the information that was presented by staff, a motion was introduced and seconded to accept the CNY RPDB's Work Plan for 2009 as presented; the motion was approved unanimously.

6. **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

There was no old or new business.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, a motion was introduced and seconded to adjourn the meeting; the motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

David Elleman, Secretary