

Planning Committee Meeting January 12, 2023 at 1pm at the Del. Co. Hwy. Bldg.

Present: Jeff Taggart	Shelly Johnson-Bennett
Bill Layton	Tina Mole'
Jessica Ulmer	Jessica Ulmer
Jerry Vernold	Elisabeth DeFalco (the Reporter)
Jim Ellis	Sean Leddy
Richard Lowe, Hancock Partners	

Guest Richard Lowe from Hancock Partners spoke to the Committee about the idea of Point Mountain being acquired for the community and for tourism. The mountains cost is at \$1.2 million dollars. Different groups have been approached for possible funding for the purchase of the mountain. Jim Ellis voiced his concern about the condition of the trails that people would be walking. Richard explained that there are six entries to the mountain. There is an existing road to access the cell tower located at the top of the mountain. Shelly suggested a couple more possible funding agencies; the Waterman's Conservatory and the Open Space Institute in Walton. The Committee is supportive and Jim Ellis stressed the importance of emergency access to the mountain.

Executive Session 1:30 to 1:45.

Resolutions:

ST8, IRT memo of agreement. \$30,000 from ARC. Motion by Jim Ellis to enter MOU, seconded by Jerry Vernold. All in favor. Motion carried.

The committee approved the ag resolution to go forward.

Soil and Water resolution: Motion by Jeff Taggart to approve, seconded by Jerry Vernold. All in favor. Motion carried.

POF: Shelly will do a presentation of the IRT on January 25th. Jen Gregory will be there as well.

Project Updates: The mowing contract from 2022 has been extended through 2023 with CJ's Lawncare. Motion by Jim Ellis to approve the extension, seconded by Bill Layton. All in favor. Motion carried.

No issues with the Fleischmanns parking lot.

Snowmobile Grant first payments have been sent out.

Covid: Shelly updated the committee on the stats.

WSA: Grants Manager I has been approved by Personnel. We are waiting for applications.

CWT: Has been participating in negotiations. And working with Kevin on the new easement language.

Stakeholders: The next meeting is in February. The revised SAP Program will be discussed. Eric Goldstein agrees with the County regarding the Land Acquisition; however, he does not agree with the definition of compelling properties. He would like a tour. The FAD was approved. The County would like to reduce the Land Acqs to the compelling properties. The Dept of Health supports what we are asking in the FAD.

Climate Change: The Governor's State of the State address included things that is going to make affordable housing unbuildable. The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act was adopted. We have been looking for renewable energy parcels. County Code Enforcement does not seem possible.

UDRTC and FUDR: There has not been a meeting. Molly had Sean sign off on the boat launch.

CCE: Has a new executive director. We will send them and S&W the Committee meeting schedule. Motion by Jerry Vernold to approve the schedule, seconded by Bill Layton. All in favor. Motion carried.

S&W: We are waiting for the SMP designs to be approved. Graydon has been participating in negotiations. They are working on the contract. Shelly may go to meetings with Graydon and Beth.

AFPB: The solar farm proposed in Harpersfield the AFPB is not in favor of because it includes clear cutting forest.

IT: We are still having issues with our Surface Pros. Kent's in not working correctly. Josh has done an inventory of the equipment. There are issues with the hookups in the new building.

Hwy Management Plans: Two interns have been added to the budget and will be working on Meredith this summer. Jim Ellis voiced his concern about the existing driveways that water runs down and onto the roads. It was mentioned that the Highway Supers should be addressing this issue. Jim would like the interns to make a remark to the grade of the culverts for driveways when they are doing the inventory so that the issue can be addressed.

Drone: The new drone has been ordered. DPW would like us to do a flight in Lordville. Josh and James will do the flight. They may have to use Emergency Services drone. Shelly informed the Committee that the policy and procedure for flying the drone is almost complete. Shelly brought up the concern of the departments being in charge of their own drone and that maybe there needs to be Supervisor to oversee the departments. Jim Ellis volunteered to be that Supervisor. He will be the drone advisor/coordinator and will be the one to determine who has had the required trains and flying time needed to fly the County drones.

Del Opp: Spencer is searching parcels for potential affordable housing to address the homeless issues. They have been looking into small houses to build. Jim suggested that Shelly approach SUNY immediately to discuss things that they may be able to assist with. Jeff Taggart suggested that something like portable housing to move from town to town. IRT may need MOU as well.

CPB: RFP for Railroad assessment will be going out as well as an RFP for the County Comp Plan and for the Housing Study.

ST8: Tom Axtell no longer wants to represent Delaware County so there is a vacancy that needs to be filled. The meetings are from 11am to 12:30pm; there are five meetings a year. The meetings are in Binghamton or Oneonta. We also need a new Ec Dev /IDA representative. Jeff would like to try it for a year. Shelly will find out who will go for the IDA. The challenges for the Broadband Study are due tomorrow for map inaccuracies. We are not submitting any challenges for Delaware County. The ARC 2023 meetings will start in February through Zoom. Infrastructure improvement and diversity equity inclusion projects are wanted. Ec Dev received \$25,000 for Sheffield Estates. County Code Enforcement is still going to cost too much.

Tina asked Shelly about the local law adoption for unified building codes; she will send them to Shelly.

IRT: The midterm planning session is next. The incident command center will be at the New Hope Church. An entertainment/event list is being made. There will be a Distinguished Visitor's Day that will include the

Pentagon Staff, Governor, Lt. Governor, local leaders and Assemblymen. Tina mentioned that Joe Cetta would like to coordinate the bridge dedication. Veteran's will have a separate entrance.

FEMA: Closed.

CDBG: DPW is waiting for the Dept of Labor regarding asbestos reports. The plan for the storage for the historic pieces fell through. SHPO is going to grant us a waiver so we will not have to save the historic features. We will need to amend the PA. Shelly has been entering information into Elations for reimbursement. We need DPW's info to enter. GOSR would like to take three million dollars from the grant. The Committee supports Delaware County not agreeing to that amendment.

Transportation Study: Via was the consultant hired to do the Study. The Study is showing that it is affordable to have a transportation system in Delaware County. An online survey was done. Kent or Shelly have been attending the bi-weekly meetings.

Ec Dev: Sean is working on Sheffield Estates. We are also working on mapping for tourism.

DPW: The demo schedule is on hold because of the Dept of Labor and Historic Preservation.

LA: Sean is partnering with UHS on a walking trail. The Walton Water Street Project is ongoing. The Cadosia Boat Launch is done. There is no funding for the Junction Pool Boat Launch. Once the stones are set at the Poorhouse Cemetery Sean can work on a design and we will do a drone flight. The Hancock Dog Park will be expanding. The charging stations are in and being used. Sean is looking into what having a Parks Dept would entail. If the flood buyout parcels could be turned into parks it would take away the liability that they currently have. There are possible grants available for signage if they are designated parks.

TPAS: Shelly updated the Committee on all of the TPAS projects.

State Climate Change: Kent is working on Climate Smart Communities and there are new ranking standards so we may be eligible now.

Jeff would like a study done to see if the bed tax from Airbnbs are an issue across the County. Shelly mentioned that DOS does a training on Airbnbs. Economic Development has a list of the Airbnbs.

The meeting ended at 4:15pm.