

Delaware County Planning, Recreation and Culture Committee Meeting 9/17/24 at 1pm at 2 Bridge Street, Delhi NY

Present: Jerry Vernold Tina Mole'  
Jim Ellis Allen Hinkley  
Rebecca Walley Bill Layton  
Shelly Johnson-Bennett Elizabeth DeFalco, Reporter  
Ursula Hudak, Roxbury Arts Group

Motion by Jim Ellis to approve the August meeting minutes, seconded by Rebecca Walley. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ursula Hudak from the Roxbury Arts Group talked with the Committee about what the Arts Group can offer to communities. They are able to help fund events for example the Sausage and Brew Festival that was previously held. One of the ways to be eligible for funding is providing public music at an event. Jim Ellis mentioned that the Dairy Fest may be interested in applying for funding. Fundraisers are not eligible for funding. She also mentioned that they have a creative grant available for schools. The Committee is in support of having Ursula speak at the September 25<sup>th</sup> BOS meeting.

Motion by Jim Ellis to enter into executive session at 1:30pm, seconded by Allen Hinkley. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry Vernold to exit Executive Session at 1:53 pm, seconded by Allen Hinkley. All in favor. Motion carried.

Budget: Shelly has added money to the equipment account for a mini drone for practice(\$1,100), a screen beam(\$2,100), a computer for CAD for Parks Director, and two printers. The screen beam will be used in the EOC as well as trainings. Professional services was increased in the WSAs budget to pay the attorney regarding the negotiations. The grant manager position is still vacant and the Environmental Technician position is going to be vacant soon. Motion by Jim Ellis to approve pending the Personnel numbers, seconded by Allen Hinkley. All in favor. Motion carried.

Resolutions: Fleischmanns Freight House Project resolution. Motion by Jerry Vernold to approve, seconded by Jim Ellis. All in favor. Motion carried.

POF: Ursula from the Roxbury Arts Group will have privilege of the floor at the September 25<sup>th</sup> BOS meeting.

Personnel: Our Environmental Technician will be leaving. We only had one intern this summer and we would like them to come back during winter break to work. Motion by Jerry Vernold to approve, seconded by Bill Layton. All in favor. Motion carried.

PIO: We continue to monitor social media. \$50,000 will be available through the M-Ark Project for flood repairs from the 8/9/24 flood. Shelly will reach out to Peg. All of the communities need to be served.

Clean Path: We are working on the road use standards. We do not know what roads will be used yet. We are reviewing potential threats from the battery storage facility with EMS and the Fire Depts.

FEMA/CDBG Flood Buyouts: The County insurance will not pay for the damage from the fallen tree that fell on the neighboring property owner's garage. We will bid the mowing contract for next season. A County Parks Department would benefit the County by turning the buyout parcels into parks. This would decrease the County's liability on the properties. The plan for a Parks Department would start with a Parks Director and then an Open Space Plan would be done to inventory and prioritize the properties. The BOS would then appoint a Parks Commission. The parks would have walking trails, kayak launches, picnic tables, etc. We would contract with the Villages to take care of garbage removal and maintenance of the parks. We are waiting for the vendors to complete information for Elations. The Harry Hawley contract needs to be amended to include "do not exceed". We need more info from DPW.

The Snowmobile Grant was submitted September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The consultants continue to work on the Housing Study and the County Comp Plan. We are working with the consultants to organize and participate in public outreach events. The meeting in Hobart last night was not well attended. There is a meeting in Walton tonight. Shelly would like the students at the schools to take the surveys.

AED Compliance: Steve can apply for a grant once we get the inventory.

CFA: Sean is working on the OPRHP grant. We are waiting for the town to sign the contract.

SWIM: We need additional information.

WSA: Nick has been attending the WAC meetings; however, they always go into executive session. WAC has new staff including Connor. CWT meetings have been cancelled. Elections were held in August. The Community Sustainability Study Scope of work has been drafted in RFP form and CWT will be sending it out. CWC has provided a revised scope and RFP for review. The next Stakeholders meeting will be October 7<sup>th</sup>. We continue with the SAP negotiations. Nick, Tina and Shelly met with Shiloh on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at which time we were frank with her regarding our position on the LAP program, CSAP and the side agreement tasks. She was respectful and actively listened to our position.

Climate Change Initiative: The State is unable to meet the deadlines.

Wetlands: Nick talked about the Vernal Pools and how one tenth of an acre pool equals a 46-acre buffer.

ST8: We are reviewing the CLCP programs. Newmark and NYSEG continue their work regarding the new solar and battery tech development they are proposing in the region as part of the federal Tech Hub designation. We sent a letter of Support to ST8 to apply through the federal POWER grant program to develop a program to address broadband, cybersecurity and cell tower development in the region.

Sidney Culvert Project: DSHS sent an email to Shelly and they would like to continue to have the money go through Sidney and have us get reimbursed. Motion by Rebecca Walley to leave the State contract with the Village of Sidney and enter into an MOU between the Village and the County for reimbursement as we move forward with the project, seconded by Jerry Vernold. All in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting ended at 4:40pm.