

Town of Romulus Planning Board

July 1, 2013

Roll Call:

Tom Bouchard
Bill Karlsen
Cindy Meckley
Sue Ellen Balluff
Al Nivison
Mary Joslyn
Kate Sinicropi

Guests: Mike Coia

Larry Yehle
Jim & Donna Andersen
Jim Bromka
MaryAnn Kowalski
Michael Joslyn

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence. Approval of June minutes with corrections. Motion by Al Nivison and 2nd by Bill Karlsen. Motion approved unanimously.

Old Business

Tom – received an email from Mary at the Town Offices. Mr. Snedaker stopped in today. He wants to keep the process going. He will be dropping off paperwork soon.

Lake Front update

Tom – spoke with Superint. Bartlett and he has not heard anything back yet regarding a lease to the Town for the waterfront. He wanted Tom to contact him later on.

There is a grant opportunity through the Environmental Protection Fund. This is the same as the original funding we got in 2009. It is the same application for the implementation of local waterfront plan. The deadline is August 12th. It would provide matching grants. We tried to pursue before but could not as we did not have a lease. Tom will check if it is a 5 or 10 year lease with Superint. Bartlett. Discussion on application without a lease or not followed. Mr. Coia suggested applying with contingent upon the lease actually transpiring.

Farmland Protection Plan

Tom – reported that he has not heard from the student regarding FarmLand Protection Plan.

Burned Out House on 96A

Sue Ellen – What about the burned out building on 96A ? Can we do a letter if no response? Tom will do a letter.

New Business

Depot

Tom reported that he and Bill attended a meeting here with Congressman Reed. He was familiar with the issue of the Army leaving in January 2015. Tom emailed him the 2005 Donahue Report and the 2006 Crattie Report on the Depot.

Todd Horton and Tom met with Peter Brown, Co. Grantwriter and discussed the possibility of looking to hire an outside consultant to work for both towns on a plan for the Depot.

Peter Brown explained that there is an Empire State Development Grant to be offered. They provide up to 50% of the cost and 40% would be work in kind such as clerical, attorney etc. 10% would be split between the two towns. We would stand a better chance with the partnership. One town would be responsible for handling the money. Peter's view is that since Romulus has better development opportunity, Romulus would be the lead agency.

Peter J. Smith firm was contacted as they had worked on the Lakefront Project. They estimated a plan at \$30,000.

Bill spoke with Barbara Johnson of Stuart Brown Inc., the firm that did our Farmland Protection Plan and she indicated that they would be able to do it and would seek out grant funding. She estimated between \$50,000 - \$80,000.

Sue Ellen commented that these are just estimates as there is no scope of work as yet.

A comment from the audience was that the documents that are being discussed should be available to the public at the meeting, under the Freedom of Information law.

Tom reported that the Town of Varick passed a resolution of cooperation with the Town of Romulus, last month. The Town of Romulus did not do so at their last meeting. Discussion followed on resolution from Town at their next meeting and Empire State Development Grant.

Motion to pursue the Empire State Development by Al Nivison and seconded by Sue Ellen Balluff. Motion unanimously carried. Tom to contact Peter and Todd.

Seneca Bio Energy – Special Use Permit

Mr Coia provided a brief history of Seneca Bio Energy. In the process of developing a product, grape seed oil, we came up with the idea of self producing our own energy. We can do it by using dairy manure in a digester, an anaerobic digester. We can produce enough for us to generate our own power and to provide power to Five Points.

We have completed the Special Use Permit and given it to Mary at the Town offices. The question is since we already had a Special Use Permit for our Seneca Bio Energy is there any overlap? We have already started the SEQR. He explained that farmers locally are not able to grow larger due to the size of the lagoon for the manure. If farmers can get rid of the manure, they can grow larger.

Dave Kaiser clarified that he had spoke to Harriet Haynes at the County Planning and she said the Planning board could accept the proposal tonite and forward to the county Planning board for their review on the 11th.

Tom stated that the Planning Board needed to get the County's review first if something has to be modified.

There was discussion about needing a Special Use Permit or not and a SEQR. Tom stated he would check with Harriet and look at the zoning and get back to Mr. Coia. It is his opinion that Mr. Coia does need a Special Use Permit and a SEQR. The Planning Board could be the lead agency. If the permit was not needed, his money would be refunded.

Tom recognized Al for an award presented at the Lions Club and recognized Mary for a good article in the Finger Lakes Times paper the other day.

Tom – Lodi is scheduling a date for review of Comprehensive Plan July 9th 7:00pm at Lodi Town Hall.

Next meeting is Aug. 5th.

Sue Ellen Balluff made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Cindy Meckley. Approved unanimously. Adjourn at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Sinicropi
Secretary