

Planning & Development Committee
November 19, 2013
Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair Barry Ormsby, Legislators Robert Thomas, Philip Reed, Allen Drake, John Peck, Robert Ferris, Chairwoman Carolyn Fitzpatrick

Others Present: Legislators Michael Astafan, James Nabywaniec, Anthony Doldo, Deputy Administrator Michael Kaskan, County Attorney David Paulsen, Information Technology Director Gregory Hudson, Planning Director Don Canfield, Highway Superintendent James Lawrence, Airport Manager Grant Sussey, Watertown Daily Times Reporter Daniel Flatley, Secretary Torri Richmire

Chairman Ormsby called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and offered privilege of the floor. The minutes of the October meeting were approved without objection or correction.

Chairman Ormsby introduced Soil and Water Conservation District Executive Director Christine Watkins and Recreation Coordinator Patrick Crast who will present a trail update. Ms. Watkins thanked the County Legislature on behalf of the Soil and Water Board for assistance in getting through a very difficult year. She stated that they have completed a number of projects while short on staff and are currently bringing in \$230,000 in grants for the next few years to use toward stream bank work, farm implementation and trail work. She stated that financially they are ending the year on a favorable note and looking forward to next year.

Mr. Crast presented a powerpoint presentation reviewing projects that have been completed and those that are currently being worked on:

- Completed maps and restored 6 miles of trail at Washington Park and the Worth lot, those maps can be viewed on the Soil and Water Conservation website
- Created trailheads at the Worth, Rodman and Lorraine lots
- Restored 1.5 miles of multi use trails on the Winona lot which ties in with the NYSDEC recreation area
- Restored .7 miles of trail at the Worth lot
- Designed and built a covered bridge to accommodate large trail groomers
- Maintained Felts Mills and Washington Park day use area and issued a number of temporary camping permits
- Cleaned up and utilized over 1,000 downed trees on county forest property
- Constant cleanup and repair of all sites
- Applied for a \$40,000 grant to construct and restore two multi use trails on land in Adams and Rodman

He stated that one of his biggest accomplishments this year was to create a snowmobile trail connecting Oswego and Lewis counties keeping snowmobiles off an 8.25 mile stretch of road.

Chairman Ormsby thanked Ms. Watkins for her leadership and guiding the Soil and Water

Conservation District through a very difficult time. He also thanked Mr. Crast for all his hardwork and dedication to the position.

Chairman Ormsby introduced a resolution authorizing St. Lawrence County to administer the North Country Direct Homeownership Assistance Program and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Reed and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Ormsby introduced Grant Sussey, Airport Manager, to his first meeting stating that he brings a lot of experience to the position. Mr. Sussey stated that he is glad to be here and looks forward to working with everyone.

Chairman Ormsby recognized the great job that James Lawrence has done at the airport by presenting him with a certificate of appreciation.

Jay Matteson, Agriculture Coordinator, thanked Chairman Ormsby on behalf of the agriculture industry for the leadership that he has given through his role as county legislator. He stated that Mr. Ormsby's love and compassion for the industry is much appreciated and he will be missed as he steps down as Legislator.

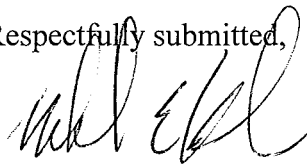
Chairman Ormsby reported that enplanements at the Watertown International Airport were up 29% in September and 19% in October resulting in American Airlines moving forward with a Sunday afternoon flight.

Legislator Nabywaniec thanked Chairman Ormsby for his hardwork over the years on wind power, the airport, agriculture and trails stating that he did a great job, showing good leadership and guidance and will be missed.

Legislator Ferris also thanked Chairman Ormsby for his help the last four years.

There being no further business, on a motion by Legislator Peck seconded by Legislator Ferris and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Kaskan
Deputy Clerk of the Board