

COMMISSION MEETING

May 21, 2008

CDRPC Conference Room

One Park Place, Suite 102

Albany, New York 12205

MINUTES

PRESENT: Willard Bruce, John Graziano, Mike Whalen, Stan Brownell, Jim Shaughnessy, Mike Stammel, Fred Acunto, Phil Barrett, Chris Callaghan, Robert Godlewski

ABSENT: Henry Dennis, Lucille McKnight, Judy Breselor, Leon Fiacco, Jason Kemper, John Murray, Gary Hughes, Barbara Mauro, Michael Petta, David Vincent

PRESIDING: John Graziano, President, called the meeting to order at 8:30am.

1. Welcome/Introduction of Guests

Jack Bonesteel from Rensselaer County Economic Development & Planning, Ray Melleady, Executive Director of the Capital District Transportation Authority and Bill Hooton from Capital District Trade Strategies were in attendance.

2. March 19, 2008 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were distributed before the meeting. No corrections were made.

Action Taken

Fred Acunto made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mike Whalen seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Financial Statement through April 30, 2008

The financial statement reflects activities through April 20, 2008. The revenues are at 33.9% and expenses are at 30.9%. There is approximately \$146,000 cash in the bank and outstanding receivables totaling just over \$101,000.

Dorfman-Robbie, PC has started the 2007 Audit and a report will be presented to the Board at the July meeting.

On the Statement of Financial Condition, the Due from Private Persons/Organizations of \$40,700 represents an outstanding balance of \$20,700 from the Center for Economic Growth and \$20,000 from the Onesquethaw/Coeymans Council (through NYS DOS) for a Watershed Study that CDRPC prepared on their behalf per a special contract.

Chris Callaghan inquired about the deferred revenue amount of (\$5,327.14). Rocky reported that it represents the Economic Development Administration. CDRPC receives an advance quarterly from EDA and they have not provided that money as of April 30th.

Action Taken

Mike Stammel made a motion to approve the Financial Statement, and Phil Barrett seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Foreign Trade Zone Proposed Expansion Application Amendment

At the March Commission meeting, the Board approved the submission of an Expansion Application for Foreign Trade Zone #121. The application included 42 sites in the greater Capital Region. At this time two additional sites have been proposed for inclusion. Vista Tech Park in Albany County and the former site of Albany International in Rensselaer County are the proposed sites to be included in the Expansion Application.

It is anticipated that CDRPC will submit the full expansion application to the Foreign Trade Zone Board by May 31, 2008.

Also, the Foreign Trade Zone Board has granted authority for Subzone status to Momentive Performance Materials (MPM) Silicones, LLC in Waterford, New York. All agreements have been signed between MPM and CDRPC as grantee, and the zone has been activated

Action Taken

Mike Stammel made a motion to amend the original application to include the two additional sites and Phil Barrett seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Presentation by Ray Melleady, Executive Director of the Capital District Transportation Authority

The Capital District Transportation Authority is undertaking the necessary measures to initiate a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service along the Route 5 corridor between Albany and Schenectady. Working in conjunction with the CDTC, CDRPC, and other partners, a preliminary investigation to identify 100 miles of BRT service routes in the Capital Region over the next 30 years is underway.

Ray Melleady, Executive Director of the Capital District Transportation Authority gave a presentation to the Board focusing on BRT as a viable cost effective option to the Capital Region.

Ray also informed the Board that the ridership has gone up 22% in the last year. There have been 250,000 more boardings in April of 2008 than April of 2007. Most of these people do have cars but cannot afford the gas prices.

Bill Bruce inquired about the ridership on the Northway Express buses. Ridership is up significantly on the Northway buses, which is causing problems with capacity. CDTA is re-examining that service to accommodate more people.

Fred Acunto inquired how CDTA advertises their fare and schedule information. That information is available on their website and by contacting the CDTA offices. The fares as of today are \$1.00 to board for inner city and \$3.00 for a day pass. There are also monthly pass cards available.

Robert Godlewski asked what routes have seen the largest increase in ridership. The Route 5 Corridor between Schenectady and Albany and Route 22 between Troy and Albany has had the most significant ridership growth in the last year. However, ridership in general has increased on all the routes. Ray added that 70% of the users are commuters to and from work.

6. Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan Update

CDRPC submitted the *Combined Sewer System Monitoring Plan* to NYS DEC for their review and approval in conformance with the contract requirements. After comments to the draft were received from DEC, CDRPC received approval for the plan on May 5, 2008.

Plans and staff training for sampling the Hudson River this summer are being finalized. There have been four dry samplings from the Hudson River so far. A dry sampling can be done when there has been 72 hours of dry weather. Sampling is expected to continue this month.

The first general public participation meeting was held on Monday, March 31 at HVCC. There was a very good turn out of both the general public and representatives from each community.

Rocky, along with staff and community representatives, have met with the Troy Record and the Times Union Editorial Boards to get the media outreach moving forward on this project.

Mike Stammel inquired where the next round of funding will come from. Rocky added that CDRPC has received funding from the Round 9 Water Quality Program and may be applying for Round 10 funding. However Round 10 funding is more focused on implementation than planning and the project is not at the implementation stage yet. We've also received a DOS grant. Rocky will keep the Board updated on all future funding that becomes available.

7. Staff Activity Report

There is a Planning & Zoning Workshop scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2008. The registration is full at this time with over 200 registrants.

There are many issues regarding affordable housing and workforce housing. Rocky has been involved at both the local and state level in terms of looking at these issues. There has been a lot of activity among different organizations in each of the four counties.

The 2010 Census Program has had excellent response for the first phase. The LUCA Program has had 80% participation in this region. There was an additional 17,000 units in the four counties that were not identified by the address file initially prepared by the Census Bureau. That information has been provided to the Census Bureau to make those changes. The next phase of the project is public relations. CDRPC will likely be signing a contract with Empire State Development effective July 1 through March 2009.

8. Other Business

There was no other business at this time.

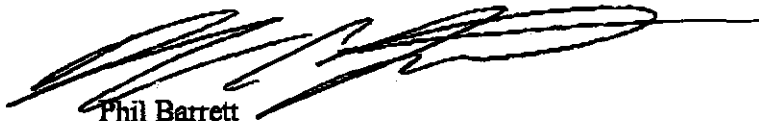
9. Next Meeting Date

The next Commission meeting will be held July 16, 2008 at 8:30am.

Adjournment

Chris Callaghan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Stammel seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Phil Barrett
Secretary