

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
October 22, 2012

PRESENT:

Richard Keaveney, Chairman
Robin Andrews
Arthur Baer
Art Bassin
Jeff Braley
Ellen Thurston
Sarah Sterling
John Porreca
Ronald Knott
Richard Scalera

ABSENT:

Michael Benson, notified
Matt Murell, notified
William Hughes, Jr., notified
Elizabeth Young, notified

ALSO PRESENT:

Becky Vinchiarello, Dep. Clerk
Ronald Caponera
Kenneth Flood
Chuck Brooks
Steve Berlin
3 representatives-
from ASA Networks

PRESS: 1

Chairman Keaveney called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM

Agriculture:

Cornell Cooperative Extension – Introduction of Chuck Brooks, Executive Director
C. Brooks shared his personal information and experience with the Committee. He explained why he was interested in this position and what his future goals are with Cornell. He looks forward to working with the Board.

Economic Development:

A presentation was given by Steve Berlin of ASA Tech and three other representatives on the Whitespace Broadband Project in Gallatin. The group explained their mission and gave some background on TV WISPACE. Challenges were discussed. Diagrams of ASA networks were provided.

Presentation of New Economic Development Website:

K. Flood presented the website to the committee. They have modernized everything. This will serve as a compliance website as well. www.columbiaedc.com

Columbia Economic Development Corp Outreach Survey:

The Economic Development Department is working with the Chamber of Commerce on putting together a survey. K. Flood thinks it is a great informal way to get ideas of what issues may be troubling local business in the community.

E. Thurston requested that K. Flood provide the information he receives on grants in newsletters. She explained that even basic information would be helpful.

CEO Roundtable Event November 15, 2012 5 – 7 PM at Catamount Resort

The development company will be presenting an unveiling of plans. All Supervisors will receive an invitation in the near future.

Project Updates:

Loves (Travel Plaza) will be having their first public meeting of the Planning Board.

Greenport Crossings – There is another meeting this Thursday with all parties involved. They had to order new catch basins and there is now a question of timing.

Columbia County Airport Development Update:

A follow up meeting with CNS took place. They plan to discuss a piece of land that can be developed near the airport. FAA may be changing the rules so that hangers may be eligible for FAA funds. K. Flood would like to take a look at having an audit completed.

Other Business:

A handout was given on the Impact of Tourism in the County.

There was a meeting on the Agriculture and Farmland protection plan this past week. They plan to have this project completed sometime around March.

With no further business there was a motion to adjourn at 6:31 PM by A. Baer, seconded by R. Keaveney, motion carried.

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