

**Economic Development & Energy Committee Meeting
Held In Room #318
Putnam County Office Building
Members: Chairwoman Scuccimarra & Legislators LoBue and Gross**

Monday

6:30 PM

May 13, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chairwoman Scuccimarra. Chairwoman Scuccimarra led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators LoBue, Gross and Chairwoman Scuccimarra were present.

Item #3) Approval of Minutes - March 2, 2013

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to accept the additional. Seconded by Legislator LoBue. All in favor.

Item #4) Post/Update from May 5, 2013/International Cycling Event/Chairwoman Scuccimarra

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that this was an international event and there were almost 400 bikers in attendance. She stated that some of the bikers were from Italy, Belgium, and Canada. She further stated that 50% of the bikers were from the West Coast and that there was a 39 mile and 79 mile route for these bikers. She stated that the cost for this event was roughly \$120,000.00 of which Director of Tourism Libby Pataki raised herself through private funds as well as sponsors. She stated that Director Pataki will be in attendance for the next Economic Development Meeting with a report which will give the Committee all the information regarding the Cycling Event. She stated that the event was truly fantastic. She noted that Bill Nulk, President of the Putnam County Chambers of Commerce, had suggested that some changes be made regarding the efficiency of the Trolley in order to be more convenient for the riders.

Item #5) Planning For the Future/Energize Putnam/Discussion/Legislator LoBue

Legislator LoBue stated that she wanted to bring back the Energy Committee that we had. She stated that she would like to work together with the County Executive's Office to achieve this goal. She further stated that she is now working with a company that can analyze the Energy Audit that we had commissioned.

Legislator Nacerino asked how many people Legislator LoBue felt it would take to get the committee up and running. She also asked who would sit on this committee.

Legislator LoBue stated she is not sure at this time but, that this would all be worked out shortly.

Ann Fanizzi, Resident of Putnam County, shared the proposal that she had made to the Town of Southeast. She further stated that at this time the Town of Southeast is currently revising and amending their Comprehensive Plan. She stated that they are going to retain the portion of the Proposal for Energy Efficiency for the Town of Southeast and place it on the goals in the Comprehensive Plan currently under revision. She further stated that savings can be achieved by simply insulating one's home and using efficient light bulbs. She stated that Westchester has already begun and each one of their towns have their own plan regarding energizing.

Legislator LoBue stated that the Putnam County Jail is like a miniature city and runs 24/7. She stated that the electric just for the Jail in 2009 was \$400,000.00. She stated that the County can likely reduce that cost by 50%, which is a cost savings for the next 15 years. She stated that this can be achieved through a retrofit.

Legislator Albano stated he went to Carmel Window and saw the new LED lights replacing fluorescent lights, and all that needs to be done is to replace the ballast, which makes it a simple retrofit. He stated that would be a tremendous savings.

Legislator LoBue stated that the best part about this is that there are no out-of-pocket expenses. She stated that we already have the information from our Energy Audit including all of the buildings involved and the company will be able to analyze this and let us know what has to be done and what the cost will be. She further stated that it is like an annuity as there are companies that invest in this energy efficiency and you can buy into that as a municipality. She asked the Committee to move this item in-concept and then she and Legislative Council Van Ross will go over the old Resolution.

Legislator Oliverio stated he believed it was not a Committee, but a Commission as we did not want to create another bureaucratic branch.

Legislator LoBue stated she has no problem with that. She stated that what we had done prior is fine with her.

Legislator LoBue made a motion to move this item in concept. Seconded by Legislator Succimarra. All in favor.

(After meeting Legislator LoBue stated that this discussion would go back to Committee as Putnam County Energy Consortium. No resolution was done at this time.)

Item #6) Approval/2013 Memorialization/2013 NYSAC Resolution #3

Legislator LoBue made a motion to accept the additional. Seconded by Chairwoman Succimarra. All in favor.

Legislator LoBue stated that the Committee has received a letter from Bill Nulk, President of the Putnam Chambers of Commerce, stating that the Chambers are opposed to this resolution.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated this item will be tabled until the next Economic Development Meeting to be held in June.

Item #7) Town of Southeast Fireworks/Discussion

Legislator Castellano stated that the Town of Southeast has always had these fireworks as far back as he can remember. He stated that for this year the Town chose a new location for the fireworks which is over by The Home Depot. He stated that this is a great place to display fireworks, that there will be plenty of parking, and it will be good for the businesses that are in that area, as well.

Item #8) 2013 Initiative/The Business Community As A Community Development Leader/Discussion/Bill Nulk

Bill Nulk, President of the Putnam Chambers of Commerce, stated that the Expo that was just held at Putnam Hospital Center, led by the Greater Mahopac-Carmel Chamber of Commerce, was a great success. He stated that this was truly a countywide event and they look forward to doing it again. He stated that the previous weekend's event was the Pedal into Spring Cycling Classic, which was also able to bring people together from all over the County. He stated that the International Cycling Event was a great success, as well.

President Nulk further stated that he would like to work with Commissioner of Planning Anthony Ruggiero and the new President of the Economic Development Corporation, Meghan Taylor, to use the resources of Putnam County and work with cautious optimism. Last year, he stated, they had introduced a cluster study which was presented to the Town and Town Zoning Boards. He further stated that they were able to come together from all six towns and actually introduce themselves to each other and find out there are people just like them on the other side of the County. He stated one of the items that was spoken about was what they can do in Putnam County to make what we have available to us be more productive. He further stated that the industries they found that were most immediately available are Arts and Culture and Recreation, which are areas that we already have people engaged in. He further discussed the cluster study. He stated that they will be meeting with the business community to go over the concept of clustering and concentrate on the Arts and Culture and Recreation. He went on to state that at this time they do not want to be overly aggressive. He stated that they want to pick one good project in each town and get that up and going and hope they will be able to build from that. He stated that they will be doing this through marketing and attracting the identified clusters within the industry. They want to be sure that they use their local Chambers as well. He stated that he will report back to the Committee on this topic.

County Executive MaryEllen Odell stated that after the Ribbon Cutting for the Expo at Putnam Hospital Center, the foot traffic was really steady. She stated that this was a very diverse representation and that she cannot say enough about the volunteers, as well. She stated that the only complaint was regarding food vendors, as the lines were very long to get food.

Item #9) Foreclosure Report/FYI was duly noted.

Item #10) Unemployment Report/FYI was duly noted.

Item #11) Other Business: NONE

There being no further business, at 7:00 P.M., Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Legislator LoBue. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Claire E. Muller, Administrative Assistant.