

TUG HILL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

Watertown, New York

December 12, 2016

Chairman Bogdanowicz opened the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Opened

Commission members included Mdm. Cheresnoski and Messrs. Boxberger, Bogdanowicz, Maciejko, Yerdon and Talgo. Staff included Mrs. Malinowski, Mrs. Decker, CTHC Circuit Rider Angie Kimball, CTHC Associate Circuit Rider Beth Steria, NorCOG/SRCG Paul Baxter, Jennifer Harvill, Jean Waterbury, and Emily Sheridan.

Attendance

On a motion made by Commissioner Maciejko and seconded by Commissioner Yerdon members approved the agenda as presented.

Agenda Approved

On a motion made by Commissioner Maciejko and seconded by Commissioner Cheresnoski, members approved the minutes of October 17, 2016.

Minutes Approved

Chairman's report followed.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Bogdanowicz stated the annual meeting November 10 at Tailwater Lodge had good attendance and was a good venue. He felt Ken Lynch's presentation and Mrs. Malinowski's overview of the commission accomplishments for 2016 was well received. He relayed that Commissioner Boxberger and Commissioner Vigus are still dealing with health issues. He was happy Commissioner Boxberger was able to attend today's meeting. He asked that all please sign the card we have to send Commissioner Vigus and keep him in your thoughts.

Welcome

At the last commission meeting Commissioners Boxberger, Cheresnoski and Talgo were assigned as nominating committee to present candidates for the 2017-18 positions of chair, vice chair and secretary. Chairman Bogdanowicz asked the committee for their input. Commissioner Cheresnoski stated that those currently in the positions are doing a fine job and agreed to serve another term.

At the October meeting the following nominations for election of officers presented by the nomination committee were:

Chair – Jan Bogdanowicz

Vice Chair – Mike Yerdon

Secretary – Tom Boxberger

Commissioner Bogdanowicz asked for any discussion. There being no discussion he called for nominations from the floor – once, twice, three times. There being no additional nominations from the floor he asked the secretary to cast a ballot. On a motion made by Commissioner Maciejko and seconded by Commissioner Yerdon, members approved the nominations for officers as presented.

In your packets is a draft of the 2017 commission meeting calendar. Commissioner Bogdanowicz asked Mrs. Malinowski to go over the calendar with members and a discussion took place on the following items:

- Dates/times
- Potential Super COG in October

- Do another annual meeting in November?
- Staff/commission retreat in July or August TBD, perhaps Osceola to see the library renovations, play some disc golf, take a hike

On a motion made by Commission Yerdon and seconded by Commissioner Boxberger members approved the 2017 commission meeting calendar draft.

Executive Director’s report followed.

Executive Director’s Report

Mrs. Malinowski reported that the 2017-18 budget request submitted to DOB on November 1, 2016 included – Annual Strategic plan, Annual Performance plan and Lean Process Improvement plan, which are in your packet.

Administration

Mrs. Malinowski and Mrs. Kimball provided a presentation at the Rockefeller Institute of Government on November 16. Both felt it went well.

Mrs. Malinowski asked members for approval to adopt a Records Policy for the commission office to have a records management policy. Mrs. Waterbury is the designated management officer.

On a motion made by Commissioner Cheresnoski and seconded by Commissioner Boxberger member approved to adopt the Records Management Policy.

There has been some position changes in Albany - Mark Pattison now Deputy Secretary; Tony Giardina to Athletic Commission; Joe Rabito new contact on second floor; Brendan Fitzgerald to Executive Deputy Secretary of State.

Mrs. Amyot will be retiring in July 2017. Mrs. Amyot and Mrs. Street attended last month’s RACOG meeting in regard her replacement. They would like to start the search in January 2017. In your packets is a draft for your approval on the Municipal Management Consultant Search and the Municipal Management Consultant Agreement between the Tug Hill Commission and RACOG.

On a motion made by Commission Yerdon and seconded by Commission Boxberger members approved the Municipal Management Consultant search and agreement.

Minimum maintenance roads legislation will be reintroduced next session per Assemblywoman Gunther and Senator Griffo. We will continue to share information and try to engage stakeholders.

Low Volume Roads

ANCA received a grant for energy circuit riders and will use the commission as a model. Mr. Baxter provided a training session for them. They will be hitting the ground next month. We have a conference call scheduled for tomorrow with them.

ANCA

The Garrison Commander or his designee are confirmed for the short keynote at the LGC, at the beginning of the day.

Fort Drum

The missile defense preferred site decision has been delayed until January.

We are still in discussion with FDRHPO to collaborate on the Diabetes and Obesity grant.

The PSC training in November at JCC was well received. Paul Agresta from PSC did a great job. There is a link and video on our website. The Public Scoping Statement for Number Three was submitted for review. The information is available on the PSC website. Additionally, Mrs. Malinowski has been in contact with Linda Garrett from the THTLT and attended a Renewables Round Table discussion. Several people were in attendance. Another meeting will be held in January or February.

Wind

The transfer of property from National Grid/NiMo to DEC is almost complete. Mrs. Malinowski was contacted by DEC and provided a quote. This would be the biggest transfer of property in Region 7 in NYS in years.

Salmon River

Mrs. Waterbury – She thanked members for her promotion to Associate Director of Community and Regional Projects. She now supervises four staff members. She looks forward to taking on her new responsibilities.

Staff Report

The 2017 LGC registration is available online at Eventbrite for those able to pay electronically. Mrs. Passino did the online setup for us. For those using vouchers or checks there is a link on our website for printable registration forms that can be mailed in. Mrs. Decker will input those. The LGC registration and session information mailing will go out a month earlier than in the past. In your packets is the LGC mailer. The fees will be \$50 and \$100, we have omitted the \$75. Mrs. Waterbury reviewed the session details with members. The LGC process is all a collaboration of the LGC committee.

Mrs. Harvill – Completed a wind paper in September that is available on our website. We are trying to incorporate Article 10 information that we have learned about at a training. We have also learned about the 41 exhibits in each application, and are updating the map of proposed wind farms on Tug Hill. She will continue working on this into next year. Number Three is scheduled for the first pre-application hearing in January.

Black River Watershed conference planning is underway. It will be held in June in Old Forge. The 7th Annual Black River Trash Bash had 57 participants. We are also working on the annual Black River Initiative newsletter with Emily Sheridan.

Mrs. Harvill also continues to work on Lyons Fall Brownfield Opportunity Area – we are working on zoning to help them reach their goals. The entire village of Lyons Falls is included in the project, and Mr. Street is involved regarding zoning. A meeting is planned in two weeks.

Mrs. Kimball – Several towns and villages are involved with the wind turbines. The towns of Lorraine and Worth are at a stall for shared justice court services. The town of Lewis has a new town office building.

COG Reports

Mr. Baxter - The CNY Raceway project is currently stalled. Super dirt week was held in Oswego in October instead of the new CNY Raceway. Several boards are struggling for ZBA's. Towns may be working together to be more efficient. ZBA training by Mr. Street might be helpful.

Mrs. Malinowski added that CFA's were announced last week and that the town of Annsville water systems improvements was funded and the town of Wilna Crown Cleaners Park planning was funded.

Also, the contract with Norah Machia was finalized.

In your packets is the current 2016-2017 finance report. Not much changed. Some of the non-personal services lines are slightly below. Everything is on track.

Finance Report

Chairman Bogdanowicz opened the floor for public comment.

Public Comment

Commissioner Cheresnoski shared that the water system in the town of Lorraine is improving and they have put a tank in.

Emily Sheridan, Watershed Coordinator provided a NYS Great Lakes Action Agenda handout and shared some of the projects she is involved with including water quality and natural resources. She is also working on a curriculum for environmental literacy, including an educator's workshop. A website may be in the works. She is also working with Jennifer Harvill on the Black River Initiative newsletter.

There being no further business before the board, on a motion made by Commissioner Yerdon and seconded by Commissioner Maciejko members adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Boxberger
Secretary