

**SENECA COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

MEETING MINUTES

January 7, 2009
2:00 P.M.
Heroes Conference Room
Seneca County Building, 2nd Floor
Waterloo, New York

Attendance:

Members Present: Lee Patchen, President; Bruce Johnson; and Thomas Kime

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Patricia Jones, Deputy Director; Robert Aronson, Executive Director; Monica Novack, Office Manager; Kelly Kline, Receptionist/Office Assistant; Russ Gaenzle, Harris Beach

Others Attending: Peter Brown, Grant Specialist, Planning and Community Development; David Shaw, Finger Lakes Times, John Cancalosi, Wildlife Photographer; Dennis Money, Seneca White Deer; Barbara Wells, Seneca White Deer; Carol Richardson, Seneca White Deer; Tammi McIlwain, Seneca White Deer; Zip McIlwain, Seneca White Deer and Bobbi Clifford, Romulus, NY

Call to Order:

President Lee Patchen called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. A quorum of the Corporation's members was present.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2008:

The minutes of the Corporation's regular meeting of September 8, 2008 had been sent to Corporation members prior to the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Tom Kime. Seconded by Bruce Johnson. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Statements through November 2008:

The Financial Statements through November 2008 had been forwarded to Corporation members prior to the meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kime approving the financial statements. Seconded by Bruce Johnson. Motion carried.

Approval of EDC 2009 Budget:

The EDC 2009 budget had been forwarded to Corporation members prior to the meeting. Pat Jones advised the Corporation that the majority of the budget is State Grants. Included under sources is \$3,000 for rent/lease income (airfield Licenses and depot escort). \$3,000 is included for insurance and \$100 for miscellaneous. After discussion, a motion was made by Bruce Johnson to accept the EDC 2009 Budget. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

Resolutions Required for Audit:

- Approval of EDC Resolution No. 2009-01 / Designating Five Star Bank and Seneca Falls Savings Bank as the institutions to be used for EDC banking purposes during the year 2009. A motion was made by Bruce Johnson approving EDC Resolution No. 2009-01. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

- Approval of EDC Resolution No. 2009-02 / Designation of Persons Authorized to Sign Corporation Checks – authorizing Kenneth Lee Patchen, Jr., Chairman; Bruce Johnson, Vice-Chairman; Thomas Kime, Secretary; Patricia Jones, Deputy Director and CFO and Robert Aronson, Executive Director and CEO to sign checks issued by the Seneca County Economic Development Corporation during year 2009. A motion was made by Bruce Johnson approving EDC Resolution No. 2009-02. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried. Chairman Patchen requested staff to make a change to the EDC By-laws requiring two signatures on checks \$1,000 and above, with one of the signatures being a Board member.

- Approval of EDC Resolution No. 2009-03 / Designating Agency Counsel as Franklin & Gabriel and Transaction Counsel as Harris Beach for 2009. A motion was made by Bruce Johnson approving EDC Resolution No. 2009-03. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

- Approval of EDC Resolution No. 2009-04 / Designating the audit firm of Raymond F. Wager, CPA to be utilized as the EDC audit firm for the year 2009. A motion was made by Bruce Johnson approving EDC Resolution No. 2008-04. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

Status of Main Street Program / Approval of Grant Extension:

Peter Brown updated the Corporation on the status of the main street program. In 2007, 15 projects were selected to receive grants. Of those fifteen, five have been started, two are now completed and eight are to begin in the spring of 2009. Peter then advised the board that the deadline for these improvements is April 30, 2009. He would like a 6 month extension, which would bring the new deadline to October 31, 2009. In order for the extension to be approved by the state it must first be approved by the Seneca County Economic Development Corporation. After discussion, a motion was made by Bruce Johnson to approve the six month extension for the State Main Street Grant Program. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

Approval for SCCA/BMW Club to Utilize Airfield in 2009:

Pat Jones advised the Corporation that the Sports Car Club of America and BMW Club have utilized the Depot Airfield for the past four years to host their events. They normally hold approximately nine to 12 events per year. They have again requested use of the Airfield for their 2009 events. Pat then advised the Corporation that in 2008 they charged them \$175 per day for use of the Airfield. Pat recommends approval and to keep the charge at \$175 per day for 2009. After discussion, a motion was made by Bruce Johnson approving a license agreement for the SCCA and BMW Club to use the Depot Airfield in 2009 at a rate of \$175. per day. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

Approval for Local Law Enforcement Agreement to Utilize Depot Airfield in 2009:

Pat Jones advised the Corporation that for the past several years, the SCIDA and the SCEDC have allowed Local Law Enforcement Agencies, such as State Police, DOCs, FLEE, to utilize the Depot Airfield for training on an "as needed" basis. After discussion, a motion was made by Bruce Johnson approving the Local Law Enforcement Agencies to use the Depot Airfield in 2009. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

Approval for Onondaga County Public Safety Academy to Utilize Depot Airfield

Pat Jones advised the Corporation that a request was received from Seneca County Under sheriff Gary Sullivan to allow the Onondaga County Public Safety Police Academy to utilize the Depot runway for driver training in 2009. Pat then advised the Corporation that Seneca County needs to send three law enforcement supervisors to Onondaga County for mandated training at a registration cost to Seneca County of \$2,925. Onondaga County is willing to waive the registration fee if they are able to utilize the Depot runway for the driver portion of the training. After discussion, a motion was made by Tom Kime approving a license agreement for Onondaga County Public Safety Academy to Utilize Depot Airfield in 2009. Seconded by Bruce Johnson. Motion carried.

Approval for Ithaca Police Department to Utilize Depot Airfield:

Pat Jones advised the Corporation that a request was received from the Ithaca Police Department to utilize the Depot Airfield runway for law enforcement oriented training. Pat then advised the Corporation that the SCEDC policy in the past has been to charge \$175. per day to non-local Law Enforcement Agencies. After discussion, a motion was made by Bruce Johnson approving a license agreement for the Ithaca Police Department to Utilize the Depot Airfield at a rate of \$175 per day, based on availability. Seconded by Tom Kime. Motion carried.

Wildlife Watching Enterprise, Inc.

Bob Aronson advised that Peter Mueller was unable to attend the meeting. The proposal as presented is far from being a complete business plan, and more information should be provided before consideration by the Board.

John Cancalosi, Wildlife Photographer Ithaca:

John Cancalosi, a wildlife photographer from Ithaca made a presentation to the Corporation to gain use of the Depot in order to do a photo shoot. He stated that he has had his photography published in such widely known magazines as National Geographic. He also stated that he would allow the Corporation access to his photos. He would like to set up something long term so that he may shoot throughout the seasons. Bruce Johnson stated that he is unclear as far as how much time Mr. Cancalosi would need to take the wildlife photos and that he would need a more detailed proposal pertaining to restrictions and liability insurance. Tom Kime also requested additional information on Mr. Cancalosi's credentials. The Chairman advised Mr. Cancalosi that the Corporation would look into it further and that Robert Aronson would get back to him.

Seneca White Deer Tourism:

Dennis Money of Seneca White Deer presented the Corporation with a proposal to offer an expanded series of tours of the Depot during the spring of 2009. Mr. Money stated that Seneca White Deer previously offered bus tours in 2006 at the Depot and that they had a turnout of 1,800 people with 500 being turned away. He would like to conduct the tours on five - three day weekends starting April 3, 2009 thru May 3, 2009. The tours would be conducted on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. He would like to add bicycle tours, horseback riding tours and also offer a viewing of an empty ammunition igloo. He stated that the Finger Lakes Technology group, which leases the former "Q" area are agreeable to allowing the visit. Mr. Money then stated that the EDC could share in some of the revenue. Mr. Money would also like permission to use the parking lot located off the Route 96 main entrance as a location for the buses and concession stands. As far as insurance liability, Mr. Money would ask that the \$5 million insurance coverage the group had to provide in 2006 be reduced to \$1 or \$2 million. Tom Kime questioned whether or not horseback and bicycle tours could be conducted due to liability and being able to maintain control. Pat Jones stated that the parking lot off Route 96 is leased to the

Seneca Depot LLC and that Mr. Money would need to coordinate with their President, Mike Pulumbo. Tom Kime and Lee Patchen stated that the proposal is doable but they just need to set up ground rules and come up with a business plan. The Corporation agreed to table the proposal until they get a more detailed one.

Other Business: None at this time.

Consideration of Executive Session:

President Patchen requested a motion to enter into Executive Session for discussion on the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property, where publicity could substantially affect the value thereof. A motion was made by Bruce Johnson at 2:55 p.m. to enter into Executive Session. Seconded by Thomas Kime. Motion carried. A motion was made by at Thomas Kime at 4:32 p.m. to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Bruce Johnson. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bruce Johnson and seconded by Thomas Kime. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert J. Aronson
Executive Director

xc: Shawn Griffin, Harris Beach
Russell Gaenzle, Harris Beach
Kevin Overton, Harris Beach
Roberta Jordans, Harris Beach