

## MINUTES

Approved 5/8/08

### PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

APRIL 10, 2008 3:00 P.M. SCOTT HEYMAN CONFERENCE ROOM

Present: M. Robertson, Chair; F. Proto; C. Chock; M. Sigler; P. Mackesey  
Staff: E. Marx, Commissioner of Planning and Public Works; C. Covert, Clerk of the Legislature; D. Teeter, Cooperative Extension; M. Roth, Cooperative Extension; J. Kippola, Contracts Coordinator; F. de Aragon, Metropolitan Planning Organization; J. Jurkovich, Deputy Commissioner of Planning; L. Schill, Planning Department; C. Kammen, Advisory Board on Tourism Board; F. Bonn, Convention and Visitor's Bureau; R. Johnston, Water Resources Council

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

#### Changes to the Agenda

Mr. Proto asked if time allowed a discussion on hydrogen fuel could be held. [There was not enough time at the end of the meeting to have this discussion.]

#### Approval of Minutes

It was MOVED by Mr. Proto, seconded by Ms. Mackesey, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve the minutes of the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting as submitted.

#### Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board

##### Resolution – Agricultural District No. 2

It was MOVED by Mr. Proto, seconded by Mr. Sigler, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval. Ms. Teeter distributed a letter of support from the Town of Ulysses Supervisor, Doug Austic, clarifying the Town's position. At this time, an overview of the process for reviewing Agricultural Districts was provided.

Mr. Sigler asked if he should consider abstaining as he believes the company he works for has a billboard in the area. Mr. Marx stated that being in the agricultural district does not prohibit any other uses from occurring. It was felt that there was not a conflict of interest and that Mr. Sigler could vote.

Ms. Robertson said the parcels in the Towns of Ithaca and Danby were not controversial at the Planning Advisory Board meeting. However, there were some issues discussed concerning certain parcels in the Town of Ulysses. Mr. Marx said the concern he expressed is in the area where most of the changes are occurring near Jacksonville. His concern is the potential for conflict between agriculture and non-agriculture use. Several of the parcels being recommended for removal surround a large agricultural area.

Ms. Mackesey believes that it is the right of a property owner to request to have their property removed from an Agricultural District.

Ms. Roth spoke briefly about a Land Link program being offered and said there have been a number of inquires.

Ms. Robertson said one of the goals of the Agricultural District law is to keep farmland and parcels contiguous to each other and not isolate parcels. Ms. Teeter commented that the area in the Town of Ulysses is in transition and believes in another eight years there will be more parcels removed.

Following further discussion, a voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 1 (Robertson).  
RESOLUTION CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. - TO APPROVE CONTINUATION AND REVISIONS TO  
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 2**

WHEREAS, under New York State Agricultural District Law, it is required that agricultural districts be renewed every eight years allowing landowners to apply to become a part of or to exempt all or part of their lands from the district, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has established agricultural districts in support of State policy in an effort to preserve, protect, and encourage the development and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food and other agricultural products, and

WHEREAS, the County Legislature is the lead agency that must approve the formation of and changes in agricultural districts, and

WHEREAS, the County, as required by law, conducted a public hearing for this review and approval on March 18, 2008 and no one spoke at the public hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee has reviewed the recommendations regarding revised agricultural district boundaries from the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board and the Planning Advisory Board, and

WHEREAS, a list of parcels indicates those recommended for addition total 152 acres and for deletion 531 acres, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That the newly revised boundaries of Agricultural District No. 2 be approved and that the District be continued.

**SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20**

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**Water Resources Council**

Annual Report

Ms. Johnston provided a brief overview of the Water Resources Council's annual report and highlighted the following areas:

- Aquifer Committee looking at other counties on how they address well locations.
- Paddling and rowing group coordinated with local businesses to clean-up the shoreline along the inlet. More speed limit signs (5 mph) will be installed around the Cayuga Inlet area.
- Dredging project with the City is still in its infancy, but a committee has begun working on it.
- Wetlands Committee presented an extensive report on how Federal regulations are effecting protection of or lack thereof of wetlands.
- Monitoring Committee presented their marketing plan. This will be discussed at the next meeting of the Water Resources Committee. Copies of the plan are available upon request.

Resolution – Amending Membership

It was MOVED by Ms. Chock, seconded by Ms. Robertson, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval. Ms. Johnston commented that the economic development seat has been difficult to fill and the Council recommends changing it to a planner seat. Ms. Mackesey said she does not object to removing the economic development seat, but does not believe another planner on the Council is necessary. She suggested maybe an at-large or environmental seat. Further discussion

followed and Ms. Jurkovich said the Water Resources Council discussed having either a planner seat or an environmental seat.

A voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes – 3 (Chock, Proto, and Robertson); Noes – 2 (Mackesey and Sigler). RESOLUTION CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION NO. – AMENDING MEMBERSHIP OF THE WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Water Resources Council (WRC) was established by Resolution 181 of 1997, and the membership of the WRC was restructured by Resolution 57 of 2000 which created nineteen voting members, including an Economic Development seat, and

WHEREAS, the Membership of the WRC was expanded by two At-Large voting seat by Resolution 211 of 2000, and terms were changed from two years to three years by Resolution 49 of 2001, and

WHEREAS, the WRC conducts an annual membership campaign and occasional special campaigns, and has had no applicants for the Economic Development seat since it was vacated in December of 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Nominating/Membership Committee of the WRC recommended that the seat be changed, and the WRC voted at its meeting on March 17, 2008 to change the seat from Economic Development to Planning, to be filled with a person with expertise in planning, either by virtue of training or on-the-job experience, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development & Environmental Quality Committee, that the Economic Development seat of WRC is changed to Planning.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II - 20

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Appointments

It was MOVED by Mr. Proto, seconded by Ms. Chock, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following appointments to the full Legislature for approval:

Water Resources Council

Rick Manning as the Business and Industry representative; term expires December 31, 2008  
Patrick Barry as the Natural Resources Conservation Service representative; term expires December 31, 2009

**Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council**

Resolution – Director’s Salary

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Sigler, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval:

**RESOLUTION NO. – AFFIRMING ITHACA-TOMPKINS COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL (ITCTC) RECOMMENDATION TO INCREASE THE ITCTC STAFF DIRECTOR'S SALARY**

WHEREAS, Tompkins County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council (ITCTC) on September 30, 1992, agreeing that “.....staff will be hosted by Tompkins County as an administrative rather than a reporting arrangement..... staff is selected by the Council [with] staffing plan, staff qualifications and salary schedule established by the Council”, and

WHEREAS, Board Resolution No. 99 of 1993, “Clarification of Employment Status – Position of Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council Planning Director” stated the following: “...the position of

Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council Planning Director shall be entitled to the terms and conditions of employment established by this [County] Board for management employees unless otherwise recommended by the Council and established by this [County] Board of Representatives”, and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2000, the Director’s salary was modified by ITCTC Resolution No. 00-1 above the management salary range with the stipulation that the Host Agency, Tompkins County, execute the necessary administrative procedures to implement this modification, and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2002, the Tompkins County Board of Representatives passed Resolution No. 6 Affirming Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council (ITCTC) recommendation to establish the ITCTC Planning Director's salary above the salary range, and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2008, the ITCTC passed Resolution 08-1 to adjust the salary of the Staff Director, retroactive to January 1, 2008, based on the Tompkins County proposed 2008 adjustments for management employees of three percent, and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the County’s requirement that salaries established above the salary range be authorized exclusively by resolution, and to establish or affirm recommendations made by ITCTC that are contrary to the terms and conditions of employment for management staff, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee, That the Tompkins County Board affirm the three percent increase of the salary for the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council Planning Director to a total of \$75,912, as approved by the Ithaca-Tompkins County Transportation Council.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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Incorporating Global Warming Concerns into Long-Range Plans

Mr. de Aragon reported on a conference he recently attended where congestion and air quality issues were discussed. The main topic was how to incorporate congestion and air quality which effect global warming into long-range planning. There will be a focus on the work the Council does and how it relates to global warming. Many of the issues and areas discussed already exist in the County’s long-range plan. Mr. de Aragon will be proposing in the County’s long-range plan that some of the Federal money be used and directed towards sidewalks, trails, etc.

**Strategic Tourism Planning Board**

Resolutions

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Ms. Chock, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval. In response to Mr. Proto’s question, Ms. Armstrong said the \$15,000 grant is for master planning work at Stewart Park and planning an ongoing maintenance program for the whole waterfront trail. Ms. Mackesey spoke of the importance to improve Stewart Park as it is a tourist attraction and she considers it a county park that is used by everyone. Ms. Chock agreed and said it is highly used by visitors.

Mr. Proto said he would like to separate the grants into two resolutions and MOVED to separate the motion, seconded by Mr. Sigler. A voice vote to separate the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 3 (Proto, Sigler, and Robertson); Noes – 2 (Chock and Mackesey). MOTION TO SEPARATE CARRIED.

Mr. Proto expressed concern with the process and said he would support the grant money being used to rehabilitate Stewart Park, but does not agree with paying a consultant to do a study. Ms. Armstrong said the grant money will be used for a feasibility study to coordinate 5-6 projects at various stages. Ms. Mackesey reiterated her comments about the importance of assisting in any way with making improvements to the park and believes it is a well justified project.

Cayuga Nature Center

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A voice vote on the Cayuga Nature Center \$13,000 grant resulted as follows: Ayes – 5; Noes – 0.  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

**RESOLUTION NO. - AWARD OF TOURISM CAPITAL GRANTS**

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Tourism Program includes Tourism Capital grants and Tompkins County Area Development (TCAD) administers the Tourism Capital Grants process, which includes designing the application process, reviewing and analyzing the feasibility and economic impact of tourism projects, and providing oversight for tourism projects, and

WHEREAS, funding exists within the Room Tax Occupancy budget for Tourism Capital Grants, and

WHEREAS, TCAD reviewed the following project with the Strategic Tourism Planning Board (STPB), and the STPB anticipates that the following project will encourage the development of tourism products and attractions in order to improve community assets, to increase the tourism business in the County, and to increase the income from the Room Occupancy tax, and the following grant award has been reviewed and recommended by the STPB, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee, That the County Administrator or his designee is authorized to sign all documents related to this project:

Entity	Project	
Cayuga Nature Center	Feasibility Study- Detail Design for Facility	\$13,500

**SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20**

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Cayuga Waterfront Trail Initiative

A voice vote on the Cayuga Waterfront Trail Initiative \$15,000 grant resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 1 (Proto). **MOTION CARRIED.**

**RESOLUTION NO. - AWARD OF TOURISM CAPITAL GRANTS**

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Tourism Program includes Tourism Capital grants and Tompkins County Area Development (TCAD) administers the Tourism Capital Grants process, which includes designing the application process, reviewing and analyzing the feasibility and economic impact of tourism projects, and providing oversight for tourism projects, and

WHEREAS, funding exists within the Room Tax Occupancy budget for Tourism Capital Grants, and

WHEREAS, TCAD reviewed the following project with the Strategic Tourism Planning Board (STPB), and the STPB anticipates that the following project will encourage the development of tourism products and attractions in order to improve community assets, to increase the tourism business in the County, and to increase the income from the Room Occupancy tax, and the following grant award has been reviewed and recommended by the STPB, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee, That the County Administrator or his designee is authorized to sign all documents related to this project:

Entity	Project	
Cayuga Waterfront Trail Initiative	Feasibility Study- Stewart Park Rehabilitation Action Plan	\$15,000

**SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20**

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It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Proto, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval. Ms. Chock requested that when appropriate that Legislators be given a list of events and dates as listed in the resolutions awarding grants.

**RESOLUTION NO. - FUNDING OF COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS GRANTS**

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has a grant program for community celebrations using funds drawn entirely from Room Occupancy Tax, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has requested and reviewed grant applications for recommendation to the Tompkins County Legislature through the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee with the advice of the Strategic Tourism Planning Board, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That the following grants are approved:

City of Ithaca	2008 Rock the Arts Festival	\$1,200
Town of Groton	2008 Happenin' in the Hamlet	1,200
Town of Lansing	2008 Early History of Bicycling	500
Town of Newfield	2008 Schoolhouse Reunion	1,000
Town of Lansing	2008 Lansing Fishing Derby	433
Town of Lansing	2008 Myers Park Concert Series	1,000
City of Ithaca	2008 Summertime Block Party	1,500
Town of Danby	Recognizing Danby's Rural Cemeteries	578
Town of Lansing	2008 Farm City Day	2,000
Village of Groton	2008 Groton Olde Home Days	1,500
Village of Trumansburg	2008 Mainstreetscape Celebration	1,900
Town of Newfield	2008 Newfield Old Home Days	1,500
Town of Ithaca	2008 Tutelo Homecoming Festival	2,000
City of Ithaca	2008 Latino Heritage Month	2,000
Town of Enfield	2008 Enfield Harvest Festival	1,640
Village of Trumansburg	2008 Trumansburg Winter Festival	1,900
Village of Groton	2009 Groton Winterfest	750
City of Ithaca	2009 Lunar New Year Festival	1,500
City of Ithaca	Rededication of Memorials-Dewitt Park	<u>1,000</u>
		\$25,101

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or designee shall be authorized to sign any documents related to the aforementioned projects.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Ms. Chock, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval:

**RESOLUTION NO. - FUNDING OF TOURISM PROJECT GRANTS**

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has a grant program for Tourism Projects using funds drawn entirely from Room Occupancy Tax, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has requested and reviewed grant applications for recommendation to the Tompkins County Legislature through the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee with the advice of the Strategic Tourism Planning Board, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That the following grants are approved:

Tap Legacy Foundation, Inc.	2009 Finger Lakes Tap Dance Festival	\$6,000
Social Venture	2009 Finger Lakes International Dragon Boat Festival	10,000
Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival	2008 Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival	15,000
Social Venture	National Dance Week-Ithaca 2008	1,000
Cornell Cooperative Extension	Ithaca/Tompkins County Restaurant Week	5,000
Downtown Ithaca BID	Downtown Ithaca Holiday Festival	10,000
PRI- Museum of the Earth	Hatching the Past: Dinosaur Eggs & Babies	8,000
Cayuga Wine Trail	September Harvest Wine Fest	10,000
Cayuga Wine Trail	2008 Grapehound Wine Tour	2,000
Cayuga Nature Center	Cayuga Nature Center Improvements	<u>13,000</u>
		\$80,000

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or designee shall be authorized to sign any documents related to the aforementioned projects.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Ms. Chock, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval:

**RESOLUTION NO. - FUNDING OF NEW TOURISM INITIATIVE GRANTS**

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has a grant program for New Tourism Initiatives using funds drawn entirely from Room Occupancy Tax, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has requested and reviewed grant applications for recommendation to the Tompkins County Legislature through the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee with the advice of the Strategic Tourism Planning Board, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That the following grants are approved:

NYS Brewers Association	2008 Ithaca Brew Fest	\$15,000
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RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or designee shall be authorized to sign any documents related to the aforementioned projects.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Sigler, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval:

**RESOLUTION NO. - FUNDING OF TOURISM MARKETING AND ADVERTISING GRANTS**

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has a grant program for Tourism Marketing and Advertising using funds drawn entirely from Room Occupancy Tax, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County has requested and reviewed grant applications for recommendation to the Tompkins County Legislature through the Planning, Development and

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Environmental Quality Committee with the advice of the Strategic Tourism Planning Board, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That the following grants are approved:

Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival	2008 Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival	\$3,250
Tap Legacy Foundation	2009 Finger Lakes Tap Dance Festival	\$2,000
Town of Ulysses	Trumansburg Select.com	\$1,000
Historic Ithaca- State Theatre	Ithaca Theatre Collective	\$3,000
Ithaca Triathlon Club	2009 Cayuga Lake Triathlon	\$4,000
Ecovillage at Ithaca, Inc.	Podcar City Sustainable Transportation Conference	\$2,000
Ithaca Festival	Ithaca Festival Program Insert	\$2,500
PRI- Museum of the Earth	Hatching the Past: Dinosaur Eggs & Babies	\$4,500
Ithaca Downtown BID	Ithaca Downtown BID Web Site & Campaign	\$4,250
NYS Brewers Association	2008 Ithaca Brew Fest	\$4,000
Cayuga Wine Trail	2008 September Harvest Wine Fest	\$4,000
Cayuga Wine Trail	2008 Grapehound Wine Tour	<u>\$3,250</u>
		\$36,054

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or designee shall be authorized to sign any documents related to the aforementioned projects.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

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Tourism Partner Award

Ms. Kippola reminded the Committee of the purpose of this award and said it recognizes people who bring a large number of visitors to the area. This year Paige Morgan of Ithaca is being nominated to receive this award. In June 2007 Ithaca College hosted the 36<sup>th</sup> annual International Double Reed Society conference and brought in approximately 1,100 visitors to Tompkins County. The Strategic Tourism Planning Board is dedicating to buy a stone on the waterfront trail recognizing this individual.

Ms. Robertson requested a resolution be prepared for the Committee to consider at their next meeting.

Tourism Program Grants and Contracts Approval

Ms. Kippola presented the following proposal for the Committee to consider and approve at their next meeting:

- All single year contracts and grants less than \$30,000 may be awarded by the Strategic Tourism Planning Board (STPB) and County Administration;
- Any contracts and grants from the Program's Tourism Capital line item must have both program committee and Legislature approval;
- Any contracts and grants from the Program exceeding \$30,000 will be approved by the program committee and Legislature; and
- County Administration will provide written quarterly updates to the Legislature on all Tourism Program activities, including grants awards.

Discussion followed, Mr. Proto requested any additional background information that provides the pros and cons for changing the policy to award tourism grants.

Mr. Stein commented that the STPB does not have a concern with this and that the only advantage will be to move the grant funds to the community sooner. Mr. Bonn noted that there is a two-layer review process by STPB and a staff person review prior to a grant proposal being presented to

committee for consideration. Ms. Chock reiterated her comments that she would like to continue to receive written and oral reports.

**Planning Department**

Indicators of Success Update

Ms. Schill distributed and briefly reviewed the Winter 2007 Indicators of Success document. This is the second report and most of the data in the report was collected in 2007. The report is done annually and highlights progress being made in meeting the goals set in the County's Comprehensive Plan. Following discussion, Committee members were encouraged to contact staff with any questions. Ms. Robertson also suggested that another discussion could be held at a future meeting.

Resolutions – Hanson Property in the Lick Brook Corridor

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Sigler, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval:

**RESOLUTION NO. - MAKING A NEGATIVE DETERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE IN RELATION TO RESOLUTION NO. OF 2008**

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. of 2008 the County allocates funding from the Capital Reserve Fund for Natural, Scenic, and Recreational Resource Protection to the Finger Lakes Land Trust for the purchase of a portion of the Hanson property (Town of Danby tax parcel 1.-1-3) as part of the Lick Brook Corridor Initiative, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Legislature has reviewed and accepted as adequate an Environmental Assessment Form with respect to the action, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee, That Resolution No. of 2008 is an unlisted action,

RESOLVED, further, That the Legislature hereby makes a negative determination of environmental significance in regard to Resolution No. of 2008.

**SEQR ACTION:** Short EAF on file with the Clerk of the Legislature

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It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Ms. Chock, to approve and submit the following resolution to the full Legislature for approval. Mr. Marx said this area is at the edge of the gorge of the Natural Features Focus Area as identified in the Comprehensive Plan. In the Conservation Plan, this particular parcel is among the identified parcels that are priority section areas. Mr. Marx said this is the second request for this initiative and does not believe additional funds being recommended.

Committee members reviewed the maps distributed highlighting the parcel and a request made to better define the area being considered. Mr. Marx agreed to contact Andrew Zepp, Executive Director of the Finger Lakes Land Trust, to change the map presented that better outlines the parcel and the waterfalls and how much money is in the reserve fund.

**RESOLUTION NO. - APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR NATURAL, SCENIC, AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCE PROTECTION FOR A PORTION OF THE HANSON PROPERTY IN THE LICK BROOK CORRIDOR INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Legislature established the Capital Reserve Fund for Natural, Scenic, and Recreational Resource Protection by Resolution No. 217 of 2005, and

WHEREAS, the current balance in the Capital Reserve Fund is \$56,323, and  
WHEREAS, the purpose of the Capital Reserve Fund is to support participation by Tompkins County in partnerships with other levels of government and private organizations to:

- protect and preserve the natural, scenic, and recreational resources found in the Agricultural Resource Focus Areas and Natural Features Focus Areas identified in the Comprehensive Plan;
- preserve and develop recreational trail corridors that cross municipal borders; and
- develop outdoor recreation facilities, within the focus areas, that are intended to serve all county residents, and

WHEREAS, the Interim Program Guidelines for use of the Capital Reserve Fund calls for proposed projects to substantially further at least one of the following objectives:

- Protect a stream buffer at least 330 feet in width.
- Provide public access to the Cayuga Lake shore.
- Protect land that is adjacent to permanently protected open space.
- Preserve land on an existing or potential intermunicipal trail corridor, and

WHEREAS, the Finger Lakes Land Trust has requested financial support from the Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of protecting a portion of the Hanson property (tax parcel 1.-1-3) in the Lick Brook Corridor Initiative and providing public access to the tract, and

WHEREAS, the Finger Lakes Land Trust has agreed to purchase the Hanson property for \$40,620, which is fair market value, and

WHEREAS, the Hanson property

- is identified as a Priority Protection Area in the Tompkins County Conservation Plan (Part 1, 2007);
- is adjacent to, and protects scenic views from the Finger Lakes Trail;
- borders protected land;
- protects a portion of the buffer along Lick Brook; and
- provides wildlife habitat and enhances outdoor recreation opportunities in close proximity to Ithaca, and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Planning and Public Works and the Planning Advisory Board have recommended that the County Legislature authorize funding of the Hanson property acquisition from the Capital Reserve Fund, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee and the Budget and Capital Committee, That a total of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) in funding from the Capital Reserve Fund for Natural, Scenic, and Recreational Resource Protection be appropriated for the purpose of securing the Hanson property in collaboration with the Finger Lakes Land Trust and others, and of providing public access to the tract,

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or his designee be authorized to execute any contracts or agreements related to this project.

**SEQR ACTION:** Unlisted

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Appointment

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Proto, and unanimously adopted by voice vote, to approve and submit the following appointment to the full Legislature for approval:

Planning Advisory Board

Scott Whitham as the Cultural/Historic Preservation representative; term expires December 31, 2010

Peter Penniman as the Business representative; term expires December 31, 2009

Commissioner's Report

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Mr. Marx reported the Route 96 Corridor is moving forward and a public meeting will be held April 23 at PRI at 6:30 p.m. He reported on a housing meeting held last week and said discussions continue to move forward on several housing strategies adopted by the County and others. Next month, he hopes to have a proposal for the Committee to consider that advances two of the strategies (housing affordability fund and housing trust) and a process for doing that this year. This effort involves Cornell to coordinate with their commitment to provide \$10 million. The proposal will include an authorization for the County to participate and a notice of funding availability (how the funds will be offered publicly). Both the City of Ithaca and Cornell University will be looking at this and he hopes this will be in place when Cornell commits by July.

Ms. Chock believes as much information as possible be available and provided to the Legislature prior to a decision being made.

Mr. Marx reported on a meeting he had with former Legislature Chair Tim Joseph in his new role as State Park Director concerning the State's open space plan which is coming up for its periodic review. The plan has included as a priority for many years to protect undeveloped finger lakes shorelines. Although there has been no action or progress by the State, Mr. Joseph seems very open to the idea of working with the County. They discussed both the Cayuga and Seneca lakes being part of the State's canal system which calls for a water trail component and may propose pursuing this as an area to address.

Finally, Mr. Marx reported on Cornell's other initiative, \$10 million for transportation. It has progressed quite well and a draft list is now available for discussion. More detailed reports will be provided at ITCTC and Facilities and Infrastructure Committee meetings.

**Committee Goals**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.