

AGRICULTURE, PLANNING, TOURISM & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – MAY 23, 2016

AGRICULTURE, PLANNING, TOURISM & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT: Fedler, Idleman, Haff, Armstrong, Skellie

AGRICULTURE, PLANNING, TOURISM & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ABSENT: Shay, Moore

SUPERVISORS: Henke, Hicks, Gang, Shaw, Hogan, LaPointe

Debra Prehoda, Clerk of the Board

Al Nolette, Treasurer

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Chris DeBolt, County Administrator

Laura Oswald, Economic Dev. Director

Laura Chadwick, Real Property Director

Public

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Accept Minutes – April 18, 2016
- 3) Jim Brangan, Champlain National Heritage Partnership & Tracy Clothier, LA Group
- 4) AGRICULTURE
 - A. Soil & Water – Activities Update – WQIP Grant Planning – Emergency Stream Intervention Training/Granville – Mettawee Project
 - B. Ag & Farmland Protection Plan Update
- 5) Snowmobile Program
 - A. Resolution Request for SEQRA for Phase II of Snowmobile Trail Grant Program
 - B. Local Law – Designation of Shoulders of Sections of CR 113 for Snowmobile Use
 - C. Update on Champlain Canalway Trail
- 6) PLANNING
- 7) TOURISM – SaraKelly Graphics Agreement
- 8) Other Business
- 9) Adjournment

Chairwoman Fedler called the meeting to order at 1:04 P.M.

A motion to accept the minutes of the April 18, 2016 meetings was moved by Mr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Skellie and adopted.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOAT LAUNCH - HUDSON RIVER – Mr. Shaw stated he received approval from the committee to continue to pursue the feasibility and funding for a Washington County boat launch on the Hudson River in the Town of Fort Edward. Provided copies of the tax map showing the proposed boat launch site, attached. He has spoken with Jim Brangan, Champlain National Heritage Partnership, who indicated possible funding for a feasibility study for this project. He also spoke with Tracy Clothier, LA Group, who would be more than willing to write a grant to fund a feasibility study. Ms. Clothier was unable to attend today but submitted the attached information on a proposed boat launch. She would like to come to next month's meeting to explain her proposal. Also, he contacted Garret O'Connor, Canal Corporation, who thought this project was a great idea. Mr. Henke stated the Region 5 Fish & Wildlife Management Board thought it was a good idea and they also asked if they provided a contract would we do the maintenance. The study should come back with the cost to build a boat launch, and the cost and benefit of owning it. Committee consensus was to continue to move forward. Mr. Brangan, Assistant Director Champlain National Heritage Partnership, addressed the committee. He stated the Heritage receives about \$300,000 per year from the National Park Service. Basically their mission is to highlight and showcase the natural and cultural resources of the region. His job to get feedback from the stakeholders in the eleven county area. Working on developing new boat launches is within the realm of their management plan. He has had

brief conversations with DEC. He stated they can provide insight or connections with partners at DEC and put the idea of developing a feasibility study on the list for possible funding. A motion of support for the Champlain National Heritage Partnership adding this boat launch project to their list for possible funding was moved by Mr. Haff, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted.

AGRICULTURE:

SOIL & WATER – Corrina Aldrich, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Two grants applications submitted for ag non-point source funding.
- WQIP Grant Planning - Working with Beth Gillis, Washington County DPW, on a WQIP Grant application for erosion and sediment control along county roads.
- Continue to work with Cossayuna Lake on their watershed management plan update.
- Emergency Stream Intervention Training/Granville – Mettawee Project - Working with Granville residents on erosion issues in the vicinity of the Mettawee River and Slate Valley Museum. There have been ongoing issues and would like some help. Plan to do a stream mitigation workshop training segment on the Mettawee River which will hopefully get them \$16,000 to \$20,000 to do some projects to help those landowners. She will be meeting tomorrow night with landowners in Granville.
- Hopefully close out some grants this year.

SNOWMOBILE PROGRAM – Dave Perkins addressed the following items with the committee:

- Champlain Canalway Trail – He thanked Board for resolution. DOT looking at removing some bridges along the canal and that will dictate the route of the Champlain Canalway Trail and where the trail comes out. Plan to submit a letter of support for the boat launch on the Hudson River.
- SEQRA for Phase II of Snowmobile Trail Grant Program – Annual SEQRA resolution required for the 2016-2017 Snowmobile Trail grant. Four changes to the snowmobile trail system, two are minor reroutes and two changes in trail maintenance responsibility. A motion to declare Washington County lead agency was moved by Ms. Idleman, seconded by Mr. Armstrong and adopted. The County Attorney stated no environmental impact with the proposed changes to the trail and all are permitted usage. The forms will be mailed out with the resolution. A motion to present negative declaration SEQRA resolution for Snowmobile Trail grant was moved by Mr. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Skellie and adopted.
- Local Law – Requesting a local law for designation of shoulders on a section of CR 113 for snowmobile use; shoulder from Dix Bridge to Greenwich trail in Bald Mountain area. A motion to introduce a local law allowing legal use of a portion of the shoulder of a section of CR 113 for snowmobiles at the June Board meeting and set public hearing for July was moved by Mr. Haff, seconded Ms. Idleman and adopted.
- Champlain Canalway Trail luncheon in Washington County. More information to follow on date and location.

PLANNING – Laura Oswald, Economic Development Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Ag & Farmland Protection Plan Update - Meeting tonight and the consultant is putting together the data collected and they will start to identify what they want to accomplish. This will be a couple of months process and work on discussing goals.

- All six Ag & Farmland Protection plans applied for were funded and some more are being submitted. ASA did really well with those.
- Junior Planner – The Post Star newspaper article that stated the County had hired a Junior Planner made it sound like we took a Clerk and made her a Junior Planner. To clarify for the record, the person appointed to the Junior Planner position is finishing a graduate program in Planning and has the education for this position and what she lacked was the experience and she will have that going forward. Laura stated she has the credentials for the job she was hired to do.
- County Planning Board, handout attached. – Only one project considered in the Town of Hampton – proposed propane storage; the former bio fuels site.
- ICC in Cambridge that we did the CDBG grant for have met all their hiring goals. They have submitted for reimbursement through OCR and waiting for them to review all the invoices. The next step is to schedule a public hearing which basically would be to go over any public comment on what was achieved by the process. Waiting to hear back from OCR to get reimbursement. All of the goals have been met. They are going to end up hiring more than they committed to. A motion to set a public hearing was moved by Mr. Skellie, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted.
- Planning Board – Per the handout, there are currently two vacancies on the planning board, as well as two members who are lacking in both attendance and training. Discussion ensued on the Planning Board and options available. Looking at various Planning Board options should be on the agenda. Mr. Hicks suggested attending a meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for June 14th, workshop 6:30 followed by meeting at 7 PM.
- CDBG – Mr. Haff stated Lynn Clauer advised him that something new is coming out if you accept CDBG grant monies we have to provide feasible living for people and what does that mean. Ms. Oswald believes she is referring to an anti-displacement policy and the County has adopted a policy. Also, this probably applies to housing programs funded which is a different category of grants.

TOURISM: Laura Oswald, Economic Development Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- RFP has been issued and due June 1st. Then back to committee to interview potential applicants to do study. Mr. Haff questioned who it was sent to.
- Lakes to Locks – The County has been funding Lakes to Locks through the Planning Department budget and are eligible to request I Love NY reimburse 50% of that. In this year, we have already paid them, \$3500 that was in the budget. She asked for this year, do we want to ask I Love NY to reimburse us half that amount or increase the funding to Lakes to Locks knowing we are going to be reimbursed through I Love NY. For upcoming years, Lakes to Locks has approached the Regional TPA and has asked the counties that are part of the regional TPA to contribute \$2000 per county in funding towards the TPA. The County funding to Lakes to Locks and this new request are for two different things. The new funding is for the National Geographic programming that they offer and current County funding is for other programs that Lakes to Locks delivers. She wanted to make the committee aware that this discussion is happening and aware of the request for funding. Within the TPA there have been three counties funding Lakes to Locks: Rensselaer, Saratoga and Washington counties. Eligible to get \$1750 back. Committee consensus was get the \$1750 back and not spend any more money.
- Tourism Maps – No longer have any tourism maps and they continue to receive requests for them. The County Administrator stated 20,000 map were purchased in 2013 at a cost of \$5,500

printed by A&M Printers, Cambridge, and it is an I Love NY eligible expense; 50/ 50. Discussion on how many to purchase; 5,000, 10,000. No decision until we get prices.

- NYS International Director of Tourism – Laura received a call from the NYS International Director of Tourism that a group of bird watchers who had come over from England were in the area and recommended someone speak with them. The tour guide had participated in a familiarization tour last year and he believes Washington County is significantly under promoted when it comes to natural resource tourism; that we have an asset we could be doing a lot more to capitalize on.
- SaraKelly Graphics Agreement – Renewing contract – A motion to authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign a six-month extension until the end of the year at the same terms for tourism website services was moved by Ms. Idleman, seconded by Mr. Haff and adopted.

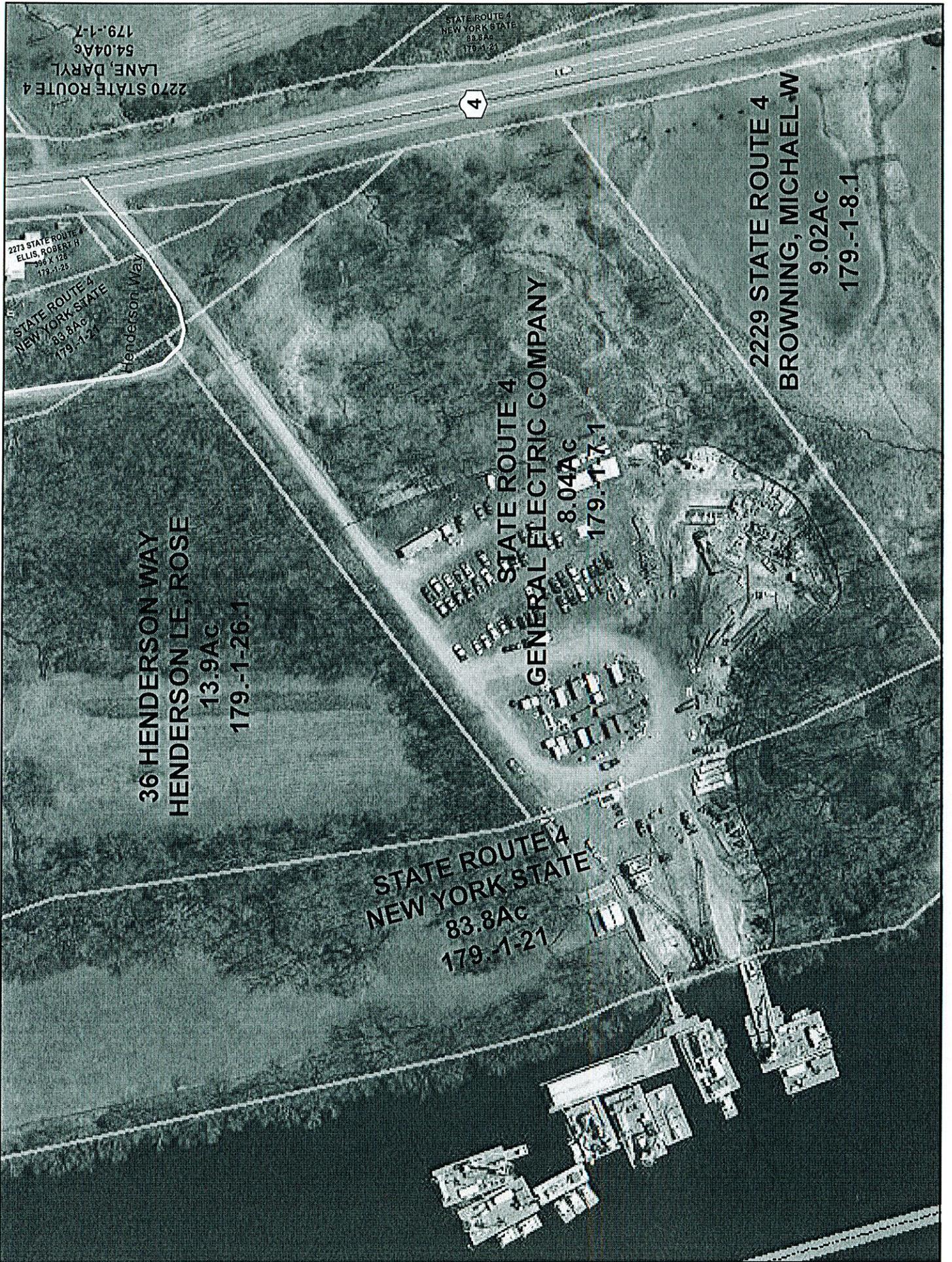
EXECUTIVE SESSION - A motion to enter an executive session to discuss a particular person or persons was moved by Ms. Idleman, seconded by Mr. Skellie and adopted. A motion to return to regular session was moved by Mr. Armstrong, seconded by Ms. Idleman and adopted. No action was taken in executive session.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The County Administrator stated Supervisor O'Brien received an email from Bill Faber, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Hamilton County, who is pretty involved in the broadband initiative and thought since we did mapping that we were ahead of other counties and suggesting we get together with him and Warren County to see if the three counties together could do something. Committee consensus was agreement on meeting and only with a few participants not the entire committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Prehoda, Clerk
Washington County Board of Supervisors



2270 STATE ROUTE 4
LANE, DARYL
54.04Ac
179.-1-7

STATE ROUTE 4
NEW YORK STATE
83.8Ac
179.-1-21



2273 STATE ROUTE 4
ELLIS, ROBERT H
396 X 128
179.-1-25

STATE ROUTE 4
NEW YORK STATE
88.8Ac
179.-1-21

Henderson Way

36 HENDERSON WAY
HENDERSON LE, ROSE
13.9Ac
179.-1-26.1

STATE ROUTE 4
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
8.04Ac
179.-1-7.1

STATE ROUTE 4
NEW YORK STATE
83.8Ac
179.-1-21

2229 STATE ROUTE 4
BROWNING, MICHAEL W
9.02Ac
179.-1-8.1

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROPOSED BOAT LAUNCH

PROJECT LOCATION: Town of Fort Edward on the Hudson River

SITE DESCRIPTION: 8.04 acres with access off SR 4 (Parcel #179-1-7.1)

PROJECT OWNER: General Electric Company; Site to be decommissioned in 2016

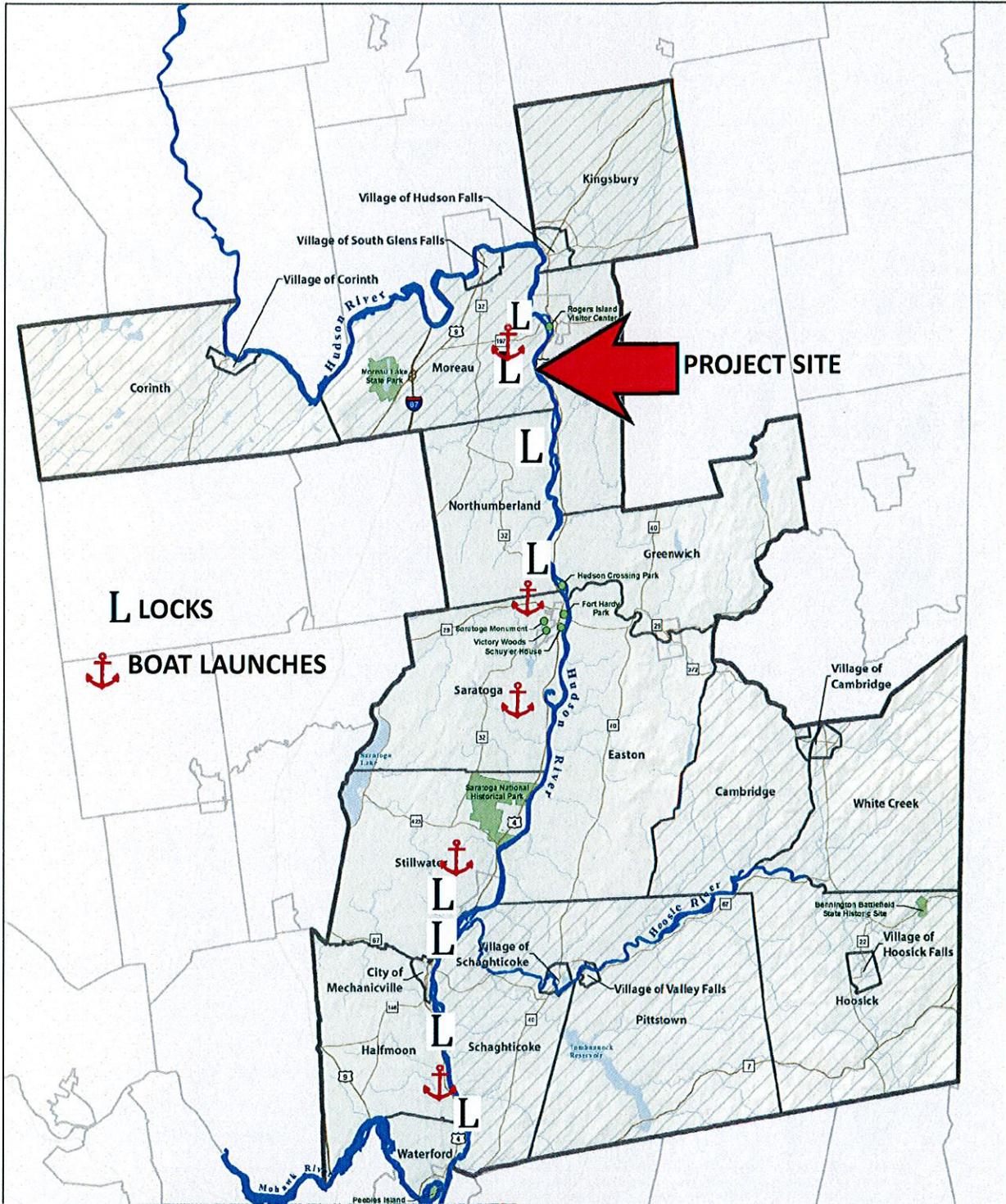
PROJECT BENEFITS:

- ◆ Only boat launch on the east side of the Hudson River/Champlain Canal
 - ◆ Bridges a distance of 7.2 miles between Locks 6 and 7
 - ◆ Intersects with Old Champlain Canalway Towpath
 - ◆ Adjacent to State Bike Route 9



ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING THROUGH FEDERAL, STATE & REGIONAL PARTNERS:

- ◆ Historic Hudson-Hoosic Rivers Partnership
 - ◆ Lakes to Locks Passage Scenic Byway
- ◆ Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor & Erie Canal Greenway
 - ◆ Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership
 - ◆ Hudson River Valley Greenway
- ◆ CFA Funding through DOS Local Waterfront Revitalization Planning





WASHINGTON COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Washington County Municipal Center
383 Broadway
Fort Edward, New York 12828
Tel: (518) 746-2290 Fax: (518) 746-2293

Agriculture/Planning/Tourism/Community Development Committee Update
Meeting Date: May 23rd, 2016

County Planning Board:

Meeting Date: May 10th, 2016

Note: There was no regular meeting held in April as there were no projects submitted.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Project Type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
Ray Terminals	T/O Hampton	Approval of Site Plan	Installation of propane storage and distribution facility	To approve with comments

Comments:

1. On SEQR form: Recommend that the applicant clarify the wetland status on site.
2. Include negotiating documents with OPRHP regarding Archeological work for Town review.
3. Applicant indicated that design incorporates green infrastructure for stormwater management, however there was no design provision meeting green infrastructure included in packet.
Recommend that be submitted to Town for review.

Other County Planning Board Business:

Vacancies/ Absences: Originally brought up to the Committee board at the January 21st, 2016 meeting

There are currently 2 (two) vacancies on the planning board, as well as (two) members who are lacking in both attendance and training the board has asked that the absent members be replaced if possible.

Those members lacking attendance are Ethan Allen (has not attended since March 2015) and Dave Ripley (has given prior notice for most occasions, but has not attended since April 2015). Neither individual had obtained the required training hours necessary in 2015.

The board has asked that those towns not currently represented by the board be asked to recommend members to sit on the County Planning Board, both to fill vacancies and replace the absent members.

Current Washington County Planning Board Members:

John Pedersen- Chairman	T/O Jackson
Peter Beyer- Vice Chairman	T/O Granville
Howard Hunt- Secretary	T/O Whitehall
Lee Comar	T/O Granville
Bob Liebig Sr.	T/O Hartford
Tom Jarrett	T/O Fort Ann
Ted Bigelow	V/O Hudson Falls
Ethan Allen	T/O Easton
Dave Ripley	T/O Argyle
Vacant	
Vacant	

L.D.