

MINUTES

**KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION**

LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE

March 4, 2010

IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

Jeff Jarvis, Ralph Paarlberg, Rich Howell, Chad Miller, Craig Blanchette, Mel Blanchette, Dave Bergdahl, Bill Bukowski, Chris Tholen, Craig Bayston and Tim Schmidt.

Others:

Mike Lammey, Delbert Skimerhorn and Jim Greenstreet, Kankakee County; Kevin Owens and Leigh Marcotte

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Bergdahl called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Minutes for the December 17, 2009 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Miller made a motion to accept as presented, seconded by Mr. Bayston. Motion passed.

WORK GROUP STATUS

Mr. Lammey discussed the work groups concept and structure and that several have met already. Mr. Skimerhorn requested the members suggest topics they want discussed in the work groups to contact staff to add them to the agendas. Chairman Howell identified a key concept of the work groups is the word "work". The work groups are to produce and forward finished product to the Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee, to the full Regional Planning Commission and then to the County Board. The discussion was followed by a report for those of the the eight Work Groups that had met:

Work Group # 1: Mr. Skimerhorn reported on the February 16, 2010 meeting. The Joint Land Use Management Plan was discussed. An Educational Seminar on Tourism and Economic Development, co-sponsored by the Convention and Visitor's Bureau, is scheduled for April 1st, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at the Bradley Quality Inn. The next seminar is being planned for May, but the topic and speaker(s) have not been finalized. The next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Mr. Schmidt inquired as to the possibility of the County providing Planning assistance to the City of Kankakee. This is being considered, and the County has worked with the City on projects in

the past, such as the recent Airport Study.

Work Group # 2: Mr. Skimerhorn reported this Work Group has not met yet.

Work Group # 3: Mr. Skimerhorn reported on the February 18, 2010 meeting. Discussion was held on encouraging annexation of developments within extra-territorial jurisdiction to municipalities. Public Act 096-0188 was discussed as it applies to such developments. The next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Work Group # 4: Mr. Lammey reported that the first meeting for this Work Group is scheduled on March 24th at 11:00 AM.

Work Group # 5: Mr. Bergdahl reported that the first meeting was February 5th, and he was elected Chairman of this Work Group. Discussion was held on the Commuter Transit Studies completed in the past, and the high cost of the next study. Extending the electric train to Peotone from University Park is still being considered, but it is unknown how soon it might be done. METRO Bus service to University Park has been improved by providing overnight parking at the METRO Centre. River Valley METRO Mass Transit District will give a presentation at the next meeting. The proposed High Speed Rail possibly coming to Kankakee was discussed. The Work Group changed its name from “Commuter Transit Work Group” to “Transit Work Group,” since it will discuss all modes of Transit issues. The next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Work Group # 6: Mr. Schmidt reported that the first meeting was February 2nd, and he was elected Chairman of this Work Group. Ed Barsotti, Executive Director of the League of Illinois Bicyclists gave a presentation on Complete Streets requirements and recommendations. Mr. Lammey had presented the current progress on a new 30-year Long Range Transportation Plan. There was discussion on the Illiana Expressway proposal, including the need for it to connect all the way to I-55, not stopping at I-57. The 2008 Transportation Brochure was discussed along with plans to create a new one this year. The next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Work Group # 7: Mr. Lammey reported that the first meeting was March 1st, and no Chairman was elected. The on-going crash location mapping study is revealing locations where fatalities occurred or where there are multiple incapacitating injury crashes. This is being done to identify locations where IDOT Traffic Safety funding could be used to improve the locations. There was discussion on truck traffic patterns in and through Momence, with hopes of creating a diversion route around the south side of Momence. Other truck safety issues include IDOT plans to widen a portion of IL Rt 17 west of Kankakee to provide a center left turn lane from Kankakee to the rail crossing at Limestone. Also discussed was the proposal for round-a-bouts in Bourbonnais. The next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Work Group # 8: Mr. Jarvis reported on the meeting held the hour prior to this meeting. This Work Group parallels the River Study Round Table, which meets Friday at 10:00 AM. Much of the data collected by this group as the Community Development Subcommittee has been provided to the River Study Round Table group. There is a need to educate the County Board members on all of the issues involving the rivers, and the pressing needs to protect and preserve

them, which hopefully will be an outcome of the Round Table and this Work Group. The next meeting is not yet scheduled, but will be scheduled soon after Friday's River Study Round Table Meeting.

2010 WORK PROGRAM

Mr. Lammey opened discussion on the 2010 Work Program. Mr. Lammey pointed out a change, adding a third item under Work Group # 5 since the program was last presented. Mr. Howell made a motion to approve the 2010 Work Program as now presented, seconded by Mr. Bukowski. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing presented.

NEXT MEETING

It was suggested to ask Jim Piekarczyk, County Highway Engineer, to address the next meeting of this Subcommittee, to update us on the State-Line Bridge, the Illiana Expressway and the 80,000 pound roadway law changes. This could be done for the Regional Planning Commission meeting. The Regional Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

The next Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2010, but there is a conflict for that date. It could be better to have the work groups meet and schedule the full meeting later. Mr. Howell made a motion to cancel the April 22 meeting, seconded by Mr. Miller. Unanimous vote. The next meeting date for the Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee meeting is June 3, 2010 at 10:30 AM, at the Kankakee County Administration Building, 2nd floor conference room.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schmidt moved for adjournment, and Mr. C. Blanchette seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.