

Kankakee County Regional Planning Commission Meeting
Summary of Minutes
March 25, 2008

Regional Planning Commission Members Present:

Craig Bayston	Mayor Samuel Payton
Chad Miller	Jim Tripp
Rich Howell	Jeff Jarvis
Loretto Cowhig	Ralph Paarlberg
David Bergdahl	Mel Blanchette
Rich Simms	Bud Bates
Craig Blanchette	Bill Bukowski

Regional Planning Commission Members Absent:

George Washington, Jr.	Rep. Lisa Dugan
Barry Jaffe	

Quorum Present.

Kankakee County Planning Department Staff Present:

Mike Van Mill	Jim Greenstreet
Mike Lammey	Mike Martin

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Mr. Howell.

No public comment.

A motion was made by Mr. Bayston and seconded by Mr. Craig Blanchette to approve the January 22, 2008 minutes. Motion carried.

Last month there was a presentation by Mayor Kent on the Village of Bradley's Comprehensive Plan. The feedback from the Commission was to bring in key people in the Community to talk about aspect of growth and development to get a greater understanding of what we're trying to do. It was decided that we should start with infrastructure of water and sewer. We have invited Aqua Illinois and KRMA give presentation.

Presentations were given by Craig Blanchette and Jim Bilotta from Aqua Illinois and Rich Simms from KRMA. There were discussions after each presentation.

Subcommittee Updates:

Land Use/Transportation:

Before the Commission tonight is a resolution to support the replacement of a bridge carrying 7000N Road (County Highway 19) over the Union Pacific Railroad. There were a few grammatical changes to the resolution, which will not need to be forwarded to County Board. A motion was made by Mr. Bayston and seconded by Mr. Bates to endorse the resolution. Motion carried.

Mr. Howell informed the Commission that there is a proposal for Canadian National to purchase EJ&E (Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Co.) local route around Chicago, if they buy EJ&E they would abounded the last 11 miles of the current road that goes from Champaign to Kankakee to Union Station. I think the County Board should oppose the buying of EJ&E.

Community Development:

Mr. Jarvis stated that Community Development has not meet in several months. They will meet as needed, no pressing issues at this time.

Mr. Jarvis also talk about Historic Preservation Commission they have good energy they are moving forward. The Commission has 8 members with 1 more forthcoming. Mike Martin is doing a great job with pulling the Commission together without a budget. The volunteers have a lot of energy and are moving forward.

Opportunity to Join Subcommittee:

Mr. Howell stated the there are 2 committee, there are environmental issues that need to be addressed and wind energy issues, these items can stay in Land Use/Transportation, but eventually needs to be a decision of the whole. Please join the Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee if you want to stay active in these issues.

New/Old Business.

Mr. Lammey updated the Commission on the Cambridge Systematics. They are in the process of interviewing stake holders in the area. We would like to be involved in the round table discussions.

Mr. Lammey also updated the Commission on the Critical Commerce Corridor to reserve right-of-way at the northern county line. This will go to the Highway Committee and PZA Committee to direct the RPC to study this. We have been working with Will County to do this.

Mr. Van Mill gave a briefing on the Airport Study. We have had our initial meeting that was well attended. The next meeting is Thursday at 3:30 p.m. we will be approving the scope of the consultant's study. The interviews will be in April and the hope is to have the study done by the end of the year.

With the submission of the airport plan to the feds, there will be more legislation passed on this issue and as thing proceed Kankakee County will be included in the round table discussion.

The next meeting of the full Regional Planning Commission is scheduled for March 25, 2008.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bayston and seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Prepared by:
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