

MINUTES
KANKAKEE COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION
LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION SUBCOMMITTEE
August 20, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE

Members:

Jeff Jarvis, Ralph Paarlberg, Rich Howell, Chad Miller, Craig Bayston, Loretto Cowhig, Bill Bukowski, Elisabeth Dunbar and Tim Schmidt

Others:

Mike Lammey and Jim Greenstreet, Kankakee County; Leigh Marcotte; and Aimee White, the Herald

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Howell called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

MINUTES

Mr. Bayston moved approval of the June 4, 2009 Land Use/Transportation Subcommittee minutes. Mr. Paarlberg seconded. Motion passed.

AGENDA

Ms. Dunbar made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion Passed.

EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

Mr. Lammey presented a brochure of five scheduled educational seminars for elected officials concerning five topics of interest to local government officials and citizens. The first is September 17, 2009 on how to make good development and land use decisions. The second is November 19, 2009 on Downtown Development. The third is January 21, 2010 on Public Finance 101. The fourth is March 18, 2010 titled Impacts of Tourism. The last is May 20, 2010 on Business Retention & Attraction. The programs will be from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM each evening and held at the Quality Inn & Suites in Bradley, IL. The cost for the each seminar will be \$25.00 per person or \$100.00 per agency for four or more people.

REPORT ON ILLIANA EXPRESSWAY

Mr. Lammey discussed the Indiana (INDOT) feasibility study completed by Cambridge Systematics, Inc. The final report is available on the INDOT website. Three corridors from I-65 to I-57 were identified as possibly feasible, including one entering Kankakee County near 9000N and eventually connecting to I-57 near 11500 N. The other two are in Will County, through more congested areas. The study did not recommend any one corridor, but showed differences in year 2017 construction costs, distances, comparative environmental impacts, land use impacts and socio-economic impacts. Discussion was held on the study and the need for further study by Illinois DOT for the area and continuing the Illiana Expressway westerly to I-55 and/or I-80 near Morris.

6000N ROAD INTERCHANGE IN STATE CAPITAL BILL

Mr. Lammey reported that \$58.1 million is in the Capital Projects Bill for the 6000N Road Interchange in fiscal years 2010 through 2015 as Illinois Jobs Now projects. This will include 6000N Road improvements between Rt. 45 and Rt 50. There should be public hearings scheduled soon. This committee will send a thank-you letter to Representative Lisa Dugan for her efforts pushing this forward. Chairman Howell is to sign the letter. Motion made by Ms. Dunbar and seconded by Mr. Bayston. Motion carried.

HIGH SPEED RAIL PROPOSAL

Mr. Lammey discussed two brochures received from the Midwest High Speed Rail Association on the issue of high speed rail in Illinois, including through Kankakee County. The proposal shows “trenching” through Kankakee County for the high speed rail, except where it will cross above the Kankakee River. Discussion ensued about shallow bedrock, high water tables and narrow railroad rights-of-way followed.

OLD BUSINESS

The regular meeting date for the annual Regional Planning Commission meeting is September 22, 2009, but no details are yet available. Information should be forth-coming.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Dunbar announced the Centennial Celebration of the Kankakee County Court House to be October 4, 2009 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The Court House is listed in the National Register as a National Landmark and is an Illinois State Landmark.

Mr. Miller announced Tuesday September 15, 2009 at 6:00 PM the Farm Bureau is sponsoring a Trucking Regulations Seminar at the University of Illinois Extension Office. There will be a discussion of the new laws, rules, fees and fines.

Mr. Jarvis announced the next meeting of the Community Development Subcommittee will be August 27, 2009 at 10:30 AM at the Kankakee County Administration Building, 2nd floor conference room.

Mr. Paarlberg asked about ways to improve recycling in the County. Recycling is inconsistent in

the different communities and in the rural areas. Manteno has recycle bins for each residence; some towns have bags that the resident must pick up and use, with failed pick-ups of the bagged materials; some towns have drop-off recycle bins; others have nothing. Mr. Jarvis suggested recycling be placed on the September RPC Agenda for discussion.

NEXT MEETING

Chairman Howell stated that the next scheduled meeting is changed to October 22, 2009 at 9:30 AM at the Kankakee County Administration Building, 2nd floor conference room. There is a meeting scheduled for December 17, 2009 at 9:30 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Miller moved adjournment, and Mr. Bayston seconded. Motion passed. Chairman Howell adjourned the meeting at 10:31 AM.