

**Members Present**

Mr. Olthoff, Mr. Tripp, Mr. Bertrand, Ms. Hertzberger, Mr. James, Ms. McBride, Mr. Scholl, Mr. Hess, Mr. Washington, Mr. Whitten, and Mr. Marcotte

**Members Absent**

Mr. Stauffenberg

**In Attendance**

Mr. McLaren, Delbert Skimerhorn, Dave Tyson, Don Pallissard, Eric Sadler, Jim Greenstreet, Rich Howell, Mike Lammey, Michelle Sadler, Leigh Marcotte, Scott Boehmer, and Joellen Gyorkos

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Olthoff, at 9:00 a.m. Quorum present.

**2. Public Comment**

Joellen Gyorkos spoke regarding the response to Solid Waste Inspections and the Delegation Agreement.

Rich Howell spoke regarding Wind Energy.

**3. Approval of Minutes- November 14, 2007**

A motion to approve the minutes of November 14, 2007 was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Whitten. Motion carried.

**4. Transportation**

**• Riverfront Trail Presentation**

Mr. Lammey stated Riverfront Trail is a project that has been going on for a long time. It started with the Greenways and Trails plan in 1998. Mr. Tyson's office has volunteered to do the project for the City of Kankakee. There was a public meeting on this a couple of weeks ago. There are four phases to the project. Phase 1 is about to be embarked upon. Mr. Tyson is here today to give the Committee an overview of the Riverfront Trail.

Mr. Tyson stated he is going to go over what the plans are for the bike trail project. This follows what was done with the Greenways Trail Plan of 1999. This was brought to light when Splash Valley was built in 2003. The park district at that time was talking about trying to figure out a way to get bike trails from the Kankakee Area into Splash Valley without having to keep them on major roads. There was a Committee that was formed at that time that kind of faltered a little bit. It came back to light when Dr. Weber from KCC together with Mayor Don Green started to push for this Committee to be put back together again. At that time, Norm Strasma took over Chairmanship of the Committee so there was a nonpartisan person running the Committee and keeping it moving. The Committee that has been formed has had both private and public people involved. When the ice arena was completed in 2005, the Committee applied for several IDNR Grants. In Washington, the Committee was successful in getting some high priority funds from Obama's Funding Source, which brought \$400,000.00 back to this community. The \$400,000.00

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was actually awarded to the City of Kankakee because it has to be given to a municipality to be able to run the Federal Grant. The Committee has raised \$200,000.00 on top of that, so there is a \$600,000.00 project right now for phase 1. He went over the various phases of the project with the Committee. The cross section of the trail is going to be a 10 foot wide trail of Hot Mix Asphalt, which will be a 12 month trail.

Mr. Scholl stated the meeting at KCC was very informative however, a number of private property owners raised concerns. How are those concerns going to be addressed?

Mr. Tyson stated anything within the City of Kankakee, Bourbonnais, or even in the County, easements are going to be needed if the trail cannot stay within public right-of-ways. If that has to be done the Committee will have to go through notification and negotiations to either purchase easements or have them donated to the Committee for the purposes of the trail. If the trail is able to be kept within the existing right-of-ways, which is the intent, what the City is going to do and what the Committee is going to suggest is to have public hearings to inform residence about what is actually going to transpire with the trail. The meetings will be kept to localized areas.

## 5. Zoning

- **Authority to submit application to amend the County Code to permit Small (individual) Wind Energy Systems**

Mr. Skimerhorn stated a few months ago this Committee asked the staff to develop regulations to allow the construction of small wind energy systems on individual parcels in the County. That has been done. They will be allowed in the A-1 and A-2 District; there are 16 criteria that must be met in order for that to happen. What he is asking for today is permission to officially file an application with the County Clerk so that this can be forwarded to the Zoning Board of Appeals for consideration. This Committee, once the Zoning Board of Appeals has reviewed the plan, will get to see the plan before it goes on to the County Board. He anticipates this being brought forward at the February County Board Meeting.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Scholl and seconded by Mr. Tripp. Motion carried.

Mr. Scholl stated he is glad to see this is being done. A number of people have come forward wanting to place these systems on their property and there is nothing in place to deal with it.

## 6. Planning

- **2008 Kankakee County Regional Planning Commission's Work Program (Land Use & Transportation)**

Mr. Lammey stated every year the Regional Planning Commission comes to the Committee for the adoption of their work program. This year is a little different because it is coming to this Committee is two pieces. This first piece is the Land Use and Transportation Subcommittee, there will be a Community Development Work Program coming forward sometime later.

Ms. Hertzberger asked if all the goals were met from the 2007 Work Program.

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Mr. Lammey stated no.

Ms. Hertzberger asked if there is a report as to what happened with the 2007 Work Program.

Mr. Lammey stated the Committee always tries to tackle more than it thinks it can do. There is probably 60% of the projects completed.

Mr. Olthoff stated every time a work program is brought in there should be something in writing as to what took place the previous year.

Mr. Lammey stated he would be happy to comply with that request.

A motion to get a report on the 2007 Work Program before the Committee approves the 2008 Work Program was made by Ms. Hertzberger and seconded by Mr. James.

#### **Discussion on the Motion**

Mr. Howell stated he understands the desire to have a formal report from the Regional Planning Commission, though he thinks if you watched what the Planning Department has put out in the past year or two has been a result of the work plan. So when Del, Eric, Mike, and Brian brought reports, plans, and ideas forward they came out of the work plans. He thinks the Regional Planning Commission probably has somewhat of a year-end report that he would hope would be sufficient without asking the staff to spend a lot of time to prepare a report. The Regional Planning Commission's primary goal is to provide a structure to drive the Planning Department Staff forward to make wise Land Use and Transportation decisions. If the Committee would look at the past minutes of what has gone on in this Committee, all of those things come out of the work plan of the Regional Planning Commission.

Mr. Olthoff stated it could a thousand foot view; it doesn't have to be a fifty foot view. He questions whether or not the report needs to be given before this Committee approves the 2008 Work Plan.

Mr. Washington stated this Committee needs to understand the Regional Planning Commission is based on volunteers who are devoting their time and energy to help bring proposals forward to the Planning, Zoning, and Agriculture Committee and to other divisions of the County. The Regional Planning Commission is not trying to do things up in the air without any direction. These things are brought to the Planning, Zoning, and Agriculture Committee and then this Committee takes the projects on and attempts to complete them. That completion is done within the Planning, Zoning, and Agriculture Committee, not within the Regional Planning Commission. The Regional Planning Commission is not the completing body; it is the body that makes the recommendations to the Planning, Zoning, and Agriculture Committee.

Ms. Hertzberger stated she knows that, but she would like the Planning, Zoning, and Agriculture Committee do a brief report.

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Mr. Olthoff asked if that report can be given separate from the 2008 Work Program being approved.

**Withdraw Motion**

Ms. Hertzberger withdraws her motion. Mr. James withdraws his second to the motion.

**Second Motion**

A motion to get a report from the Planning Department on the progress of last year's Work Program was made by Ms. Hertzberger and seconded by Mr. James. Motion carried. Mr. Whitten opposed.

**Third Motion**

A motion to approve the 2008 Work Program was made by Mr. Hess and seconded by Mr. Scholl. Motion carried.

**7. Old/ New Business**

Mr. Scholl stated as pertaining to inspections, Mr. Olthoff mentioned he has received notification of all the inspections when they are done in his district.

Mr. Olthoff stated no, not in the district, all the inspections.

Mr. Scholl stated he would like to be informed as to when inspections are done also, especially those that affect his district.

Mr. Olthoff stated alright.

Mr. James thinks that Mr. Scholl makes a good point. He thinks all the Board Members should be informed because he gets inquires, there are people from all over that are monitoring these situations.

Mr. Olthoff stated he will have to look into that.

Mr. Hess asked if the notification is before the inspection or after the inspection.

Mr. Olthoff stated that as Chairman he gets the notification before. The Committee would get the notification after the inspection.

**8. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m. was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Washington. Motion carried.

William Olthoff, Chairman

Stephanie Jackson, Executive Coordinator

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