

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Development & Planning (D&P)
CHAIRPERSON: Ron Mapes
DATE/TIME: September 23, 2008

PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beth Baranski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Mapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sally Toepfer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Merri Berlage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marvin Schultz	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dorte Breckenridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Smith	

Other Board members:

Others: Pat Leitzen-Fye, Linda Delvaux, Dan Reimer

Ron Mapes called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Minutes. Merri Berlage made a motion to approve the minutes of August 25, 2008, August 26, 2008 and September 3, 2008 as presented. Ron Smith seconded and the motion passed.

2. Citizens' Comments. None.

3. Staff Reports

- a) **Economic Development.** Pat Leitzen-Fye gave an overview of activities for the previous month.
- b) **Building and Zoning.** Linda Delvaux gave an overview of a thirteen year average statistical report (from 1995 to 2008) for permits, fees generated, construction value. The condition of the economy has had a negative impact on zoning-related services. She gave an update on the status of guest accommodations and licensing fees projected for 2009; the numbers remain steady.

The zoning text amendment public hearing is scheduled for October 22, 2008; it will be held in the county courthouse. The legal publication has been published throughout the county. A press release has also been published in several newspapers. Discussion took place on how the date for the hearing was worded on the press release. Some understood that the hearing was scheduled for two days (October 22nd and 23rd) and others understood that the hearing was scheduled for one day (October 22nd) and if needed, it would be continued on October 23rd. Delvaux stated that there was still time to republish the legal publication and also a press release. The press release was read out loud and it was clearly stated that the hearing was scheduled for the 22nd and 'if necessary it will continue to the 23rd'. The legal publication states October 22nd. After further discussion and a review of the September, 2008 county board minutes, it was the consensus of the committee to leave the wording of the press release as published.

4. Unfinished Business

- a) **Greenways & Trails (G&T).** Beth Baranski reported on Jo Daviess County Greenways & Trails Planning Survey Results. D&P committee members reviewed the results and asked for clarification on several of the twenty-three questions. This document is available for viewing on the county's website. The next G&T meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2008, 10:00 am, at Highland Community College. The contract manager for the grant has requested a letter indicating the accomplishments

to-date; the grant deadline is December 31st. It is anticipated that the project will be completed in March, 2009. She reminded the committee that she would not be on the county board next year, and that there are two existing vacancies. She would be willing to remain involved in the Greenways & Trails project, providing the committee is in agreement. Schultz stated that there is no reason why Baranski couldn't remain working with G&T after her county board member term expires (November 30, 2008). For purposes of continuity, he suggested appointing a county board member now (one whose term is not expiring soon). This would allow the new person an opportunity to get acclimated to the project. Schultz suggested appointing another county board member to the G&T after the new D&P membership is established in December, 2008. This issue ('County Board appointment to the Greenways & Trails committee') will be on next month's agenda.

b) **FY2009 County Economic Development Program.** (Ron Mapes stated that in Section 3 of the meeting summary document, the name *Ron Smith* should be corrected to read *Ron Mapes*.) Feedback on the economic development planning meeting held on September 11, 2008 was shared. The purpose of that meeting was to get the opinion of mayors, the CEDS committee, the D&P committee on what the direction for the economic development program should be for next year. Baranski and Ron Smith commented that the meeting was very successful. Berlage, (who at the meeting on the 11th volunteered with a few others to investigate the approaches used to drive economic development in other communities) stated that she has received helpful information and much support from the individuals involved.

1. **RFP for Economic Development services in FY2009.** A sample RFP was reviewed at the September 11th meeting. It appears that at this time, communities are satisfied with how the existing economic development program is operating. Consequently, several D&P committee members questioned what was the purpose of the 2008 economic development group. After much discussion on the economic development services currently being rendered, revising/renewing the existing contractual agreement, streamlining the scope of services, it was agreed to keep the contractual agreement as is for the remainder of this fiscal year. These issues, as it pertains to fiscal year 2009, will be discussed at the next small group meeting, scheduled for October 2, 2008. Schultz summarized that at the next full JDC Economic Development Planning meeting, November 6, 2008, the small group, the D&P committee, mayors and CEDS can review the results of the meeting on October 2nd and hopefully identify the direction for the FY2009 program. Should funding be insufficient, a stop gap agreement might be needed in the interim. For the remainder of FY2008, the program will continue as is. Berlage will keep the D&P committee members apprised, via email, of information provided by the small group.

5. New Business

- a) **Request from Pat Leitzen Fye to attend DCEO workshop on public infrastructure grants in Springfield, IL. on September 26th.** Leitzen-Fye informed everyone present that the workshop on the 26th, is to learn about the federal HUD program grants available to municipalities for the upcoming year, how to access the grant funds, and meet with the individuals reviewing the grant applications. It was agreed that this would be beneficial for the county and that the workshop expense was a budgeted item. Berlage made a motion to approve Leitzen-Fye's time and mileage to attend the workshop. Smith seconded and the motion passed.

6. Other Business. Berlage gave an update from today's Legislative committee meeting. In particular, she informed the committee of bills that are now public acts (i.e., wind farms, emergency telephone systems, cell towers, county jail medical expenses).

7. Citizens' Comments. Evelyn Rosse, 322 Franklin, Galena, IL. Ms. Rosse expressed concern about the fire department's response to her calls regarding electrical, furnace problems. Members of the committee explained to her that the fire department is under the jurisdiction of the City of Galena and needed to voice her concern with that body of government.

8. Board Member Concerns. Sally Toepfer reported that the CVB Board and staff are working with Schultz, Reimer and the City of Galena on issues regarding the hotel/motel tax. A special Galena City Council meeting will be held on October 6, 2008 to hear presentations and possibly make a decision on the City's portion of the hotel/motel tax.

Berlage expressed concern over a City of Galena's resolution regarding a moratorium on the building and operation of all new CAFO's (confined animal facility operation) and the potential impact this can have on the future generation of farmers in Jo Daviess County.

Budget Workshop meeting on Tuesday, September 30, 2008 at 7:00 pm

Next regular meeting Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at 7:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm following a motion made by Schultz and seconded by Berlage.