

**Copake Economic Advisory Board**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**March 18, 2008**

**Present**

Charles Dodson  
Morry Ordovery  
Milbrey Zelle  
Leslie Wood  
Chris Quinby  
Neal Klein  
Linda Gabaccia  
Marcia Peteroy

**Excused**

Shawn McClain

**Absent**

Walter Kiernan

**Public**

Diane Cinque  
Marge Gabaccia

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Milbrey Zelle. This was seconded by Morry Ordovery. Approved unanimously.

**Copake Clean-up Day**

Charles Dodson reported that Clean-up Day is still on for May 10<sup>th</sup>. The contractor for this year is allowing the acceptance of propane tanks and car batteries.

**Follow-up: Taconic Hills**

Neil Klein and Leslie Wood will follow-up with Taconic Hills and determine how to proceed. COARC has a school for teaching their people the skills they need. These may be people we could contact.

**Future Meetings**

April 15<sup>th</sup>, review- analysis of Copake Budget – Linda Gabaccia, Bob Sacks and Walter Kiernan. Linda Gabaccia and Bob Sacks agreed to present next session and will contact Walter Keirnan.

May 20<sup>th</sup>, Nancy Rutter, Key Bank and– Three possible topics: Keys for Women, Small Business Program Loans and Community Reinvestment Banking.

(Ronald Morales, First Niagara has asked someone to come at a later date.) Linda Gabaccia suggested we talk to Charlotte Shuttes and Marie Costa. Bob Sachs suggested that perhaps we invite local merchants to come and present to the CEAB about what their needs are.

**Report on Business Survey**

Milbrey Zelle will attempt to get some more responses. We currently have 17 surveys. Milbrey Zelle will select 20 businesses that have not been contacted and send a copy of the survey with a request that they set up a date with a CEAB board member.

### **Oversight Copake Grants**

Morry Ordoover has sent a request for information to all of the boards requesting information on the grants they have applied for. Bob Sacks shared that the police department has received numerous grants and the justice department has received a grant.

### **Copake Community Day- Chris Quinby**

Copake Community Day will be June 21<sup>st</sup> and June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Chris Quinby says everything is in place, but he is searching for a parade coordinator. This person will need to send out a letter to all past participants and lead the organization of a parade.

### **Report on the Tri-Town Grant Writer Office**

Charles Dodson reported that we have bumped into a road block. We now interact with George Popp and Alan Rothwell, Rural Enterprise Grants. They are having trouble understanding how this proposal fits in with their mission, but will be sending more material. Charles Dodson will be sending a preliminary proposal.

### **Tourism**

Marcia Peteroy attended a dine-around which shared that Hudson will have dogs decorated by artists. They are looking for sponsors of dogs for Hudson for \$500.

### **Town of Copake Policy Manual**

Based on CEAB's suggestions as well as additional suggestions, Charles Dodson will be a member of the re-write committee.

### **Conservation Resources Advisory Committee Funds**

Charles Dodson has spoken with Stuart Carduner to better understand the request to assist the Conservation Resources Advisory Committee to acquire lands that are of interest to the town. Our recommendation was that the funds will come from grants, loans, bonds, gifts and local taxes. Bob Sacks offered to make a report next month.

### **CEAB Board Membership**

Shawn McClain has submitted to the CEAB his resignation. The Board accepted it and thanked Shawn for his service. Leslie Wood agreed to advertise the two vacancies, with the resumes going to the town clerk. The deadline for letters of intent will be April 4<sup>th</sup>. We will invite the Town Board to attend those interviews which will take place at the CEAB's April meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Review of CEAB's work**

Charles Dodson presented a report on the last 2 ½ years of our agendas. This is a look back to see where we have focused our energies. The current agenda tonight shows where we are. The items tabled at the bottom are regularly scheduled topics.

An extended discussion ensued regarding future agendas of the CEAB. The Board

expressed concerns about effective responses for Copake's business climate. Should focus be given to Copake, Copake Falls and Craryville equally or differentially? A previous study by the Board noted that the number of businesses grew in only six of forty-eight towns in Copake's general area of New York over the period of 1994 - 2004. The growth in these six depended heavily on "spillover" from education, healthcare facilities, mining and bridge construction, firms that do not provide a traditional "take-home" product. Should such become a focus here, beginning with Copake's existing examples of ski areas, state parks, golf courses, camps, web based businesses, lakes, schools, historic places, theatres and other tourist attractions?

The Board will continue this discussion on basic approaches to its agenda.

**Tabled**

Alternate Fuels, On Request  
Farmer's Assistance, On Request  
Business Directory, On Request  
Monitoring Copake's Budget  
Broadband Communications, April, 2008  
Website April, 2008  
Copake Comprehensive Plan  
Understanding Copake's Budget

**Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn by Milbrey Zelle. This was seconded by Chris Quinby.

The minutes are respectfully submitted by Leslie Wood