

**HANCOCK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL FULL COMMISSION MEETING
May 22, 2012
Ellsworth Public Library, Ellsworth, Maine
7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order: Chairman Rod Franzius called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: A quorum of FY 2011-2012 HCPC commissioners was present (10):

District I:

Dale Sprinkle (Surry), Ray Jones, (Gouldsboro), C.W. Comer (Sorrento), and Gary Edwards (Sullivan).

District II:

Dave Milan (Bucksport).

District III:

Beverly Sanborn (Cranberry Isle), Rod Franzius (Hancock), Antonio Blasi (Hancock), Jane Disney (Bar Harbor), and County Commissioner Representative Steve Walton.

Others Present: Thomas Martin (HCPC Exec. Director), Sheri Walsh (HCPC Admin. Asst.), Jim Fisher (HCPC Senior Planner), guest speaker John Osborne (Hollywood Slots) and wife Janet, Ruth Franzius (Hancock), David White (Bar Harbor), Cyndi Wood (The Ellsworth American)

Presentation: Guest Speaker, John Osborne, CEO, Hollywood Slots shared with the attendees the economic impact Hollywood Slots has had on the region. The City of Bangor received \$6 million dollars for the lease of the race track. The casino building costs were \$135 million. The hotel has an 80% occupancy rate. The buffet sales exceed \$4.5 million annually. Maine Revenue Services has received \$132 million since the casino opened. The city of Bangor receives \$5 million per year. The Healthy Maine Fund has received \$27 million since opening. Hollywood Slots pays \$2.2 million in property tax. Over 400 people are employed resulting in \$11 million a year in salaries.

2011 Annual Business Meeting Minutes: Dave Milan made the motion to accept the minutes of last year's annual meeting. Steve Walton seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Ray Jones briefed the Full Commission members that staff does a fine job of keeping expenses under control, which is important during this time of budget cuts. He reported that HCPC is fiscally sound.

HCPC Accomplishments During FY-11:

Chairman's Report: Rod Franzius noted that he has been quite pleased with the Striking a Balance Forums and feels they are quite beneficial to the towns' planning board members. He thanked the staff for their efforts over the past year and gave a recap of the various duties they oversee. Rod thanked the members of the Executive Board for their hard work and dedication.

EMDC Report: Steve Walton reported that there has been some reorganization over the past year and expects that to continue. The Loan Default rate is high and new controls are being developed on the Loan Programs. He reported that funding sources have been reduced.

Agency Report:

Tom then gave an overview of the accomplishments of the past year and recognized each staff member and officers of the Executive Board for their dedication and hard work over the past year. He felt that Rod Franzius as Chair, Dave Milan as Vice-Chair, and Ray Jones as Treasurer deserved special commendation. He thanked Sheri for her outstanding CDBG administration. He touched on the \$64,500 in savings for Hancock County towns on the road salt joint purchase.

Tom reported on the various areas of work the staff in currently assigned. Tom concentrates on Brownfields, Comprehensive Plans, Land Use, and CDBG Technical Assistance. Jim works with Transportation planning with projects such as MDOT Planning and Administration. Schoodic and Blackwoods Byway, Acadia Gateway Center, Ellsworth STAR Center, GIS mapping and public health planning. Sheri's work consists of office management, bookkeeping, CDBG Administration, Small Community grants and joint purchasing.

Tom reported that he currently is not working on any comprehensive plans - the first time in 20 years he has not been working on a comp plan. Tom reported that Winter Harbor and Gouldsboro CDBG grants and in their final stages of completion. HCPC's Brownfields Assessment work continues.

Jim Fisher reported that the majority of his work still focuses on transportation planning which include Corridor Management Plans. He is still very involved in the Scenic Byways planning for the following Scenic Byways: Acadia, Blackwoods and Schoodic. Along the Schoodic Byway there have been projects. He is wrapping up the Gordon's Wharf project that has been a cooperative effort with Brownfields, Schoodic Byway and the Town of Sullivan.

Jim is also working with Maine DOT on transportation initiatives for Multimodal Planning for Acadia Gateway Center and the Ellsworth Star Center. Some of the transportation planning is linked with Jim's health planning initiatives. The following ventures are transportation projects linked with health planning: Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans include Ellsworth Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, Downeast Sunrise Trail and School Travel Plans. Jim continues to host a monthly radio program, Common Health on WERU 89.9 FM.

Jim is continuing his work with mapping using GPS and Google Earth. Maps are posted on the website when completed.

Jim continues to serve as the HCPC resident techie keeping all the computers and the network operational. Jim also maintains the HCPC Facebook page.

FY13 Budget (copies were given to the commissioners): Tom Martin presented the proposed budget for fiscal year July 2012-June 2013 with a brief overview. MOTION: Dave Milan moved to approve the FY12 Budget as presented; motion was seconded by Ray Jones and carried without objection.

FY13 Services Policy (copies were given to the commissioners): Tom Martin presented the proposed Services Policy for fiscal year July 2012-June 2013 with a brief overview. MOTION: Beverly Sanborn moved to approve the FY13 Services Policy as presented; motion was seconded by Steve Walton and carried without objection.

Executive Board Members: Nominations were received and the following persons were voted onto the executive board, effective immediately:

District 1: Rod Franzius (Hancock), Ray Jones (Gouldsboro) (term 2012-2015)

District 2: Dave Milan (Bucksport) (term 2012-2015)

District 3: no seats to be filled

Steve Walton nominated Rod Franzius to serve as the Chairman of the Executive Board, seconded by Dave Milan. Rod Franzius was elected by those present to serve as the Chairman of the Executive Board.

Adjournment: With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Prepared by:

Beverly Sanborn, Secretary

Sheri Walsh, Admin. Asst.