

## MINUTES

Approved 3/11/09

### PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 18 2009 3:15 P.M. SCOTT HEYMAN CONFERENCE ROOM

Present: P. Mackesey, Chair; M. Robertson; C. Chock; F. Proto  
Excused: W. Burbank  
Staff: J. Kippola, County Administration; K. Wilsea, Planning Department; J. Mareane, County Administrator; J. Mattick, Workforce Development; J. Leccese, S. Doyle, Planning Department; M. Lynch, Public Information Officer; K. Fuller, Deputy Clerk  
Legislator: M. Koplinka-Loehr  
Guests: T. Ashmore, *The Ithaca Journal*, D. Sparrow, Strategic Tourism Planning Board

#### **Call to Order**

Chair Mackesey called the meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

#### **Changes to Agenda**

Ms. Mackesey spoke of the interest expressed at the Legislature meeting to prioritize items being submitted for consideration of funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan and asked if members of the Committee would like to add the item to the agenda. She also said if desired, members could submit an e-mail with priorities to her and she would compile the information. Members expressed an interest to discuss priorities and the item was added to the agenda.

#### **Approval of Minutes from January 8, 2009**

It was MOVED by Mr. Proto, seconded by Ms. Robertson, to approve the minutes of January 8, 2009. Ms. Robertson indicated concern regarding a statement made by Ms. Kiefer. In order to clarify Ms. Kiefer's statement, Mr. Proto WITHDREW his motion.

#### **Appointment to the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board**

It was MOVED by Ms. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Proto, to recommend the appointment of Neil Stevenson to the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board as Farmer representative for a term to expire December 31, 2010. Mr. Proto provided an explanation of the selection of Mr. Stevenson, noting that while the other candidates had a great deal to offer the advisory board, their consistent attendance was not certain due to work obligations. He spoke of the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board's interest in possibly amending bylaws to provide associate member seats that would allow individuals such as the other applicants to provide input from different perspectives such as organic and equine. Ms. Chock expressed interest in including organic farmers on the advisory board.

A voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 0; Excused – 1 (Legislator Burbank). APPOINTMENT APPROVED.

#### **Appointment to the Water Resources Council**

Ms. Mackesey shared information from Ms. Kiefer that she was concerned the individual being appointed to the Agriculture seat was not in the agriculture business. Ms. Kiefer wanted assurance that it was acceptable to the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board, therefore she voted against the individual during the nominating committee process.

It was MOVED by Mr. Proto, seconded by Ms. Robertson, to recommend the appointment of Greg McConnell to the Water Resources Council as Agriculture representative, for a term to expire on December 31, 2011, to the full Legislature. Mr. Proto indicated the individual, though not currently a

farmer, deals with all the farmers in the area and grew up on a farm as well. Ms. Mackesey clarified that she felt the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board should have been consulted.

Ms. Chock requested that at some time during the year a review of advisory board appointments, particularly in diversity and representation occur. Ms. Mackesey thought it would be an issue for Government Operations or Workforce and Diversity Committees; she would look into the matter.

A voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 0; Excused – 1 (Legislator Burbank). APPOINTMENT APPROVED.

### **Strategic Tourism Planning Board**

Ms. Kippola introduced David Sparrow, newly elected Chair of the Strategic Tourism Planning Board. Mr. Sparrow spoke of a memorandum provided to the members addressing development of a possible revised budget due to reduced activity in the tourism sector. The first-quarter reporting, which would be produced in March 2009, should indicate whether budget reductions are necessary. In the interim, programs would continue to proceed as normal. Mr. Sparrow said the Strategic Tourism Planning Board has not yet had a report on the possible reduction and no action would occur until their input is received. He anticipates the budget would be prepared with a twenty percent reduction.

Mr. Proto inquired if the “stay another day” or advertising to bring in individuals residing within one hundred miles has occurred. Mr. Sparrow was not certain if any specific group was being targeted for marketing at the present time. It was noted this past week brought hundreds of teachers to the area.

In response to Ms. Chock’s question, it was noted the reductions could eliminate some programs. Although programs may continue, the funding may be reduced. As an example, it was noted grant program funding might not be as high as in the past. The reduction of some programs could also affect anticipated revenue received for administration of programs by Community Arts Partnership and Tompkins County Area Development and would be proportionally reduced. Ms. Chock expressed her desire not to be overly alarmed; she feels the economic climate in the County is not as severe as other areas of the state and the twenty percent figure may be too high.

Mr. Sparrow indicated once a determination is made he would be coming back to the Committee for approval of any amendments to the budget.

### **Workforce Development**

#### **Economic Stimulus Plan**

Ms. Mattick provided the Committee with information from the United States Department of Labor and the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals regarding the estimated allocation for Workforce Investment Act activities through the Stimulus package. It appears the total allocation is \$582,496, with \$136,715 designated for dislocated workers, \$416,033 for Workforce Investment Act youth programs (annual income of 100 percent or below of poverty level); and \$29,748 for adult workers. At this time it is also believed the designated age for eligible youth is being increased to include 21-24 year-olds and there may be the ability to operate a stand-alone summer youth employment program rather than the required longer-term focus presently required with Federal funding. It is still to be determined how to best divide the funds among various programs as the stimulus funding is for an eighteen-month period. The Youth Employment Council is making determinations of how best to use the funds for existing and future programs. A review is being undertaken to determine what jobs would be available, what youth employment programs may be cut, how the Stimulus funds may be utilized, etc.

In response to Ms. Robertson's question on the stand-alone program, Ms. Mattick explained the Federal government has not allowed this type of program since 2000, when the JTPA program was cancelled. The State, recognizing the value the program provided by stimulating economy and assisting in the training of youth funded stand-alone programs. Now, with the Federal government providing funding, the funds from the State may assist in the summer program for those youth not falling in the 100 percent bracket. There is an administration funding allowance (\$58,000) provided within the grant.

There has been a request for proposals relating to summer youth programs released two weeks ago with a bidders conference today. There have also been meetings with individuals to indicate a desire to see green job proposals coming forward. Cooperative Extension, Tompkins Community Action, and Sustainable Tompkins have been included in these discussions to increase proposals that would assist in training youth in weatherization, insulation, and other rudimentary energy-efficient work. As soon as the State passes its budget and the funding level is received the process of awarding bids could begin.

**RESOLUTION NO. - SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE EMPIRE ZONE PROGRAM**

It was MOVED by Ms. Robertson, seconded by Ms. Chock, to recommend adoption of the following resolution to the full Legislature. A brief discussion occurred, with Ms. Filiberto indicating businesses are provided the opportunity to receive Empire Zone benefits over a ten-year period and must meet specific performance requirements to receive the program benefits.

Ms. Robertson noted since the Empire Zone program started in Tompkins County the Industrial Development Agency abatements have reduced significantly. Mr. Proto inquired if businesses would be eligible for both Empire Zone benefits and Industrial Development Agency abatements and was informed the businesses do not request both.

Mr. Koplinka-Loehr indicated Tom Santulli, Chemung County Executive, while in attendance at the New York State Association of Counties Legislative Conference spoke out strongly about the need to keep the program in place.

Ms. Mackesey is supporting the resolution and noted the Tompkins County Empire Zone administration has been very good.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 4; Noes – 0; Excused – 1 (Legislator Burbank). RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, fostering the growth of business and employment in a variety of business and industry sectors is essential to building a thriving and sustainable economy that improves the quality of life in Tompkins County, and

WHEREAS, the Empire Zone Program has been the primary vehicle to stimulate economic growth and revitalization in struggling local economies throughout New York State, and

WHEREAS, the Empire Zone Program is performance based, rewarding only those businesses that make capital investments or create jobs with state income tax credits, and

WHEREAS, the Empire Zone Program was modified in 2005 to close costly loopholes that unfairly rewarded non-performing businesses, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Empire Zone was awarded in July 2006 and though still in its infancy, has already shown great promise to enhance efforts to retain, expand, and attract targeted businesses, and

WHEREAS, in calendar year 2007, Empire Zone incentives leveraged an investment of over \$27.6 million by Tompkins County's 33 certified businesses and those firms employed 2,208 people and created 204 new jobs in 2007, and

WHEREAS, local Zone Administrators have a more comprehensive and detailed understanding of local business and industry needs, and economic and workforce development goals that best position them to administer local Zones in partnership with State government, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's 2009-2010 budget has proposed sweeping changes to the Empire Zone Program that may lead to litigation, company relocation and a loss of credibility to New York's economic development efforts, and

WHEREAS, increasing New York's already high cost of doing business by significantly cutting the State's business development budget and tarnishing the credibility of our economic development efforts would make New York less competitive, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That in anticipation of growth, success, and the promise of new job creation within the Empire Zones, the Tompkins County Legislature hereby requests the State of New York continue its Empire Zone Program beyond 2011 to June 30, 2017,

RESOLVED, further, That the State of New York maintain the current state and local administrative partnership structure,

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Legislature hereby enlists the support of each and every Zone municipality in the State of New York in an effort to maintain the continued operation and stimulus that the New York State Empire Zone Program offers,

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Clerk is authorized to forward this resolution in support of continuing the Empire Zone Program to Governor David A. Paterson, Senate Majority Leader Malcolm Smith, Senate Minority Leader Dean Skelos, Senator George Winner, Senator James Seward, Senator Michael Nozzolio, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco, Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton, and Empire Zone Program Director Randal Coburn.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II-20

**RESOLUTION NO. - AUTHORIZING A MULTI-YEAR AQUIFER STUDY AGREEMENT FOR THE OWASCO INLET VALLEY**

It was MOVED by Ms. Robertson, seconded by Ms. Chock. Ms. Jurkowich said the agreement is for a three-year term with the ability to extend out to five years. It was noted the Town and Village of Groton do not have agreements in place to contribute toward the project. Ms. Robertson expressed her strong desire to have contributions from the Town and Village regarding the aquifer study, noting other municipalities such as Danby, Dryden, and Caroline all shared in the cost of aquifer studies. Mr. Proto noted that early in the aquifer study projects the United States Geological Survey had provided seventy percent of the project costs, this is now reduced. Ms. Robertson said she does not believe there would be contributions forthcoming if the resolution passed first.

It was MOVED by Ms. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Proto, to amend the limit of funding to \$69,000. Ms. Jurkowich indicated her preference to withdraw the resolution to enable discussions with the Town and Village of Groton regarding contributions to the aquifer study, after which she would report back to the Committee.

Ms. Robertson WITHDREW the resolution.

WHEREAS, the public health and the economic and environmental well-being of Tompkins County and its residents are dependent on safe and dependable supplies of drinking water, and

WHEREAS, water supplies in Tompkins County originate, or receive contributing waters, from underground water sources and aquifers, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Legislature approved in 2003 a capital funding program to complete detailed aquifer studies throughout the County, and

WHEREAS, the aquifer system in the Owasco Inlet valley is a source of drinking water for the Village of Groton and for the rural residents and farms in the valley, and

WHEREAS, geohydrologic information will help to support a comprehensive approach to water resources management for this aquifer system and help understand and protect the resource, and

WHEREAS, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) is prepared to undertake a study to improve the understanding of the geohydrology of the sand and gravel aquifer in Owasco Inlet valley, and

WHEREAS, USGS will contribute thirty percent of the total cost to complete an aquifer study, and

WHEREAS, signing multi-year aquifer study agreements with USGS to complete the detailed aquifer study would provide greater financial certainty to both the County and local municipalities and better assure the availability of resources to complete projects underway and projects to be initiated in the future, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That the County is authorized to enter into a multi-year contract with USGS to complete a detailed aquifer study of the Owasco Inlet Valley aquifer system for an amount not to exceed \$138,026,

RESOLVED, further, That the County's contribution to the aquifer study will not exceed 35 percent of the total project cost,

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator is authorized to execute said contracts.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE: II-21

**RESOLUTION NO. - AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF DRYDEN TO IMPLEMENT THE AGRICULTURAL AND FARMLAND PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AND CO-HOLD A CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON THE JERRY DELL FARM**

It was MOVED by Mr. Proto, seconded by Ms. Robertson, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to recommend adoption of the following resolution to the full Legislature.  
RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of Tompkins County and its residents to support farm operations and protect valuable agricultural resources for their contribution to the local economy, as a local source of food and other products, and as an important contributor to the quality of life in rural communities, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Dryden, in partnership with Tompkins County, has been awarded a New York State Agricultural and Farmland Protection Implementation Grant for the purchase of development rights on the approximately 423 acres of Vaughn, Susan, and Trever Sherman's Jerry Dell Farm in the Town of Dryden, New York, and

WHEREAS, the farm is in the heart of an agricultural district and an area designated in the Tompkins County Comprehensive Plan and the Town of Dryden Comprehensive Plan as important to the region's agricultural base, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board endorsed the application to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for grant funding for this project, and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets selected this farm for protection under the highly competitive Farmland Protection Implementation Grant (FPIG) program, and

WHEREAS, if the project is unsuccessful and an easement is not acquired, New York State is not legally obligated to reimburse local partners for out-of-pocket expenses associated with the project for such items as survey, appraisal, and outside legal fees (though New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets staff has stated that efforts will be made to reimburse the costs), and

WHEREAS, the Town of Dryden is Lead Agency under State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) for this project and has conducted a SEQR review and determined that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, That Tompkins County concurs with the Town's negative determination of significance under SEQR for this project,

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Town of Dryden to implement that project and to co-hold, maintain, and enforce an agricultural conservation easement on the Jerry Dell Farm in perpetuity,

RESOLVED, further, That the agreement will include provisions for the Town and County to split the costs of any unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses (not to exceed \$12,500 each) in the event that the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets does not fully reimburse those costs.

**SEQR ACTION:** Unlisted

**RESOLUTION NO.      – AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF ITHACA AND CORNELL UNIVERSITY TO DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER THE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM AND THE HOUSING TRUST PROGRAM**

It was MOVED by Ms. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Proto, to recommend adoption of the following resolution to the full Legislature. Ms. Chock asked what the significant differences from the previous draft were. Ms. Leccese informed members many were just editorial, the significant amendments were language relating to item "G", specific to questions raised by the City of Ithaca. Mr. Marx crafted language that covered their concerns and it is noted in the revised draft. One major amendment was instead of it being a two-year agreement that could be automatically renewed up to two times for a total of six years, the Memorandum of Understanding now would be for a term of six-years. In the same portion of paragraph "O", the ability to provide notice of the intent to terminate participation in writing was reduced from 60 days to 30 days. Members of the Committee discussed their desire to maintain the 60 day period, noting it would allow time for discussions to perhaps determine the reason and develop a solution to maintain the partnership. Following the discussion, it was asked that Ms. Leccese and other Planning staff speak to Cornell University regarding their reasons for amending the notification clause and report back to members the responses.

A voice vote on the resolution resulted as follows: Ayes – 5; Noes – 0. RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, the County received Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999, and through the State of New York in 2000, 2002, 2005, and 2007 for the purpose of continuing its successful existing home mortgage program for first-time homeowners, and

WHEREAS, the County used these funds for homeownership assistance loans, repayment of which began in September 1995 and, under the rules of the HUD Small Cities Program, these program income funds must be re-spent for like purposes as the original grants, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Housing Needs Assessment emphasizes the need for strategic partnerships, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Housing Strategy outlines four strategies that can be utilized in combination to achieve our goal to create approximately 4,000 new housing units within the next ten years including a community housing trust and community housing affordability fund, and

WHEREAS, a proposal has been developed whereby Tompkins County, Cornell University, and the City of Ithaca would jointly fund a Community Housing Affordability Program and Community Housing Trust Program, and

WHEREAS, the Community Housing Affordability Program is a locally funded and administered program that assists with the pre-development costs associated with residential and mixed-use real estate development projects primarily benefiting low- and moderate-income households, and the Community Housing Trust Program is a program designed to ensure that newly constructed or rehabilitated homes that are made available to low- to moderate-income households remain affordable to future generations of buyers, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality and Budget, Capital, and Finance Committees, That Tompkins County shall provide funding to be loaned and/or granted pursuant to designated funding opportunities through a Notice of Funding Availability for the Community Housing Affordability Program and the Community Housing Trust Program, in a cumulative amount not to exceed six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) over six years,

RESOLVED, further, That Tompkins County approves and accepts the Memorandum of Understanding among the County of Tompkins, the City of Ithaca, and Cornell University with regard to the Community Housing Affordability Program and the Community Housing Trust Program, provided that revisions may be made to the Memorandum of Understanding that do not substantially or materially alter the intent or substance of the Memorandum of Understanding and that are reviewed and approved by the County Attorney and the Commissioner of Planning and Public Works,

RESOLVED, further, That Tompkins County will appoint three representatives to the Program Oversight Committee, which will serve as the oversight and administration entity for the Community Housing Affordability Program and the Community Housing Trust Program,

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Planning Department will provide administrative support for the Program Oversight Committee for the term covered by the MOU until and unless other arrangements are made by the Program Oversight Committee,

RESOLVED, further, That Tompkins County approves and accepts the Notice of Funding Availability for the Community Housing Affordability Program and the Community Housing Trust Program subject to review and modification by the Program Oversight Committee provided that such revisions do not materially change the intent of the Programs and will be subject to County Attorney and Commissioner of Planning and Public Works review and approval,

RESOLVED, further, That Tompkins County shall initially capitalize the first year of the Community Housing Affordability Program and Community Housing Trust Program with a cash balance of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), such amount to be derived from County's CDBG Homeownership Program Income Funds, and That the Finance Director is authorized and directed to make the following budget adjustment:

Revenue	8695	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$100,000
Appropriation	8695.54400	Program Expense	\$100,000

RESOLVED, further, That the funding will be for a term of one year with an end date of December 31, 2009, or until the completion of two application cycles, whichever is later, and shall automatically be renewed at a rate of \$100,000 per year for additional two-year terms up to a total of six years, consistent with the terms of the MOU,

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or his designee is authorized to execute agreements in order to effect this grant program consistent with this resolution.

**SEQR ACTION:** TYPE II - 20

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Update on Application of Community Development Block Grant

Ms. Leccese reported public hearings, as has been done for the past seventeen years, were held in November 2008 and January 2009 regarding applying for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for housing. Subsequent to the hearings, the County received documents indicating that the State would be taking a stance of informing potential recipients that if there is in excess of \$200,000 in program income they strongly encourage them not to apply for funding. At this time the County has a significant amount in program income, with enough to continue the current program level for two years.

Therefore, the County would not be applying for CDBG funding this year. It is anticipated the present income funding would continue the housing fund and homeownership program this year. Next year the County would apply for funds and believes it would be in a better position to receive an award, with the actual funds to be received in two-years time.

A discussion occurred, with members of the Committee asking if the current funding could be utilized elsewhere, thereby allowing application for additional CDBG funds. They were informed by Ms. Leccese that the funds may only be used for programs authorized under the CDBG regulations and that there had not been any requests regarding other possible uses for funds during the public hearing process, thus no other possible options had been reviewed. In addition, she noted the stance taken by the State had not been present in previous applications. Following the discussion, Ms. Leccese and Ms. Jurkowich said they would ask about the possibility of using funds in other areas such as Better Housing for Tompkins County, Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services, and Tompkins Community Action, although with the deadline for applications being the end of April it is doubtful anything could be developed prior to the application deadline.

Ms. Chock expressed her desire to have funding and that perhaps it could be for economic development or job creation. She also noted not applying is a loss of a potential \$750,000 for the County. Ms. Jurkowich said requests for economic development through CDBG grants are handled differently, with requests for grant funding being allowed at any time. This application is very specific, with an annual application process for housing.

#### **2009 Department of Planning Work Plan**

Due to a desire to discuss the Stimulus Package, the Committee deferred the item from the agenda. Ms. Jurkowich asked that members contact her directly with any areas they may have questions or concerns.

#### **Discussion Regarding Stimulus Package**

Mr. Mareane reported the stimulus package as adopted would not include items relating to airport security. The other amendment was that transportation projects have been amended to see projects in 120 day and one-year categories. The document presented by the County had them in 90- and 180-day projects and two-year projects.

Ms. Robertson noted the County had requested funding for youth job training. As Ms. Mattick had indicated there are other funds being received for youth training and jobs, she would like to see funding for non-youth job training requested. Mr. Proto spoke of the agriculture academy that was created to keep individuals within the County. He spoke of the need to have individuals trained in appliance repair, noting the lack of this type of skill. He agrees with Ms. Robertson the job training should be open to any individual.

Mr. Mareane said the transmittal letter indicated the County would advise the State of any refinement to areas submitted; he does not see a problem with broadening the scope of job training. In response to Ms. Mackesey's question relating to airport infrastructure, he said the idea is to take projects that are ready and move them ahead quickly, some of which would free up local share funding for other projects.

The Committee briefly discussed the matter of prioritizing projects. Ms. Mackesey suggested it be done via e-mail with the full Legislature. The Committee discussed how to best layout a matrix that

would appropriately indicate priorities. It was thought the timeframe was important versus all projects within one area.

Ms. Robertson expressed an interest to see if the housing items could perhaps be shifted to provide some of the items within the new timeframe. Mr. Mareane said with the requirement of a one-year versus two-year designation there may be some items that could be moved into the one-year designation. Mr. Proto expressed a concern that everyone be cognizant of the potential staff time that may be required for accountability requests relating to the proposed projects. The Committee spoke of needing to set a deadline regarding priorities, however, subsequent to that the Legislature would be consistently updated as information is received regarding the Stimulus Package. Many of the funds would be in the present formulas and there is no need to request them. Ms. Robertson asked if the rehab living units could be moved ahead on the listing. It was also suggested that the Ithaca Free Clinic could be eligible for funding through the Stimulus Package. Mr. Mareane will look into the matter but he is not certain the clinic information passed through the House was included in the final document.

Ms. Chock asked how the non-formula funding would be set up. Mr. Mareane said as well as submitting the requests to the Cabinet it would also be sent to the separate divisions they relate to. He said there are various departments that would handle the funding. He believes any new program development would go through the cabinet that has been created by the Governor.

Mr. Mareane said all Legislators would be kept advised of any amendments to our submission and funding levels as known.

#### **Appointment to Soil and Water Conservation District**

Ms. Mackesey received e-mail from Mr. Stevenson expressing a desire to continue serving on the Soil and Water Conservation Board, particularly due to the difficulty the advisory board has in making quorum. Mr. Proto spoke of his having also been assigned as liaison to the board and he also wished to continue. At this time Ms. Mackesey asked Committee members if they desired to act on the appointments at this time, and all agreed. It was then MOVED by Ms. Robertson, seconded by Ms. Chock, and unanimously approved to recommend Greg Stevenson and Frank Proto as Legislature representatives to the Soil and Water Conservation District Advisory Board for 2009.

#### **Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Karen Fuller, Deputy Clerk*