

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Gouldman & Gross

Thursday **5:30 p.m.** **July 14, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. by Chairwoman Addonizio who led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislator Gross and Chairwoman Addonizio were present. Legislator Gouldman was absent. Chairwoman Addonizio stated that Legislator Castellano would be sitting in for Legislator Gouldman.

Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes- May 23, 2016

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Item # 4 – Discussion/Economic Development and Real Estate Climate/Putnam

Chairwoman Addonizio stated Legislator Nacerino requested an update on the Economic Development and Real Estate Climate in Putnam County. She stated President of the Economic Development Corporation Jill Varricchio is present this evening and will begin the discussion.

President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Jill Varricchio stated that she and each of her Board Members during the months of April to June have met with a contact person from each municipality. She stated information was gathered in regards to each community's wants and needs. She stated the next step will be to create a companion marketing piece that aligns current assets and goals with opportunity and market outside the area to bring interest into Putnam County. She stated a committee has been established with specific goals of having a strong unified voice that will bring life and value to thoughtful land use and economic development. She stated the committee is called "The Alliance for Balanced Growth" (Committee). She stated that they have met three (3) times. She stated the Committee has created an outline which will serve as a guide to balanced growth. She stated that the Committee is exploring a form base zoning and its parameters. The issue of time frames to get properties shovel ready are being looked into. She stated that Ulster County has a model, they created approximately three (3) years ago which has been successful it is called "Ready To Go". She stated the deadline for the Consolidated Funding Application process (CFA) is the end of this month, July 29th. She stated they have been very active with this process. She stated they need funding, just like every other organization. She stated that the EDC will be hosting an investor's breakfast, which all of the Legislators will be invited to. She stated that each week the EDC posts a commercial property on-line along with the name of the real estate broker. She stated that the EDC needs an active Putnam County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) in order to remain competitive. She reviewed a list of businesses coming into the Putnam County area as well as the projected number of jobs per business. She stated New York State contacted the EDC in February. She stated they were looking for sites that match a certain profile. She stated in the review process Putnam County currently is 1 of 3 sites still be considered. She stated if the Putnam County site is chosen it could bring approximately 165 jobs in the

engineering field. She stated that the final notification will come in the first week of August. She provided an update on potential businesses coming to Putnam County. She stated there is a food processor company that has been looking at locations near the I-84 Corridor, there is a Pharmaceutical Manufacturer that has expanded and it may result in bringing approximately six (6) jobs to the County. She stated a Laborers Union moved into a space near I-84. She stated that they will be doing training and certification of their employees there. She stated that she has been meeting with some hotel franchise groups. She listed a couple of new businesses along Route 52 in the Town of Kent and in Mahopac. She continued with her overview of EDC in Putnam County. She stated often when speaking in the world of EDC you hear reference to the four (4) "R's": Roads, Rail, River and nearby Runways. She stated she contends that Putnam County has our own addition to the "R": Reservoirs, Rail trails & Remarkable leaders committed to thoughtful economic development.

Legislator Gross questioned if Putnam County is competitive with the surrounding counties.

President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Jill Varricchio stated yes Putnam County is competitive. She stated that most of the interest is on the areas of Putnam County along the highway.

Patty Villanova, resident of Putnam Valley, stated she has a business in Cold Spring. She stated that she did not hear any initiatives planned for Putnam Valley. She questioned if there are any initiatives.

President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Jill Varricchio stated that they have been working with Putnam Valley Town Supervisor Sam Oliverio and meeting with him regarding the needs of the community. She stated that they expressed a need to improve upon their infrastructure which will facilitate them to move forward. She stated the County is taking the CFA process and identifying the infrastructure needs of that particular community.

Patty Villanova, resident of Putnam Valley, stated she has heard the comments by EDC President Varricchio tonight and in past presentations that the EDC is focusing on bringing larger businesses into Putnam County. She stated that she does not hear programs and work being put forward to support the existing business in Putnam County. She stated that she heard one incentive for new businesses is a tax abatement for a specified number of years. She stated part of the reason for wanting to bring business into the community is to benefit the tax base; if tax abatement is offered that will not be achieved. She stated that there are a lot of small businesses who could use some help. She stated that she does not see that there is any agency in the County that is working to help and support the small businesses.

President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Jill Varricchio stated that she owned her own small business for 30 years. She stated that she is passionate about economic development and she believes in both the small and large businesses. She continued to express her support of both the small and large businesses and the benefits they bring into a community.

Legislator Nacerino complimented EDC President Varricchio on the very comprehensive overview she has provided this evening. She stated that it is a multifaceted effort to work to sustain the population. She stated in reference to the tax abatement comment, there is a strategy

to offer that because of the benefit the business will bring to a community in terms of jobs and sales tax will offset.

Legislator Albano stated unfortunately the zoning and building restrictions in the different areas along with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) restrictions make it very difficult to get building permits. He stated that it does not need to be like that. He stated he has heard of people in Connecticut who have gotten a building permit in a day, versus in Putnam it can take up to a month or longer. He stated that is an overall deterrent.

Legislator LoBue stated that there needs to be a continual focus on balance. She stated 70% of the Putnam County population travels south for their corporate employment. She stated that she believes that is the type of business that should be targeted to bring to Putnam. She stated the CFA Grant application that was just approved is all retail based and two (2) of the biggest projects on both sides of the County involve box stores. She stated she believes that is potentially dangerous for our small business. She stated that on-line shopping is taking a great deal of business from the brick and mortar retail.

President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Jill Varricchio stated that on-line is the trend. She stated the need to deliver products quickly from on-line orders is what is facilitating the desire of manufacturers to find distribution location areas on the east coast near highways.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she supports the big store and the retail in Putnam County is something that she supports. She stated that the Patterson Crossing project, which will be located in her town, is being proposed and they are projecting that Costco will be one of the stores to occupy space there.

Legislator Gross stated that he agrees with the comments made by Legislator Albano in regards to the permits and red tape definitely being a deterrent to bringing businesses to Putnam County.

President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Jill Varricchio stated that she hears what is being said and agrees. She stated that she is planning to meet with each municipality to discuss their individual building permit process.

Legislator LoBue stated that she lives in Mahopac. She stated up and down the Route 6 corridor there are many store front vacancies. She stated she believes bringing the big box stores is going to be problematic to the future of filling the store front vacancies.

President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Jill Varricchio stated in closing she would like to report there were 22 commercial sales from January 2016 to present.

President of the Carmel-Kent Chamber Bill Nulk stated he was asked to represent Chairwoman of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce Jennifer Maher tonight. He stated that due to a personal reason Ms. Maher was unable to attend the meeting tonight. He stated the he will provide the information that she would have reported to this committee. He stated that the Hudson Gateway Association of Realtors report year to date Putnam Sales are up 32.7% over Westchester County's 18.2%. He stated the Putnam market is really beginning to gain

momentum. He stated that the taxes of Putnam County are just about equal to the taxes in Westchester County per square foot. He stated Putnam County used to have lower taxes, which was a draw for people to move to this area. He stated the new trend which is attracting many is the conversion to “18 Hour Cities”. He stated in Westchester, Beacon, New Paltz, and Saratoga all have common mobility, commerce, recreation and affordable housing. He stated if Putnam County puts the emphasis on the down town areas, where more affordable housing can be created, public transportation readily exists, restaurants and stores will be supported, bringing the areas back to life, which in turn will have an effect on the surrounding areas. He stated the Village of Brewster is doing a great job revitalizing itself. They are improving transportation and working to develop the walkable community concept.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated in regards to the housing market from July 2015 to date there were 1,003 Single Family homes sold in Putnam County. She stated that the median sale price was \$320,000. She stated that the average days a house was on the market before the sale was 93 days. She stated that Putnam County cannot compare itself to Westchester County. She stated the population of Putnam County is approximately 100,000 and there are approximately 1,000,000 residents in Westchester.

President of the Carmel-Kent Chamber Bill Nulk stated he has been working to revitalize the transportation in Putnam County which is challenging because of the vast demographic area. He stated to provide affordable convenient transportation is a challenge. He stated in New York State, it is the year of “Infrastructure”, which is an area, in his opinion, that Putnam County lacks in. He stated to attract businesses to Putnam versus other Counties that already have sewer, water systems is challenging. He stated Putnam County needs to step up in these areas.

Legislator Albano stated his children, who are in the age bracket of young adults, want to live in the walkable areas with easy transportation. He stated that is the life style that is attractive to this young generation.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she is concerned about the resale value of the homes in Putnam County. She stated for many people the biggest asset they have is the equity in their home.

Legislator LoBue stated that she believes the high taxes along with the high number of foreclosures are contributing to the low number of home sales in Putnam County.

Item # 5 – Discussion/Putnam County Visitor’s Bureau Inc.

Chair Addonizio stated that Acting Director of the Visitor’s Bureau Frank Smith is present this evening. She stated that in March of this year, an update on the business of the Putnam County Visitor’s Bureau (Bureau) was requested. On May 16, 2016 the Legislature received a memo from Acting Director Frank Smith stating upon the completion of the New York State Attorney General’s Office hearing the Visitors’ Bureau would come before the Committee to provide the update.

Acting Director Frank Smith presented additional backup to the Committee Members.

Chair Addonizio made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Acting Director Frank Smith apologized for not arriving to the meeting with enough copies of the additional backup for all of the Legislators. He stated that he will get the additional copies to the Legislative Office tomorrow. He stated he did request that this update be pushed out, until he met with the Attorney General's Office. He stated that he, Stephen Tomann, the Visitors' Bureau retained attorney, Libby Pataki, previous Director of the Bureau and her Attorney met the Charities Bureau of the Attorney General's Office on Thursday, June 17, 2016. He stated Sean Courtney, the head of the Charities Bureau and the individual attorney assigned to the Bureau's case, Catherine Suvari were also in attendance. He stated at that meeting he presented Putnam County's Visitors' Bureau's "Course of Action", which a copy is in the packet that he presented to the Committee. He stated also there is a document in the packet entitled "Newspaper Listing". He stated at the meeting with the Attorney General's Office both of those documents along with a copy of the Bureau's most recently amended by-laws were reviewed.

Legislator LoBue questioned the by-laws have been amended now.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated that in 2015 he recognized that the Bureau's by-laws were out of compliance with a change of law that took place in 2013. He stated that they began to work on the amended by-laws in 2015 and then when the situation unfolded in the Spring of 2016 there was a defective board when a Board Member resigned. He explained the amended by-laws could not be adopted.

Legislator LoBue questioned if there is a Board in place now.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated for the past three (3) weeks in the local papers: PCN&R, Courier, and the Time/Press he has had an advertisement soliciting applications for Board Members. He stated that he anticipated a large amount of applications. He stated that he wanted to assure that the process of selecting the members was as impartial as possible. He stated his initial idea was to assemble a group of individuals who have experience with other boards in the County and are local residents. He stated his idea was to have them choose the Board Members. He stated at the end date for application submission there were seven (7), the names of the individuals are in the backup he brought this evening.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated he will continue to provide an update from the meeting with the Attorney General. He stated their concerns were most importantly pertaining to how the Putnam County Visitors' Bureau is moving forward, into the future. He stated the Course of Action sheet was presented to them and explained his plan to reconstitute the board and the timeline for that. He stated the next step is to reconvene with the Attorney General's Office in middle of September 2016. He stated the purpose of the meeting will be to assure that the actions being taken are acceptable. He stated that a specific date in September has not been placed on the calendar. He stated that earlier in the year applications were received for the Project Director position. He stated that he reviewed the entire Course of Action with Putnam County's Personnel Director Paul Eldridge. He stated that he recognizes as an outside agency, it was not required that he do that. However, in light of the experience and knowledge Director Eldridge has in the field of Personnel, he believed it would be wise to confer with him. He stated Director Eldridge, after review the plan, also stated that he believed to the plan would work well.

Legislator LoBue questioned how many applicants were there for the Director position.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated he would have to check. He stated that there was an applicant for the Director position and then determined she was best served to serve as a board member. He stated right before his meeting with the Attorney General's Office (June 17th) he sent an e-mail to all of those who had applied to the Director position. He stated a copy of the email is included in the backup brought this evening. He stated he notified them of where they were with the process, what was being done, and what the course of action was with the Board. He stated that of the seven (7) applicants to be Board Members; he is waiting for confirmation from two (2) that they are still interested. He stated the plan is to have the first Board meeting during the first week of August. Attorney Steve Tomann will be sending out the invitations for that meeting. He stated the goal of the first board meeting will be to choose the officers, discuss the staggered terms of the initial board members and adopt the most recently amended by-laws.

Legislator LoBue questioned if a copy of the new by-laws are in the additional backup provided this evening.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated unfortunately he was just sent a copy of the amended by-laws tonight via e-mail at 5:45p.m. He stated a copy will be provided to the Legislature tomorrow.

Legislator LoBue questioned when she will receive the financial information that she requested in March.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated the financial information for the most part is in the additional backup provided tonight. He stated there were a few documents he was unable to get a hold of. He stated unfortunately the accountants for the Visitors' Bureau, had a death in their family. He stated, again, in the packet presented tonight there is a vast majority of everything Legislator LoBue requested. He stated after the first board meeting, the board members will review the Director applications. He stated once the board members agree upon a candidate they will bring the nomination to the Legislature for approval and then be sent to the Empire State Development.

Legislator LoBue requested the names of the people who will be board members.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated they are as follows: Philip Tolmach - Carmel resident, still waiting to hear from him, Deborah Walker - Cold Spring resident, Bernard Molloy - Cold Spring resident, Elizabeth Carson-Tompkins - Carmel resident, still waiting to hear from, Victoria Causa - Carmel resident, Kevin Callahan - Brewster resident and Christine Torino - Brewster resident.

Legislator LoBue requested clarification that these were the only people who applied to be on the board of the Putnam County Visitor's Bureau.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated that is correct.

Legislator LoBue stated that she understands that there was a board put together for the purpose of reviewing the resumes of the applicants. She questioned who sits on that board.

Acting Director Frank Smith questioned for what position, the Board of Director or the Project Director. He stated initially his idea was to put an impartial group together as an advisory board.

However, since there were only seven (7) applicants, who all appear extremely qualified, he believed it was best to move forward with them.

Legislator LoBue stated she has had people telling her that there is a review committee looking at applications. She requested he explain this.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated the reviewing committee will not be meeting anymore.

Legislator LoBue questioned who was on the reviewing committee. She stated she heard about this reviewing committee two (2) weeks ago. She stated that she had no idea that the committee had been established. She stated she was also told that the committee members were reviewing resumes.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated the committee never actually met; therefore he finds it interesting that was being said. He stated that he reached out to five (5) individuals in the community. He stated that three (3) confirmed and two (2) politely declined. He stated the three (3) that confirmed: Katie DeMarco, Jack Gress, and Al Lotrecchiano. He stated the two (2) who declined: Marjorie Keith and Jeff Kellogg. He confirmed to Legislator LoBue and the Committee Members that none of these people reviewed any resumes. He stated again in light of the fact that there were only seven (7) applicants to the Board positions, there was no need to have the reviewing committee part of the process. He stated that he believes all of the seven (7) applicants are strong, and he will be moving forward with them as board members. He stated the amended by-laws will include a provision for a Legislative Liaison to the board. The designated Legislative Liaison will be a non-voting member who will attend the board meeting and serve as an advisory board member.

Legislator LoBue requested clarification to Acting Director Smith's reference to the attorneys that were reference earlier in the discussion. She stated it was stated that Libby Pataki has an attorney and Acting Director Smith has an attorney, she requested confirmation of this statement.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated that the Bureau has a retained Attorney.

Legislator LoBue questioned who is paying for the retained attorney.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated the Bureau. He stated that it is included in the budget of the Bureau. He stated that he is pretty confident that Libby paid for her attorney, you could ask her directly for confirmation.

Legislator LoBue stated the Attorney General's Office comes to Putnam County questioning the procedures of this corporation, and now the tax payers of the County are paying the bill for the Attorney that is representing you.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated the Attorney is representing the Visitors' Bureau, not him individually.

Acting Director Frank Smith questioned if other groups have retained counsel and if they do, how do they pay for it.

Legislator LoBue stated that the Putnam County Visitors' Bureau is an outside agency. She stated that other outside agencies have not been investigated by the Attorney General's Office.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated it was an inquiry of the Attorney General's Office that has ended and there have been no findings. He stated that we can talk about the past, and the Director who is non-existent anymore.

Legislator LoBue stated that we are still in the past, because there is not an active board. She stated and the Bureau is still able to operate and spend tax payer money without a legal entity in place.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated the legal entity is in place, they are just in the process of restructuring.

Legislator LoBue stated that restructuring has been going on for seven (7) months.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated, again, he apologized for not getting the additional backup to the Legislature on time, but the information is in that packet. He stated in the last paragraph of the letter from the Bureau's Attorney (Steve Tomann) details the meeting that took place with the Attorney General's Office.

Chairwoman Addonizio read the last paragraph aloud. In summary it stated the Bureau will proceed with the restructuring of board members etc., pursue the approval of that restructuring from the Putnam County Legislature and return to have a meeting with the Attorney General's Office in mid-September.

Legislator Albano stated that the material that was presented as additional this evening can be reviewed by each Legislator tomorrow. He stated that he is hearing good things being reported in terms of progress being made. He stated after the Legislators have had the opportunity to review the material if there is additional questions, Acting Director Smith could be requested to come back. He questioned how the Bureau is doing, in general.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated excellent. He stated that he included in the additional packet a summary sheet of the 2016 accomplishments. He stated only half of the I Love New York matching funding earmarked for 2016 has been redeemed thus far. He stated that can be a positive for the incoming Project Director the opportunity to prepare for 2017. He stated that he believes it would be wise to allow the new Project Director to utilize the remaining funds leading into 2017.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated she would like to recap. She questioned when will the first Board Meeting be?

Acting Director Frank Smith stated tentatively it will take place during the first week of August. He stated a copy of the minutes from that meeting will be sent to the County Executive Office and the Legislature.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated that the interview process and selection of a new Project Director still needs to be completed.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated that will be up to the Board once they meet. He stated the Board members will review the candidates first, and make their determination and then come to the Legislature for approval.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned if the Bureau is supposed to report monthly to the Legislature with financials. She questioned how has that been handled in the past.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated he is not familiar with what was done in the past.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated it does state that the Bureau should provide a monthly update, and she would like that procedure to be followed.

Acting Director Frank Smith confirmed that will be done.

Legislator LoBue stated that she would like a copy of the past minutes of the previous Boards meetings.

Acting Director Frank Smith stated copies of those minutes are in the additional packet which he submitted this evening.

Legislator Gross stated that he believes that Frank Smith has done a good job cleaning up a bit of a disorganized and awkward situation. He stated that it sounds like the Bureau is on the right track and is proceeding forward. He stated that he knows some of the seven (7) new Board Members and he too believes it is all going to work out well.

Legislator Nacerino stated that she would like to echo Legislator Gross's sentiments. She stated that the circumstances that arose required certain action to be taken. She stated she supports the function of the Visitors' Bureau and supports moving forward.

Legislator Scuccimarra stated she agrees also. She stated that she is no longer a member of the Visitors' Bureau Board. She stated during the time that she did serve and work along with Frank Smith she can attest to the good job he has done and continues to do.

Patty Villanova, Resident and is a small business owner. She stated that in her opinion the past Director did not carry out the full responsibilities of the job. She stated Cold Spring in the Tourism Center of Putnam County. She stated she believes there are millions of grant dollars available that could be pursued, but have not been. She stated that she would also like to compliment the job that Frank Smith has done in the recovery of the matter and board. He stated that he has maintained a professional approach to his role. She stated she believes he has done a better job than the previous Director. She stated he is very loyal, smart and a pleasure to work with.

Legislator Gross stated he does not believe any more time should be spent in discussing the past. He stated things appear to be moving along very well and that is where we want to be. He stated that he would like to add that the Tilly Foster Farm location is progressing every day and will be a very important attraction of Putnam County as is the Putnam County Golf Course. He stated that there are several different areas throughout Putnam County that attract tourists.

Patty Villanova, Resident stated the following: “I have ideas for Tourism for Tilly Foster also. This brings me to my next point. I put in, I started, when I realized what was going on, I put in an application for that position (Director of Putnam County Visitors’ Bureau Inc.) all the way back, back when. I also put in an application in April, in response to the ad that was in the paper, alright. I have tremendous qualifications, I have wonderful qualifications ok. I sent my application to the Personnel Department. These people never even had the courtesy to get back to me. There are no criteria for this job, there is no test for this job, and there is no way of notice. However this person is chosen my suspicion is that is going to be for political considerations, because I can’t find despite all the letters and emails that I write to the County Executive to the Legislature I can’t find out what the objective criteria is for this position, this very important position.”

Chairwoman Addonizio thanked Ms. Villanova for her comments.

Patty Villanova, Resident stated that she was not finished speaking.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated the comments are being repeated. We need to move on with the discussion and agenda. She stated Ms. Villanova’s has had the opportunity to communicate her points.

Patty Villanova, Resident finished her statement: “I have the qualifications and there are no standards. I’m going to tell you something, I think that I am being discriminated against because of my outspokenness, I am being discriminated against because of my sex and my age and I have news for you if I find out and I’m not even, nobody has called me, nobody said anything. There is some mysterious backroom project. You know what, if I don’t get a decent hearing and if I don’t get a decent shot at this job from which I am very, very well qualified; and I have worked as a volunteer for 48 years. I am going to the Equal Opportunity Commission and I am going to sue this County. I am tired of all this stuff going on in the backroom. Thank you.”

Chairwoman Addonizio thanked Ms. Villanova.

Legislature LoBue questioned if the process was followed with every one of the applications that were received.

Acting Director of Putnam County Visitors’ Bureau Frank Smith questioned which applications are we speaking of?

Legislature LoBue stated any one of them.

Acting Director of Putnam County Visitors’ Bureau Frank Smith stated as Ms. Villanova can attest she received the email that he sent to all of the Project Director Applicants letting them

know what the timeline was with the board applications and so on. So again, he cannot speak for action from the Personnel Department.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned if Ms. Villanova's application was received.

Acting Director of Putnam County Visitors' Bureau Frank Smith stated yes and she received the email.

Chairwoman Addonizio requested if Ms. Villanova received the e-mail Acting Director Smith is referring to.

Patty Villanova stated she did.

Acting Director of Putnam County Visitors' Bureau Frank Smith stated the following: "Along with all of the other applicants, for the Project Director Position. Again, because that is contingent upon the applications for the board members. So that was just to give some clarification to people like Patty who have been waiting since April to hear what was going on."

Legislature Castellano questioned how many applicants are there for the Project Director Position.

Acting Director of Putnam County Visitors' Bureau Frank Smith stated over thirty. It is great. There are a lot of extremely talented people there are a lot of great people from Putnam County. He acknowledged Ms. Villanova stating the following, "I totally understand your concerns in terms of politics. I get it and that is the reason why I tried so hard to go through this process the way that I did so that the board is truly the core of the governance they choose the Project Director, you guys approve the Project Director, the State approves the Project Director and then we're working with a fully functional organization that has by-laws and has policies and procedures that are up to the law and that can be kept an eye on by you guys and that has been my goal since the very beginning."

Item #6 - Approval/Designation/Putnam County Visitor's Bureau Inc./Tourist Promotion Agency

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional amended resolution pertaining to agenda Item #6; Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Chairwoman Addonizio she stated that in the proposed resolution the amendment was, the reference to the "Commerce Law" was amended to read "*pursuant the Economic Development Law*".

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Amended Resolution/Designation/Putnam County Visitor's Bureau Inc./Tourist Promotion Agency; Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Item #7 - Approval/Putnam County Tourist Promotion Agency “I Love New York” Matching Funds Program

Legislator LoBue stated she would like this Committee to table this item. She stated she would like to wait until after the September meeting at the Attorney General’s Office.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated in the resolution it states that this needs to be approved by August 2016. She stated that she does not want to risk losing this funding. She requested the opinion of Legislative Counsel VanRoss.

Legislative Counsel VanRoss stated that he has contacted the State Office and requested if this particular resolution is even required. However, he has not received an answer yet.

Legislator Gross stated regardless if the wording will be changed in the resolution the funding from New York State is needed.

Legislator LoBue stated Legislative Counsel is saying that we do not have confirmation that August 2016 is the final date. She stated that there is no Board in place or a Project Director, what would be the harm in waiting another month.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated she was not comfortable taking the chance of losing the matching funds. She facilitated further discussion.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve the Putnam County Tourist Promotion Agency “I Love New York” Matching funds Program; Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Item #8 - FYI/Unemployment Report - Duly Noted

Item #9 - FYI/Foreclosure Report - Duly Noted

Item #10 - Other Business - None

Item #11 - Adjournment

There being no further business at 6:50 P.M. Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk, Diane Trabulsy.