

**Economic Development & Energy Committee Meeting
Held In Room #318
Putnam County Office Building
Members: Chairwoman Scuccimarra & Legislators LoBue and Gross**

Tuesday **July 9, 2013**
(Immediately following Health Committee Mtg. starting @ 5:30 P.M.)

The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m. by Chairwoman Scuccimarra who requested Legislator LoBue lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Legislators Gross, LoBue and Chairwoman Scuccimarra were present.

Item #3 - Approval of Minutes – April 15, 2013

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Item #4 - Putnam County Economic Development Corp./President Meghan Taylor
a) Update/PC EDC Projects

Putnam County Economic Development Corp. President Meghan Taylor provided an update on the Consolidated Funding Application process (CFA). She stated that she attended the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council Meeting in Rockland County and had an update from that meeting on the Opportunity Area. She stated that the Village of Brewster has submitted their application online as one of seven submissions. Of these seven, four were cities and three were villages. Ms. Taylor believed that the Village of Brewster is well set up to be selected. She stated that she would find out the results on Friday.

Ms. Taylor also spoke about the Infrastructure Work Group Committee for the Mid-Hudson Regional Council who look at transportation infrastructure projects that reduced greenhouse gasses and for infrastructural projects that incorporate green building and construction standards. It is part of Regional Sustainability. They had asked that a representative from Putnam County be a part of this group.

Legislator LoBue clarified that this plan is under Governor Cuomo's initiative to green New York State which has \$30 million worth of grant money available.

Ms. Taylor added to Legislator LoBue's comment by stating that obtaining a part of this available grant money is a competition around the state. Some qualifying criteria for the Village of Brewster are a population of 2,500 to 30,000 or a location that was larger than 5 square city blocks. There were also poverty rates and homeowner percentages. The Council wanted to approve an area that had the capacity to fulfill the projects that they were applying for. They asked the Village of Brewster for grant applications and awards dating back three years to ensure they had shovel ready projects and were in fact going to put the grant money to good use, which was well proved.

Item #5 - Discussion/Putnam County Energy Consortium

Legislator LoBue stated that last month the discussion regarding the Hudson Valley Regional Sustainability Plan began and she has a draft resolution that had been passed by Westchester County in May 2013. She then read an article from the Putnam County Press on the Greener Communities Program which highlighted the \$30 million in grant money. Legislator LoBue also mentioned a plan to restart an Energy Committee, which this committee would be the vehicle to discuss energy efficiencies, which includes creating jobs through Economic Development. The Committee would also discuss efficiencies for the County such as lighting and the available grants through NYSERDA. This resolution would be the first step in putting the towns on notice.

Legislator LoBue made a motion to pre-file the draft resolution; seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval/Designation/Putnam County Visitors Bureau Inc./Tourist Promotion Agency

Legislator LoBue made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

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

Legislator LoBue made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; seconded by Legislator Gross. All in favor.

Item #8 - Unemployment Report/FYI

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that the unemployment rate is 6.1% as of May, which is better than it has been.

Legislator LoBue stated it is still high but seems to be trending down.

Item # 9 - Foreclosure Report/FYI

Legislator Oliverio stated that he had spoken to a few real estate agents about foreclosures and stated that things that have been in the court system for two or three years now are soon to be settled.

There being no further business, at 6:10 P.M., Legislator Gross made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator LoBue. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Beth Green, Administrative Assistant.