

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Executive Board

Date and Time Tuesday, November 21 2000 at 7:00 PM

Place Village of Carthage Municipal Building, 120 S Mechanic St., Carthage NY 13619

Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900

Minutes

TO: Mayors/Supervisors and Boards of the T/Champion, T/Wilna, V/Carthage and V/West Carthage

FROM: Chris Vargulick, Council Clerk

DATE: November 22, 2000

RE: Minutes from November 21, 2000 River Area Council of Governments meeting

Members present: K. Amyot, L. Gerber, W. McIlroy, M. Sligar, J. Smith, T. Stewart, and J. Waterbury

Members absent: T. Buckley, M. Franchini, and D. Getman

Chairman McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:08PM.

Kathy Amyot presented her monthly report and highlighted the primary focus, which was to gain a solid contextual framework of the communities and their existing systems and to establish local community networking. The report recommended the following initiatives:

- Development of an interactive web site
- Development of a quarterly newsletter to update the public on the direction and focus of RACOG.
- Regular press releases to provide information to the public
- Involvement of a broader base of community stakeholders in the planning and implementation of RACOG initiatives

M. Sligar suggested a targeted mailing of the newsletter to persons expressing interest.

C. Vargulick reported that a laptop computer has been purchased for Ms. Amyot use to facilitate her work for the Council. Funds were appropriated from the unexpended balance of the grant received for the Twin Village management study.

K. Amyot introduced Brian Phelps, T/Champion central communications director. Mr. Phelps addressed the design and construction of the RACOG web site and the associated costs. The costs identified were as follows:

- Computer hardware.....\$1,500*
- Connection hardware, software, and incidentals.....\$ 500*
- Maintenance and cable connection \$90/month.....\$1,080/annual
- Web name registration.....\$ 30/annual

TOTAL START-UP COST.....\$3,110

*Year one expense only

Ms. Amyot reported that there are no available grant funds, at this time, to apply to start up costs but that \$650 is available from the unexpended balance of the Twin Village management study. Ms. Amyot commented on the necessity of community participation to develop a relevant site. The Board discussed some areas of preferred content including but not limited to a calendar, historical perspectives, local laws, and application forms.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Sligar to endorse the development of a RACOG web site and to relate to component boards the necessity to identify funding from local budgets.

Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

K. Amyot distributed a draft of the RACOG Community Development Action Plan. The plan is based on the initiatives identified in the Quality Communities Demonstration Grant Program application. RACOG has been awarded \$30,000 in grant funds to address a two-part plan.

Part One is designed to establish a framework for growth in the RACOG area primarily through a comprehensive review of land use controls with a focus on standardization and coordination of those controls and administrative

procedures among the component communities. This portion of the work plan will be done primarily through in-kind service provided by the Tug Hill Commission and Jefferson County Planning.

Part Two is directed toward the redevelopment of the Carthage/West Carthage "Main Street". Preliminary meetings have identified the need to appoint a steering committee that would focus on preparing a CBDG application for submission during the 2001-funding year.

Motion by Mr. Gerber, seconded by Mr. Stewart to endorse the RACOG Community Development Action Plan. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Sligar, seconded by Mr. Gerber to endorse the appointment of an ad hoc committee to prepare and recommend a CBDG application to the Council. The committee shall be comprised of members of the State Street Coalition and a similar number of representatives from West Carthage and the Town of Champion. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Stephanie Clemons submitted a written request to the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage to consider a proposal to reintroduce ornamental street lighting between James Streets and Jefferson Streets.

K. Amyot reported that a workshop was held on November 17th to facilitate planning for a new pool facility. The Twin Village Swimming Pool Commission has discussed restructuring the Commission to encompass the broader aspects of recreation throughout the Towns and Villages. The new commission would be designated as the Joint Village Recreation Commission and would include local recreation directors, athletic field directors and interested community members. Sub-committees would be appointed to focus on specific areas of recreation including but not limited to a pool facility, ice arena, and skating park. Sub-committees might also initiate funding activities for approved initiatives.

Motion by Mr. Sligar, seconded by Mr. Smith to endorse the recommendation, consistent with the DMG management study, to restructure the Twin Village Pool Commission as the Joint Recreation Commission including the appointment of ad hoc committees to focus on specific initiatives. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

L. Gerber discussed improvements to downtown properties prior to the completion of a development plan.

Motion by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Sligar to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:48PM.

The next regular meeting of the River Area Council of Governments will be held on Tuesday, December 19, 2000 at 7:00PM at the V/Carthage Municipal Building.

Christina Vargulick

RACOG Clerk