

Organization River Area Council of Governments

Board Executive Board

Date and Time Tuesday, February 18 2003 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

Members present: M. Bezanilla, T. Buckley, W. McIlroy, J. Smith, T. Stewart, and R. Vary

Members excused: M. Franchini and P. Smith

Chairman McIlroy called the meeting to order at 7:00PM at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.

Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by M. Bezanilla to approve the minutes for January 21, 2003, as presented. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Reports

The Circuit Rider's monthly report was read and accepted. Ms. Amyot commented that the report has been revamped to reflect both activities accomplished during the month and ongoing initiatives.

Ms. Amyot reviewed several initiatives that will be relevant to RACOG in the coming months:

- Recommended a process to reflect on the RACOG vision statement, present initiatives, and goal setting. Council members agreed by consensus to hold a "visioning" session.
- Reminded Council members about the upcoming LGC conference. The keynote speaker will address downtown neighborhoods.
- Reflected on the competitive nature of the RCI selection process and encouraged an awareness of the benefits to the overall area.
- Distributed information about the Hyett-Palma downtown workshop sponsored in part by RACOG. The workshop will be held on April 10th from 6-9:00PM at the Best Western in Watertown.
- Reported on the activities of the Regional Retail Development Committee.
- Reported on shared recreational facility development
- Recommended that the Council endorse an amendment to the CDBG to redirect \$110,000 slated for low interest revolving loans to the facade improvement program and an amended timeline for funds disbursement. Low interest loans will still be available through JCIDA and EDCC but due to the fire and building demolition the need for facade funds has significantly increased. Motion by M. Bezanilla, seconded by J. Smith to endorse the amendments to the CDBG and recommend them to the Villages. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

T. Stewart reported that the Joint Recreation Committee has identified a full membership and will be meeting. Council members discussed the summer swimming program and the hiring of lifeguards to accompany participants to Whetstone State Park. Members agreed by consensus to authorize the Village programs to interview and hire qualified applicants. RACOG will subcontract with the Villages for lifeguard/supervisory personnel. Payment to the Villages will be discussed by the secretary and the affected clerks.

New Business

The Council held its annual election of officers. Motion by M. Bezanilla, seconded by J. Smith to nominate the current slate of officers for re-election. Ayes-6, Nays-0. Motion carried.

The Council appointed T. Buckley, W. McIlroy, and M. Bezanilla to meet with the CCSD Board of Education to review the RFP's from four architectural firms for planning services for the shared recreational facility.

Motion by J. Smith, seconded by T. Stewart to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:59PM.

The next meeting of the River Area Council of Governments will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2003 at 7:00PM at the Village of Carthage Municipal Building.

Christina Vargulick
RACOG Secretary/Treasurer