



Adirondack Park Agency

LEILANI CRAFTS ULRICH
Chairwoman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Dan Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs

DATE: February 3, 2016

RE: Economic Services Unit Activities for January, 2016.

Unit activities were as follows:

Jones and Laughlin Steel Site Remediation

On January 19, staff participated in the monthly J&L Steel Site Remediation conference call with NYS DEC, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), St. Lawrence County, and local government officials to discuss the ongoing remediation and reclamation efforts at the former J&L Steel Site in Newton Falls, St. Lawrence County. The USEPA has finished its removal of friable asbestos from the property and is currently assessing oil contamination in the ground. Once the entire scope of oil contamination is ascertained, USEPA will begin remediation of the soil and groundwater. Additionally, the NYS DEC and its contractor have completed their site characterization investigation for additional pollutants on the site and the results will be published this winter.

In December, the Agency received a permit application for a public/semi-public use building for a boat wash station and information center on the remediated portion of the site.

Tourism Destination Planning

On January 5, staff attended a meeting about how to better position the Adirondacks to attract visitors from the millennial generation. The meeting is being put on by the Wild Center, the Adirondack Regional Tourism Council, and the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism. Consultants from New York City firm Schireson Associates surveyed millennials from Upstate and New York City areas through funding from Empire State Development's Market New York program. The study found more than half of the people surveyed from the Capitol District had visited the Adirondacks, but only about 5 percent of New York City-area millennials had visited.

Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance (HEPA) Initiative

HEPA Schroon Lake

On January 22, staff met with Town of Schroon, Essex County Supervisor Mike Marnell to discuss the Agency's HEPA Initiative. Representatives from ADK Community works arranged the meeting and were also in attendance. The goal of the meeting was to introduce the program to Supervisor Marnell and to gauge interest in participation in the program by the Town of Schroon.

HEPA Lake George

On January 28, staff met with officials from the Town and Village of Lake George to discuss the Agency's HEPA Initiative. The goal of the meeting was to introduce the program to the communities and to gauge interest in participation in the program by both the Town and Village. The Agency was approached by Town of Lake George staff to seek a HEPA process for their Route 9 corridor.

Local Government Review Board

On January 27, staff attended the monthly meeting of the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board. During the meeting LGRB Executive Director provided the Board with an overview of the December Agency meeting and discussed LGRB positions on issues including the Essex Chain Primitive Area UMP and potential State Land Master Plan amendments. Additionally, former LGRB Executive Director Andrew Halloran provided an overview of the history of the LGRB. Staff answered several LGRB inquiries regarding project updates and permitting processes.

Eat ADK Restaurant Week

Staff is assisting a workgroup seeking to establish a restaurant week event in the Lake Placid/Saranac Lake region. The event will be used to spur economic activity in the "off season" month of May. A workgroup has been formed to take a leadership role in the events development and staff will provide assistance and expertise to the workgroup as needed. Prior to working for the Agency, Special Assistant Kelleher worked as the Business Development Manager for the Downtown Albany Business Improvement District (BID) where he helped facilitate the organization's Downtown Albany Restaurant Week. The feasibility of hosting a restaurant week in Lake Placid was explored by Paul Smith's College students.

Regulatory Programs Support

Economic Services staff is supporting the Regulatory Programs Division on several projects including two hotels in Essex County, a campground in Herkimer County, a subdivision in Essex County, a dam project in Fulton County, and a marina in Franklin County.

Planning Division Support

Staff is supporting the State Lands Division in the Agency's review of the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor Unit Management Plan and the development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for revisions to the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.