

**Economic Development Committee Meeting
Held In Room #318
Putnam County Office Building
Members: Chairman Birmingham & Legislators DiCarlo & Tamagna**

Monday

March 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 6:30p.m. by Chairman Birmingham. He led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, Chairman Birmingham was present. Legislator Tamagna and Legislator DiCarlo, were absent.

Chair Birmingham stated for the record that Chair of the Legislature Conklin appointed Legislator LoBue to serve on the Committee for purposes of having a quorum.

Item #3 – Approval/Minutes/Special Eco Dev Mtg. Feb 9, 2012

Chair Birmingham stated that the minutes were accepted as submitted.

Item #5 – Update/EDC & IDA Projects/K. Bailey

Chair Birmingham invited the President of the PCEDC Kevin Bailey to provide an update on the ED & IDA Project.

PCEDC President Bailey stated that last year (2011) was the first year that the EDC applied for Grants to the Regional Council. He stated that there were 332 applications from this Southern County Region. He stated that five (5) were submitted from the PCEDC Office. He stated that all five (5) were approved. He stated that Putnam County received a total of eight (8) approvals. He stated that most of the Grants awarded were job creation credits.

Legislator LoBue questioned if these Grants are referring to the money that was allocated to the County through the Regional Council.

PCEDC President Bailey stated that this is money coming from New York State. He stated that out of the five (5) PCEDC approved grants one of them was an all cash grant. 1 million dollars. He stated that the others are “job credits”. The job credits are valuable to existing businesses. He stated that the new business that has opened, The Paladin Center, is in negotiations with New York State to receive approvals from New York State. He stated that if they receive the approval from New York State to train First Responders and New York State recognizes them Paladin will then be able to submit that correspondence to get bonded with the IDA. That would have a positive effect on the pending Hotel Project. Because all of the people who would be coming into Carmel to attend the training sessions at the Paladin Center, many will need hotel accommodations. He stated that the EDC has been in contact with the representatives of the hotel project and communicated that there is a new business in Carmel that would generate business for them in additional to the general need for a hotel for people visiting families or the area. Another motivator is the low interest rates.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the Hotel is a project that is applying for bonding through the IDA.

PCEDC President Bailey stated that it is.

Legislator LoBue questioned if the applicants who did not get selected last year if they are permitted to apply again for the Regional Grant funding.

PCEDC President Bailey stated that they are allowed. He stated that the local newspapers have been writing about Developer Harold Lepler's projects on Route 312. He stated that there are a lot of positive things happening in Putnam County. There was further discussion about the different areas in which the EDC can help businesses.

PCEDC President Bailey stated that pending hotel project has the benefit of being in the Empire Zone. He stated that it is really a prime time for them to move forward. He stated that they are in the Empire Zone for ten (10) years. They were approved before the sunset date.

Item #6) Foreclosure Report/FYI – Duly Noted

Item #7) Unemployment Report/FYI- Duly Noted

Item #4) FYI/Correspondence: Date: March 9, 2012 Fr: K. Bailey, President of the PCEDC Ref: Appointment of Director of Tourism for Putnam County

Chair Birmingham stated that he would like to thank Kevin Bailey, for conducting the open process of interviewing candidates to fill the Director of Tourism for Putnam County position. He stated that it was publicly announced at the State of the County on March 15, 2012 that Libby Pataki has been selected to fill the position.

Item #9) Adjournment

There being no further business at 6:50p.m. Chair Birmingham made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Legislator LoBue. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted, *Diane Trabulsy*
Administrative Assistant