



LEILANI CRAFTS ULRICH
Chairwoman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Dan Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs

DATE: November 4, 2015

RE: Economic Services Unit Activities for October, 2015.

Unit activities were as follows:

Jones and Laughlin Steel Site Remediation

On October 21, 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.

Community Outreach

On October 23, staff attended a roundtable titled “Communities and Politics – An Intimate Roundtable Discussion” hosted by the Adirondack Foundation in Lake Placid, Essex County. The roundtable featured former Essex County Chairman Randy Douglas, Former NYS Assemblywoman Theresa Sayward, and former U.S. Congressman Bill Owens. The roundtable discussed various ways that government can work with local governments to achieve their goals. A frequent theme was the need for communities to develop visions and plans to achieve them.

Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance Initiative

Staff continues to market the Agency’s Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance initiative. Four towns have expressed interest in participating in the initiative following the November elections including one in Hamilton County, one in Herkimer County, one

in Essex County, and one in Warren County. Staff will follow-up with each community following the elections.

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 event’s 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 its development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for revisions to the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.