

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: ARPA ADVISORY

DATE: DECEMBER 7, 2021

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

ANDREA HOGAN
WAYNE LAMOTHE
BETH GILLES
MICHAEL BITTEL
FRANK THOMAS
DOUGLAS BEATY
CLAUDIA BRAYMER (VIA ZOOM)
RACHEL SEEBER
ETHAN GADDY

OTHERS PRESENT:

LARRY ELMEN, COUNTY ATTORNEY
AMANDA ALLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISORS DRISCOLL (VIA ZOOM)
LEGGETT (VIA ZOOM)
DON LEHMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
KIMBERLY SOPCZYK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FAMILY SERVICE
ASSOCIATION OF GLENS FALLS, INC.
KIM COOK, PRESIDENT/CEO, THE OPEN DOOR MISSION
LESLIE LOVELACE, SECRETARY TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

RAY AGNEW
MICHAEL WILD
RYAN MOORE
MICHAEL SWAN

Please note, the following contains a summarization of the December 7, 2021 meeting of the Governmental Operations & Advocacy Committee; the meeting in its entirety can be viewed on the Warren County website using the following link: <https://warrencountyny.gov/mma>

Note: Pursuant to New York State Legislation (S.50001/A.40001): “Notwithstanding the provisions of article 7 of the public officers law to the contrary, any state agency, department, corporation, office, authority, board, or commission, as well as any local public body, or public corporation as defined in section 66 of the general construction law, or political subdivisions as defined in section 100 of the general municipal law, or a committee or subcommittee or other similar body of such entity, shall be authorized to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.” All Committee Members in attendance were physically present aside from Ms. Braymer, who attended virtually.

Ms. Hogan called the meeting of the ARPA Advisory Committee to order at 3:00 p.m.

The ARPA Advisory Committee agenda was distributed to those present; those participating remotely accessed the agenda via the Warren County website. *A copy of the agenda is on file with the meeting minutes.*

The Committee commenced with Ms. Hogan advising the group had received the list of preliminary focus areas for discussion that Ethan Gaddy, *Assistant County Planner*, had compiled, along with a draft stakeholders list that was derived from Ryan Moore, *County Administrator*, and Committee member input. She indicated the stakeholders would be invited to provide their input at a future meeting. She requested feedback on the allocation of funds and additions for the stakeholder list be directed to her, Wayne LaMothe, *County Planner*, or Mr. Gaddy. Mr. LaMothe requested members let them know if something did not appear to be appropriate or if anyone on the stakeholders list should not be on it and they would flag it for further discussion. He added he was sure there would be additions to the list.

A brief discussion ensued in regards to possible additions to the stakeholders list following which Ms. Hogan stated

that list would be defined at the next meeting. Mr. LaMothe informed he had spoke with Mr. Moore in regards to the major Countryside Adult Home renovation which was a time sensitive issue and was an eligible activity under the ARPA funding due to a shortfall of funding for the project to complete Priority 1. He stated the 2019 Beardsley Report was a review of the deficiencies of the Countryside Adult Home. He said the engineers would be bidding in May and would need a commitment of funds in February. Beth Gilles, *Director, Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board*, inquired what the amount of the shortfall was and Mr. LaMothe replied he did not have the exact figure, but it was less than \$787,000, as that was the amount they were lacking to complete the entire project for all deficiencies and he said he would provide the figure necessary to complete Priority 1.

Ms. Hogan requested Mr. Gaddy provide the Intermunicipal Coordination Update and he replied he had contacted municipalities and they had indicated to him that infrastructure was the biggest spending priority. He reported the City of Glens Falls had started to allocate ARPA funds, which he indicated the amount of their funding was nearly the same amount as the County had received. He said the City of Glens Falls was focusing on small business programs and social services/mental health programs, adding Jeff Flagg, *Economic Coordinator, City of Glens Falls*, shared their preliminary spending spreadsheet with him. He suggested the best place to collaborate would be with service providers in the City of Glens Falls that provide services for the entire County and help fill gaps that the City cannot. Mr. Gaddy notified documentation would be available for the Committee to review showing how much funding each municipality received and how the funds would be allocated. He mentioned Lake George was considering ways to collaborate with the County.

Next, Ms. Hogan suggested Mr. Gaddy review the Project Solicitation form. Mr. Gaddy replied he did not have the form with him; however, he said, it was the form that was reviewed last week and he was inclined to use the form Ms. Gilles revised. Ms. Gilles reviewed the form she had revised and forwarded to Mr. Gaddy. A brief discussion ensued in regards to the language on the form. Mr. LaMothe stated he would provide a revised form to the Committee by the end of the week to obtain a consensus in order to expedite posting the form on the website for responses.

Ms. Hogan stated as far as future meeting dates, there would not be another meeting in December in an effort to allow time to identify stakeholders and allow for the form to be revised and distributed. She advised the next meeting would take place in mid January 2022.

Privilege of the floor/public comment was called for.

Kimberly, Sopczyk, *Executive Director, Family Service Association of Glens Falls*, commented she believed the businesses and non-profit organizations who would be filling out the form would be very specific how the pandemic had hurt them and their budget and she thought the Committee would be pleasantly surprised with the ideas they receive.

There being no further business to come before the ARPA Advisory Committee, Ms. Hogan adjourned the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Lovelace, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board