



Sullivan County Agriculture and Sustainability Policy Committee

February 10, 2015 AGENDA

1:30 PM

Committee Members:

Cindy Kurpil Gieger, Chair, Cora Edwards, Vice-Chair, Gene Benson, Alan Sorensen, Kitty Vetter

Call to Order

Attendance

Comments: Committee Chair

Reports:

1. Agricultural Report- Melinda Meddaugh
2. Office of Sustainable Energy (OSE) Monthly Report- Carol Roig & Stephen Stuart
3. DPW Update
4. Timeline for Regional Economic Development Counsel Funding

Presentation:

1. New York Prize – NYSERDA Incentives to Promote Micro-Grids

Discussion:

1. Information/Cost Comparison Pilot Project Hybrid Vehicles
2. Community Choice Aggregation
3. Update on Food Hub and Red Meat Processing Facility- Jen Flad, Sullivan County IDA

Resolutions:

1. Supporting the on the move for Maple Syrup Campaign.

Public Comment

Adjourn

Farmland Protection Plan Update: Planning Dept is in the process of creating an outreach brochure for the plan. The brochure will be used to promote the plan and agriculture to farmers, the public and municipalities.

- FLPP Projects:
 - SC Farm Brochures: Staff are currently in the process of working with Sullivan Renaissance to put together the SC Maple Syrup brochure and gathering data for additional brochures, such as a CSA/Farmstand/Veggie & Farmers Market brochure for the summer.
 - Task Force: AFLP Board is meeting to discuss creating the Ag Task Force.

Dairy RBEG: Staff are currently in the process of working with Catskill Mountain Dairies on the terms of the different lease agreements. Once signed we can move forward with purchasing equipment. Staff also submitted the contract for Catskill Mountain Dairies for the CFA funding. We are just awaiting next steps.

Educational Programming: CCE is in the process of creating educational programs for the year. We are working with our regional CCE's to bring additional livestock education to our farmers. We are also developing a number of on farm workshops, agri0business classes and beginner farmer classes.

Greenhouse/High Tunnel Project: Staff are currently in the process of finalizing an operational plan for the greenhouse/high tunnel project. The plan includes working with BOCES students to teach them about greenhouses and high tunnels, along with 3 programs for commercial growers. Sullivan Renaissance and staff are developing a pilot program to financially support commercial growers who want to incorporate High Tunnels into their farm operation.

Livestock/Poultry Processing Survey: CCE SC, in partnership with our regional livestock partners CCE Orange and CCE Ulster, we developed a survey for livestock and poultry producers. The survey asks 3 questions related to type of processing facilities currently used vs need, type of livestock/poultry processed and how many.

Maple Campaign: CCE, Planning, Sullivan Renaissance & Catskill Mountainkeeper are revamping the "On the Move For Maple Syrup Campaign, which will now also include consumer education(see above) and small business development. Planning recently submitted the CFA contract for funding the expansion of Maranatha Maple Farm. Maranatha will be participating in this campaign.

Agri-Business Revolving Loan Fund: Staff are also in the process of developing outreach around the loan program in order to attract new applicants. We currently have a few potential applicants.

Training: Staff attended the Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference at SUNY Delhi.

In House Assistance: Assistance included information on:

- Assistance with Livestock production and processing
- Loan and grant information, specifically info on the County Agri-Business Revolving Loan Fund
- Information on Agriculture Districts & Agriculture Assessments
- Assistance with Dairy Processing Requirements & equipment
- Assistance with general Beginner Farmer information
- Provided assistance with business planning information
- Animal Health
- Information on land use resources

Upcoming Classes for Remainder of 2015: See attached flyer

**COMBINED: LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM,
CERTIFICATE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS
AND RESOLUTION COVER MEMO**

To: Sullivan County Legislature

Fr: Melinda Meddaugh, DPEM

Re: Request for Consideration of a Resolution:

Date: 2/5/2015

Purpose of Resolution: [Provide a detailed statement of what the Resolution will accomplish, as well as a justification for approval by the Sullivan County Legislature.]

A resolution from the County Legislature to provide for the On the Move for Maple Syrup campaign.

Is subject of Resolution mandated? Explain:

No

Does Resolution require expenditure of funds? Yes ___ No

If "Yes", provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$ _____

Are funds already budgeted? Yes ___ No ___

If "Yes" specify appropriation code(s): _____

If "No", specify proposed source of funds: _____

Estimated Cost Breakdown by Source:

County \$ _____ Grant(s) \$ _____

State \$ _____ Other \$ _____

Federal Government \$ _____ (Specify) _____

Verified by Budget Office: Janet Myg

Does Resolution request Authority to Enter into a Contract? Yes ___ No

If "Yes", provide information requested on Pages 2. If "NO", please go straight to Page 3 and acquire all pre-legislative approvals.

Request for Authority to Enter into Contract with [_____] of [_____]

Nature of Other Party to Contract: .

Other:

Duration of Contract: From _____ To _____

Is this a renewal of a prior Contract? Yes ___ No

If "Yes" provide the following information:

Dates of prior contract(s): From _____ To _____

Amount authorized by prior contract(s): _____

Resolutions authorizing prior contracts (Resolution #s): _____

Future Renewal Options if any:

Is Subject of Contract – i.e. – the goods and/or services Mandated? Yes ___ No ___

If "Yes" cite the mandate's source; describe how this contract satisfies the requirements:

If "No" provide other justification for County to enter into this Contract: [County does not have resources in-house, best source of the subject materials, required by grant, etc.]:

Total Contract Cost for [year or contract period]: (If specific sum is not known state maximum potential cost): _____

Efforts made to find Less Costly alternative:

Efforts made to share costs with another agency or governmental entity:

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures (Bid, Request for Proposal, Quote, etc.)

_____ *n/a - af* _____

Person(s) responsible for monitoring contract (Title): _____

Pre-Legislative Approvals:

- A. Director of Purchasing: Kathy Cross Date 2/9/15
- B. Management and Budget: Janet My Date 2/9/15
- C. Law Department: [Signature] Date 2/9/15
- D. County Manager: John Brouck Date 2/9/15
- E. Other as Required: _____ Date _____

Vetted in _____ Committee on _____

**RESOLUTION NO. -15 INTRODUCED BY AGRICULTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY
SUPPORTING THE ON THE MOVE FOR MAPLE SYRUP CAMPAIGN**

WHEREAS, the On the Move for Maple Syrup Campaign has been launched in an effort to promote the use of Sullivan County maple syrup; and

WHEREAS, the On the Move for Maple Syrup Campaign is a partnership between Sullivan Renaissance, Catskill Mountainkeeper, Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County and the Division of Planning and Environmental Management, who have come together to promote Sullivan County maple syrup; and

WHEREAS, the On the Move for Maple Syrup campaign aims to promote Sullivan County maple syrup, along with small business development, enhancement of tourism opportunities and provide support for our agricultural economy; and

WHEREAS, the On the Move for Maple Syrup campaign supports the implementation of the 2014 updated Sullivan County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan; and

WHEREAS, the On the Move for Maple Syrup campaign comes at a critical time in Sullivan County where there is momentum to support and enhance our agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Legislature to memorialize its support for the On the Move for Maple Syrup Campaign.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the On the Move for Maple Syrup campaign has the full support of the Sullivan County Legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sullivan County Legislature commends the volunteer businesses, organizations and community volunteers that have dedicated themselves to the launching of the On the Move for Maple Syrup campaign; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Clerk to the Sullivan County Legislature is hereby requested to transmit an electronic a copy of this resolution to Senator Charles E. Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Chris Gibson, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator John J. Bonacic, Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther, Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney, and all Town and Village Governments within Sullivan County.

Moved by _____ , **seconded by** _____ , put to a vote, unanimously carried and declared duly adopted on motion _____ .