



January 15, 2019 - RACOG Report

New York Power Authority – Jessica Waldorf (*Senior Business Development Representative*).

LED Lighting – Potential communities looking to participate as group in the LED street light conversion are the towns of Champion, Denmark, Wilna, and villages of Carthage, Castorland, Copenhagen, Croghan, Deferiet, Lowville, and West Carthage.

Infogroup – Bill Loges will be presenting for Infogroup at the RACOG February board meeting.

Online GIS Portal – RACOG was able to get free GIS Cloud licensing for an online portal out of the GIS Day contest that RACOG entered. The value of the licensing is about \$1,000 per year. This will become active in the next couple of months. Brian Phelps is willing to do some customization to the portal, based upon board input. I will hopefully have a draft site ready for the meeting in February, where the board can review it and give feedback.

Carthage Monument – Benjamin Azah has taken the lead in this effort, with either the American Legion or VFW being the lead organization. According to Benjamin, once final details have been worked out a couple of news outlets will be running stories on it.

Website Updates – Wordpress upgraded to version 5.0, which caused some issues with how you create posts and also corrupted past posts on the RACOG website. I have updated the Wordpress theme and the site, but had to remove some old posts to clean things out, so things would work properly. The posts deleted were just related to old grants and workshops that were available. I will have to update all other sites, so those communities might see their sites interrupted for short periods of time.

Internships – There will be two Monroe Community College remote interns starting at the end of month on the RACOG Resource Management Plan.

Lowville RACOG Email – The highway department now has a new email using RACOG email service.

NY Alerts Update – Looking at training Denmark, Lowville, and Wilna potentially next week.

Carthage Area Hospital Walkable Community Dinner Meeting – The hospital is looking into having a dinner meeting and inviting the RACOG board, where Mark Fenton would present about walkable communities. Mark put on two “Complete Streets & Community Design for Economic, Environmental and Public Health” workshops back in December. There is potential this dinner meeting could take the place of the normal RACOG meeting in May if the board wants to pursue that.

Bridges Out of Poverty – This is a community support program that provides workshops and products to help employers and community organizations address and reduce poverty in a comprehensive way. I know NRCIL put on a workshop in Lowville. This could potentially be a presentation at a future board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Brochure – Issac Widrick volunteered and did a bit of the work on the brochure, he wasn't able to finish because of other responsibilities. However, I do want to recognize Issac Widrick's work he did. I have put together a final draft brochure and am looking for any comments. We could have brochures printed with no white collar around the brochure, but that would have to be done at a print shop and there would be a cost. Vistaprint would be about \$60 for 100 if the board wanted to have printed professionally. **Action Needed:** *Feedback*

IT Contract – Approval of IT contract with Brian Phelps for 2019. One slight change from last year, only asking for semi-annual backups, instead of quarterly. I have talked to Brian about other ways to make sure RACOG will always have access to the websites, should something unforeseen happen. Brian will be assisting some with the online GIS portal customization.

Action Needed: *Approval of IT contract for 2019*

Fort Drum Career Day Event, February 7th, 2019– Fort Drum has asked about RACOG having a table there at this event. It is free to participate in and they felt it would worth RACOG checking it out.

Action Needed: *Would RACOG like me to fill out the paperwork to attend the event?*

Election of Officers

Action Needed: *A vote on officers for 2019*

Budget Approval

Action Needed: *A vote approving the budget.*