



November 17, 2020 - RACOG Report

Presenters: Lewis County Planning (Cassandra Buell & Kevin Brouillard), Topics: Railroad Bed and CCA

LED Lighting – The "90% design studies" have been completed. Municipalities are now deciding on whether they will move forward or not with the NYPA project. Jefferson County did approve to add the project to its shared service plan, which may provide a rebate to its participating municipalities. Lewis County is also entertaining the idea for their municipalities. So far the following have approved to move forward with the NYPA project: town of Wilna and villages of Carthage, Copenhagen, Croghan, Deferiet, Lowville, Lyons Falls, and West Carthage. The town of Denmark is going to try and work with village of Copenhagen for their lights. Lewis County is looking into the possibility of adding floodplain sensors potentially in the Castorland area. The town of Champion and village of Castorland have approved to move forward with National Grid.

Zoom Meetings – The Tug Hill Commission has been providing Zoom meeting capabilities to the municipalities within the Tug Hill Region. Looks to be like an increase in remote meetings again.

Walkable Communities (Complete Streets) – The Tug Hill Commission had a remote meeting with BOCES and they are still hoping to work on the projects. The bike racks were going to start soon for Copenhagen. Working on a plan for the Carthage boardwalk and metal benches were going to start up again soon. However, given the rise in COVID-19, some of these plans may change.

Fort Drum Internships – I have a soldier interested in starting in September 2021. I know this soldier and he would be a good addition.

Websites – Town of Wilna has asked me to go ahead and setup a website for them. Currently, the towns of Champion, Lowville, and villages of Castorland, Copenhagen, and Deferiet currently utilize the RACOG website service. Also, the town and village of Lowville are interested in having a website for their comp plan. Working out details on that, it may just be a web page off from the town website.

ACTION ITEMS

Future Presenters, Speakers, Issues, and Projects – For open discussion, but what would the board like me to focus on for this year? Are there any regional issues or projects that need attention? Here is a list of some potential presenters/speakers:

- Louise Gava, Joules Assets – Community Choice Aggregation (She used to be with MEGA)
- Ronald Trottier, Railroad Developer – Update on the status of the pedal cars and scenic railroad.
- Jefferson & Lewis County IDAs
- Jefferson & Lewis County Planning Departments
- Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce & Lewis County Chamber of Commerce

Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider - Report

- US Border Patrol – About what you need to know for foreign companies setting up their business in your community and what they will need.
- Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
- Bridges Out of Poverty

Action Needed: *Feedback from the board.*