

## **NYS Photonics Board of Officers Meeting**

**January 20, 2016, 11:00 AM to Noon**

**Eastman Business Park**

**200 West Ridge Road**

**Rochester, NY 14615**

**Board Members Present:** Andrew Kennedy, Anne Kress, Ryne Raffaele, Rob Clark, Paul Tolley, Alexander Cartwright and Ronald Goldblatt (Via Conference Call)

Andrew Kennedy welcomed everyone and gave introductions of the NYS Photonics Board Officers.

Mr. Kennedy then gave a short history on AIM Photonics and the \$250M award for Rochester.

Mr. Kennedy then acknowledged Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo, Ex-Lt. Governor Bob Duffy, President of University of Rochester Joel Seligman, the Head of Infotonics Michael Liehr, Neil Supola from the Department of Defense.

The Board Members introduced themselves and Mr. Kennedy thanked Dolores Kruchten of Eastman Business Park for hosting this meeting.

The first order of business for the Board has been to develop a Charge for the Board. NYS Photonics mission:

*“The New York State Photonics Board of Officers will oversee and implement the investment of State funds committed to support the efforts of the American Institute for Manufacturing Integrated Photonics (AIM Photonics).*

*State funds will be administered in accordance with the terms identified in AIM Photonics application, which was submitted by a consortium of organizations and selected by the Department of Defense to be the Integrated Photonics Institute for Manufacturing Innovation (IP-IMI), and should be focused on the economic development of the photonics industry, particularly in Rochester as identified by Governor Cuomo.”*

Anne Kress made a motion to approve the charge. Ryne Raffaele seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed with a full consensus.

Mark Peterson gave an update on the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council's Strategic Plan. Mr. Peterson recognized the work of the Regional Economic Development

Council in this region is the result of the work of the entire community. There were 20 work groups with 450 volunteers spent countless hours helping to develop this plan. He also recognized the dedicated leadership of our co-chairs, Danny Wegman and Joel Seligman.

The URI goals given to every Regional Council:

1. Grow jobs.
2. Increase regional wealth.
3. Drive private investment.

We chose to add a fourth goal for our region: 4. Reduce poverty.

Mr. Peterson also gave a brief overview of the URI Strategic Framework and pillars.

Mr. Peterson then gave a brief history of why Optics, Photonics and Imaging (OPI) and why it is important to our region and why it was chosen as part of our framework. 10% of jobs in our region are in the OPI industry. And we feel this will lead us to prosperity in our region.

URI application process is open and we are already looking at the projects being submitted.

Mr. Kennedy introduced Dr. Michael Liehr who gave an update on AIM Photonics. Dr. Liehr explained what infotonics is about. This is a DOD award and it is for the national center and will be used to build an infrastructure throughout the US so we will be able to support the US industry. We are actually behind as there are facilities in Japan and Singapore that are ahead of us.

Second point, we were challenged to get this together in 6 months when it usually takes about 14 months to put this together. We do have a contract that people can sign. We did have to rush a few steps and we are going forward and we are going to put more effort into where we are going. We took the first set of projects and we are in the process of awarding the first round of projects.

Mr. Kennedy gave a review of NYS funding commitments. NYS has committed \$250 million to support AIM Photonics, leveraging the \$110 million DOD award and \$250 million in private support for a total investment of more than \$600 million. The funds will be focused on economic development, workforce development and academic research.

\$50 million over 5 years to support operations, staff and research & development.

\$200 million to investment here in the Rochester area to build and equip the facilities, and business operations at the Legacy tower, Research and Development in the Sibley Building, investments in our academic facilities in the region in SUNY Poly Canal Ponds, University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology.

In the next four to six weeks a more formalized budget will be presented at the next Board meeting and made public on how the \$250 million will be spent.

Mr. Kennedy then stated that a designation of a fiscal agent for the NYS funds for Infotonics. As the Regional Council, URI funds go through Empire State Development; he would recommend that Empire State Development be the designated fiscal agent.

Ms. Kress made a motion to make Empire State Development the Fiscal Agent for the NYS funds. Mr. Tolley seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed with a full consensus.

A motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Dr. Kress and Mr. Raffaele seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed with a full consensus.

Meeting Adjourned.