



REPORT FOR 02.03.14

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Site visit held on Tuesday, January 21st in Schoharie County

Present: Alicia Terry, Sarah Blood, Christian Mercurio

- Strong interest in Agricultural Assistance Program reboot this year for on-farm capital
- Ready for another round of Microenterprise Assistance grants

Meeting held 11am on January 31st via conference call

Present: Mike Reese, Steve DiMeo, Christian Mercurio

- HCR awards process for 2014 to be determined soon
 - Is there a similar obligation deadline for 2014?
 - Can funds be distributed based on project readiness? Quarterly?

Action Items:

- Populate committee with representation from each county (County IDA or Planning)
- Draft criteria for project selection, procedures, and pre-qualification survey for HCR & CIF
- Confirm NYSERDA block grant specifics

SUMMIT

Meeting held 3pm on January 27th via conference call

Present: Carolyn Lewis, Wally Hart, Chuck Green, Mayor Thane, Christian Mercurio

- Plan for +or- 150 attendees
- Framework for the summit in early stages; circulated on Wednesday for comment
 - 9am to 1pm-ish
 - 4 hours maximum; avoid lunch if possible
 - Mix of plenary and breakouts is productive
- State Agencies should be exhibitors with booths
- Breakout Sessions being identified and fleshed-out

Action Items:

- Further develop breakout sessions
- Obtain estimates for possible venues

Meeting held 1pm on January 21st in Edmeston

Present: Dan Robinson, Christian Mercurio

- Predominant theme should be dissolving institutional boundaries when it comes to economic development activities. Address government "layering" if possible
- Mayor's panel on downtown revitalization is a good idea
- Summit should inspire unity and collaboration between counties, agencies

Action Items:

- Work with Pennello and elected officials as partners in summit planning
- Identify potential sponsors

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

Meeting held 10am on January 27th via conference call

Present: *Dr. Swanger & Carolyn Lewis*

- General discussion on duties, goals, objectives
- Focus areas include MV STEM HUB and Education Committees of the Chamber
- Building on existing initiatives of groups like Genesis and Chamber Committees rather than start new

*Items of Interest to E&W:

Meeting held at 10:30am on Tuesday, January 28th at ESD Conference Room

Present: *Delores Caruso, Deputy Commissioner for Business & Labor Affairs James Rogers, Ray Durso, Matthew Pennello, Ken Tompkins, Gene Quadraro, Shawna Papale, Pamela Matt*

- Proposed partnership with Department of Labor for outreach survey. Great potential.
- Need a regional “Skills Gap Broker” between companies and colleges
- Full meeting notes forthcoming.

Action Items:

- Survey questions
- Survey recipients
- Follow up with Delores on next steps

OUTREACH & INFORMATION

Meeting held 3pm on January 28th at Paige Group

Present: *Alexis March, Scott DeNoon, Christian Mercurio*

- Newsletter discussion regarding new format
 - Single-story with more text in the body of the email
 - Twice a month, maximum
- Discussion on Social Media
 - Update often
 - Any social media tool, if pursued, should have a specific outcomes/objectives; not just “out there” for the sake of being “out there”

Action Items:

- Feldmeier/FAGE newsletter on Friday, Jan 31st
- Develop presentation for Leadership Mohawk Valley on February 5th @10:30am – Chuck
- Presentation to Genesis Economic Development Forum on February 19th @12pm – Ken
- Develop presentation for Sustainability/Cleaner-Greener CFA projects to Oneonta Sustainability Summit on March 1st – Carolyn/Christian