



Southern Tier Regional Council Meeting

May 11, 2016

Council Members Present: Tom Tranter, Harvey Stenger, Kathy Connerton, Patricia Cummings, Diane Lantz, Ernie Hartman, Judy McKinney-Cherry, Kevin McLaughlin, Martha Sauerbrey, Barbara Schindler, Linda Shumaker, Mike Stamm, Rich David, Debbie Preston, Candace Vanko, Marty Dietrich, Mike Field, Betsey Hale, Jamie Johnson, Mike Krusen, Dan Mandell, Tim O'Hearn, Rose Sotak, Sen. Tom O'Mara

Council Members Substitutes: Steve Craig (for Lawrence Wilcox), Jamie Johnson (for Joe Hauryski), Tom Schryver (for Mary Opperman), Jim Griffin (for Uttara Prasad)

Special Guests: Richard Tobe, Ryan Silva, Brendan Hughes, Liz Fine, Legal & General Counsel, Goldie Weixel, ESD, Sarah Crowell DOS, Melinda Sanderson, NYS Mentoring Program.

State Agency/Local Government/ESD Staff: Pam Eshbaugh (DOT), Jack Williams (DOT), Joe Sluzar, (DEC), Julie Sweet (DOS), Janet Roach (DOH), Michael Straight (NYSERDA), Jared Kraham, Gabe Osterhaught, Fred Bonn, (NYS Parks), Kathleen McIsaac, (NYS Parks), Jamie Smith, (EFC), Ken Smith, (DOL), Kara Grippen, (Gov. Office), Phil Rumsey, (Gov. Office), Pam Michon, (BU), Barbara Furch, Terry Kane, Tom Kowalik, Joe Roman, Tammy Kocak, Donna Howell, Jason Conwell.

Reports/Discussions

- T. Tranter called meeting to order. He welcomed Council members, staff, and guests and introduced new members of the Council, Betsey Hale and Mike Krusen.
- T. Tranter asked members/designee's to introduce themselves and their affiliation. He announced retirements of Lou Santoni, Candace Vanko, and Uttara Prasad.
- H. Stenger called for approval of minutes of January 26, 2016 Council meeting. Jamie Johnson moved; Ernie Hartman seconded; Council approved.
- URI Announcements
 - R. Tobe, Director of URI, provided status update. Black Diamond Trail \$2M, Watkins Glen \$2.5M, Binghamton University \$20M, Cornell University 9.2M, Crowne Holdings \$120M.
 - REDC has appointed a URI review committee rather than separate groups for each REDC strategic initiative.
- CFA Round VI Launch
 - R. Silva, Vice President of Regional Economic Development, described Round VI Competition.

- Timeline: CFA Process Open - May 2; Closes - July 29; REDC Updates and Scores - October 3; Round VI Awards Ceremony - late fall.
- He presented competition criteria.
- New initiative this year – Downtown Revitalization Initiative
 - \$10 awarded for one community in each region
 - Develop strategic plan
 - Investments reinforce and secure additional investments
- Ongoing initiatives
 - Regional industry Cluster plan
 - Global NY
 - Opportunity Agenda
 - SUNY 2020
 - Business Incubator and Hot Spot Program
 - Veteran’s initiative
 - Engage local governments
- REDC Code of Conduct
 - L. Fine, Executive VP, Legal, ESD and G. Weixel provided overview of REDC Code of Conduct, explained key elements, conflicts of interest, recusals, confidential information, and un-warranted privileges.
- Downtown Revitalization Initiative
 - Sarah Crowell, Department of State, presented an overview of the DRI. The Initiative is to complement job growth in each NYS region.
 - \$10M for one community within each region.
 - REDC must conduct outreach, review Downtowns, and nominate one downtown by June 2016. The State will certify downtowns, implementation will begin. State has provided a template to use for the Downtown description and nomination.
 - Evaluation criteria:
 - Compact, well defined boundaries
 - Sufficient population
 - Potential to build on and increase private and public investment
 - Recent or impending job growth nearby
 - Characteristics that increase livability
 - Local policies that advance revitalization
 - Community support
- 76West
 - Tom Schryver, Executive Director CU Center for Regional Economic Advancement, presented information and update about the 76West initiative. He spoke on behalf of the Southern Tier Startup Alliance. \$20M program. 24 semifinalist companies are in the region today. Pitches will be given this Friday to determine finalists. Finalists will be pitching and selected this summer in Binghamton.

- Southern Tier Soaring
 - New URI branding is “Southern Tier Soaring”.
- Staff Report
 - J. Roman reported that 37 projects; 20 projects committed, 7 pending.
 - T. Tranter reported that the regional ESD office is down staff.
- New York State Mentoring Program
 - Melinda Sanderson, Director of Upstate Mentoring, provided overview of the NYS Mentoring program. The program serves 4th, 5th, and 6th graders as a one-to-one, school based program.
 - Windsor School District is first school in Southern Tier Region participating in the Mentoring Program. Modern Marketing Concepts is the local mentor.
 - Melinda made call for assistance to help find Mentors and partner organizations.
- Public Comment
- Upcoming Dates
 - May 11, 2016 – CFA Workshop
 - June 22, 2016 – REDC Meeting
 - June 14, 2016-Executive Committee
 - June 23, 2016 – CFA Workshop
 - July 21, 2016 – Council Meeting
 - July 29, 2016 – CFA Applications Due
- T. Tranter adjourned the meeting at 1:30.

Decisions/Actions

- Minutes from STREDC September 10, 2015 meeting were approved.
- Next Council meeting is June 22, 2016 at 12:00 noon; location is Binghamton University