



Southern Tier Regional Council Meeting

February 6, 2013

Council Members Present: Tom Tranter, Dan Spoor, Barbara Schindler, Debbie Preston, Ernest Hartman, Tim O'Hearn, George Miner, Michael Stamm, Peg Ellsworth, Diane Lantz, Chris Friend, Tom O'Mara, Donna Lupardo, Doug Barton, Kathryn Boor, Terry Kane (for Harvey Stenger), Steve Craig, James Johnson, Candace Vancko, Mary Opperman, David Patak, Martha Robertson, Linda Shumaker, Rose Sotak

State Agency/Local Government Staff Present: Christian Harris, JC Smith, Julie Sweet, Ken Lynch, Frank Surdey, Robin Alpaugh, Linda Hardie, Pam Eschbaugh, Kevin McLaughlin, Tom Kowalik, Elaine Miller, Dawn Burlew, Paul D'Amato, John Giumarra, Hector Gonzalez, Chris Mercincavage, Debbie Morello, Jack Williams, Bob Furlani, Debbie Fortner

Reports/Discussions

T. Tranter opened the meeting and welcomed all Council members, agency representatives and introduced elected officials. He asked members of the Council to introduce themselves. He then presented an overview of the meeting's agenda.

Lt Governor Duffy recognized Council members who are partners in NYS government and provided a short overview of actions to come. He mentioned the Innovation Hotspots program, the opportunity agenda for Regional Councils and Round 3 funding, and that feedback is being sought for the pending IDA proposal.

T. Tranter asked for approval of the previous meeting notes. The notes were approved.

Mark Castiglione, Acting Executive Director of Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area introduced the Path Through History Presentation. Gerry Smith, regional historian, provided an overview of plan for this project.

K. McLaughlin presented the REDC staff report including:

1. Progress report on implementation of 2012 funding.
2. Recommendation to revise guidelines for Council Initiatives: Community Revitalization and Rural Initiative Programs.
3. Recommendation to amend Arbor Housing and Development REDC project for new site.
4. Recommendations for Rural Initiative Project Awards
5. Multi-modal #4 Program: National Pipe Project
6. Highlights of Council Priority Projects for 2013 and preliminary implementation schedule.
7. Plans for outreach and public participation in 2013.

At the conclusion of the report T. Tranters ask for a Council vote to approve recommendations outlined by K. McLaughlin. The Council approved.

K. McLaughlin recognized Debbie Fortner, Secretary for her service to the Regional Council and Empire State Development. Debbie is leaving for a new job with the Comptroller's Office.

T. Tranter called for a Public Comment Period. No members of the public elected to speak.

T. Tranter and K. McLaughlin presented highlights of Governor's Tour in December 2012. T. Tranter acknowledged and thanked:

- First Air for providing space for the presentation.
- BAE Systems for providing the HybriDrive Bus and conducting an interesting tour and recognizing the Governor for his role in their relocation to Endicott following the floods of 2011.
- Steve Craig for producing the video presentation and BU for the technical support for viewing.
- Binghamton University for hosting the luncheon and presentation to the Assessment Team.
- Staff (Kevin, Robin and Susan) for coordinating the entire day and preparing the presentation materials.
- STREDC and the Work Group members for their active participation in successfully implementing the 2012 funding and developing a vision for 2013 projects designed to *support the Council's strategic plan*.

T. Tranter and Lt Governor Duffy presented highlights of Governor's Award Ceremony on December 19, 2012.

G. Miner and several others reported difficulties that were expected to occur if the pending IDA proposal were to be adopted. Lt Governor Duffy asked Council members to submit their concerns to the Council Chairs so the information could be forwarded to the Governor.

T. Tranter closed the meeting and invited those present to attend a reception celebrating the Southern Tier Best Plan Award.

Decisions/Actions

The notes from the last Council meeting were approved.

Council approved:

- Changes to Council Initiative Guidelines:
 - Community Revitalization
 - Rural Initiative
- Arbor Housing and Development REDC project site change
- Rural Initiative Program Loans: JR Dill Winery, LLC; Domaine Leseurre, LLC and Cascun Farm

Next meeting:

- Date: *June 27, 2013*

- Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am
- Location: Binghamton University
- Agenda:
 - To be determined