



Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council Meeting  
August 17, 2011  
Binghamton University

**Council Members Present:** Tom Tranter, Terry Kane (for Peter McGrath), Jay McNamara, Martin Dietrich, Scott Welliver, Dan Spoor, Richard Decker, Barbara Schindler, Thomas Santulli, Martha Robertson, Patrick Brennan, Ernest Hartman, Doug Barton (for Dale Weston/Martha Sauerbry), Tim O’Hearne (for Dennis Fagan), Lou Santoni, Keith Baumann, John Bernardo, Carolyn Peterson, John Tonello, James Eisel, George Miner, Uttara Prasad, Michael Stamm, Peg Ellsworth, Diane Lantz, Steve Johnson (for David Skorton), Patricia Cummings, David Patak, Candace Vancko, Linda Schumaker

**State Agency/Local Government Staff Present:** Christian Harris, DOL; Frank Surdey, DOL; Jola Szubielski, ESD; Julie Sweet, DOS; Kevin McLaughlin, ESD; Kevin McCabe, Governor’s Regional Representative; Paul D’Amato, DEC; Robert Furlani, DOH; Robin Alpaugh, ESD; Scott Sheeley, DEC Permit Administrator; Terry Deak, SUNY Binghamton; Tim Grippen, DOL; Tom Kowalik, SUNY Binghamton; Troy Waffner, Ag & Mkts; Susan Payne, Ken Lynch, DEC; Darci Fauci, DMV; Donna Lupardo, Assemblywoman; Kyle Wilber, DOS; Christopher Grant, DOS; Peter Walsh, DOS; David Ashton, DOS; Kelly Tyler, NYSERDA; Linda Hardie, NYSERDA; Joseph Hauryski, Steuben County Legislature; Hilary Ring, MTA; JC Smith, NYSEFC; Chris Leo, NYSHCR; Leonard Skrill, NYSHCR; Jack Williams, NYSPOT; Glenn Nealis, Delaware County Economic Development; Tim Joseph, OPRHP; Frank Evangelisti, Broome County DPED; Elaine Miller, DOS; Irene Baker, ESD; Joe Roman, ESD

Reports/Discussions

T. Tranter opening the meeting welcomed everyone, thanked Council members for the work they invested in this process since the last meeting. He asked for substitutes representing Council members to introduce themselves and indicate their affiliation.

Lt. Governor Duffy welcomed everyone and provided an overview of Regional Council activities around the State.

T. Tranter reviewed the meeting agenda indicating that the first hour would be open to the public with 15 minutes available for public comment and the later portion of the meeting would be a private working session. He explained a portion of all future Council meetings will be open to the public and

outlined the guidelines for public participation. He then asked for approval of the August 4 meeting notes.

T. Kowalik presented the vision statement drafted by Council members. He reported that comments received from Council members previously had been incorporated in this version. Additional editorial suggestions were discussed and collected. He reminded Council members that this version of the vision statement was still a draft and more refinement would take place after public comment and additional Council review. (Draft Vision Statement was distributed at the meeting and will be placed on the Council website.)

S. Payne presented a draft Public Engagement Plan for discussion. Key elements of the plan were covered. It was recommended that the plan be modified to ensure it included ways to reach the older residents of the region. She reminded members that a survey has been designed and member assistance will be sought to distribute the survey to regional stake-holders. The link to the survey will also be advertised in press releases and posted on the Governor's website. T. Tranter asked for approval of the plan. (Public Engagement Plan was distributed at the meeting and will be placed on the Council website.)

S. Payne presented an overview of the planned public forums. She indicated that public meetings would be held in various locations throughout the region. The first public meeting will be held in Binghamton on September 1 at 10:00 a.m. in conjunction with a meeting of the SUNY Business and Education Collaborative of the Southern Tier (SUNY BEST).

I. Baker presented an overview of the Consolidated Funding Application process and its relationship to regional councils. Several Council members sought clarification on timing of applications and funding decisions to help them better understand the regional council's role in prioritizing and funding CFA's.

T. Tranter invited members of the public attending this Council meeting to comment on Council activities thus far. No one stepped forward for to comment. Following this comment period, T. Tranter indicated that the Council was to move to private work session.

T. Tranter reviewed important administrative matters and reminded Council members of (1) the importance of efficiently using discussion time to arrive at consensus in a timely manner, (2) the importance of effectively dealing with the media, and (3) the meeting schedule of future Council meetings.

F. Saraceno introduced the private Council website that has been established as a collaborative work tool. Council members and Work Group members will have access to this work space. The site is intended to store shared documents. T. Kowalik also indicated that listservs will be established for the Council and Work Groups to help streamline communications

T. Kowalik described the origin and purpose of Project and Action Priority Criteria reminding Council members that the criteria need to be established and weighted to assist with decision-making when reviewing projects and strategies to be included in the region's strategic plan. He reported that more

than 80% of Council members responded to the Criteria ranking exercise. Criteria rankings were distributed along with additional comments from members. Suggestions were gathered to reduce the number of criteria and ensure their meaningfulness and usefulness during the decision-making process. Revised Project and Action Priority Criteria and suggested criteria rankings will be presented for review at the next Council meeting.

S. Payne presented an overview of CFA Endorsement Standards and explained their use when the Council reviews submitted CFA's. She indicated that Council members will need to adopt Endorsement Standards at their next meeting. (Draft Endorsement Standards were distributed and will be posted on the Council's website.)

Council liaisons from each Work Group presented a status report describing Work Group activities and outcomes to date. The following Council members reported:

1. Healthcare – Dave Patak
2. Business Development and Entrepreneurship – Diane Lantz
3. Agriculture – Kathryn Boor
4. Energy – Doug Barton
5. Infrastructure – Uttara Prasad
6. Tourism – Candace Vancko
7. Technology Transfer and Development – Donna Lupardo
8. Downtown Revitalization and Community Development – Peg Ellsworth

T. Tranter and Lt Governor Duffy thanked Council members for their excellent work during the previous three weeks, encouraged all to continue the excellent momentum achieved thus far, and reminded them of the next meeting date and location.

#### Decisions/Actions

The notes from the August 4<sup>th</sup> Council meeting were approved.

The draft vision statement will be posted on the Governor's website, used as a guide for work groups, and presented at public forums with the intent to solicit feedback before a final statement is agreed upon and included in the region's strategic plan. A revised statement will be presented at the next Council meeting.

The draft Public Engagement Plan was approved.

The link to the stake-holder survey will be made public within days of this meeting.

Invitations to join the Council private website and collaborative workspace will be distributed within days of this meeting.

Several listservs will be established and invitations to join will be distributed within days of this meeting.

Work Groups will meet weekly until September 15.

PowerPoint from this meeting will be posted on the Council's website.

Next meeting:

- Date: Wednesday, September 7, 2011
- Time: 3:00 – 6:00
- Location: Binghamton University