



Southern Tier Regional Council Meeting

January 16, 2014

Council Members Present: Tom Tranter, Harvey Stenger, Steve Craig, Patricia Cummings, Marty Dietrich, Ernie Hartman, Jamie Johnson, Diane Lantz, Tom Libous, Barbara Lifton, Donna Lupardo, Kevin McLaughlin, George Miner, Tim O’Hearn, Debbie Preston, Martha Robertson, Anthony Rosemarino, Lou Santoni, Barbara Schindler, Joel Smith, Lee Ann Tinney

State Agency/Local Government Staff Present: S. Payne, T. Kowalik, R. Alpaugh, D. Burlew, J. Cornwall, B. Furch, K. Grippen, K. Lynch, K. McCabe, K. McManus, J. Roman, J. Sweet, J. Thomas, K. Smith, L. Skrill, F. Surdey, C. Harris, P. Michen, E. Miller, E. Priest

Path Through History Guests: F. Bonn, Liz Callahan, Brian Frey, J. Hare

Special Guest: LT Governor Duffy

Reports/Discussions

T. Tranter opened the meeting and welcomed all Council members, agency representatives, elected officials, and members of the public. He welcomed LT Governor Duffy.

LG Duffy reported that the State’s budget should be announced this week. He congratulated this REDC on being one of the top award winners in the State, and highlighted the creative and terrific regional approach taken to develop a regional incubator and innovation hotspot. He also announced that a new veteran’s opportunity program will be announced in the near future.

H. Stenger reviewed the meeting agenda and asked that minutes for Council meeting held September 10, 2013 be approved. The minutes were approved with one correction, i.e., G. Miner rescinded his nomination of Lee Ann Tinney for Tioga County representation on the Executive Committee, because there already was representation.

S. Payne reviewed highlights of CFA Round 1 and 2 project activity, and provided a summary of CFA Round 3 Awards (spreadsheet of Round 3 Awards were distributed in Council member packets and are attached to these meeting notes.) S. Payne also provided an overview of the status of the Community Revitalization Program, Rural Initiative Fund, Shovel Ready Site Development Fund and Telemedicine and Mobile Technology Fund.

Tom Tranter presented a summary of the Executive Committee report and recommendations:

1. Coordinate with HCR for distribution of Community Renewal Funds.
2. Enhance Council’s role in monitoring and oversight of all funds.
3. Amend the Telemedicine and Mobile Technology Fund guidelines and issue an RFP.

4. Reallocate \$375,000 in Telemedicine Fund Award.
 - *Bates-Troy Energy Conversion* \$200,000
 - *BU STEM Student Research* \$175,000

Recommendations were approved by the Council.

H. Stenger announced Executive Committee priorities for focus in 2014:

1. Monitor CFA awards (Rounds 1, 2 & 3)
2. Implement Telemedicine Fund and Community Renewal Fund
3. Support Start-up NY Activity
4. Launch Innovation Hot Spot and Regional Incubator Strategy
5. Hold Forum to Discuss Enhancing Business Climate in Communities
6. Continue Implementation of Cleaner Greener Plan
7. Review and Update Southern Tier's strategic plan
8. Identify Round 4 Priority Projects

The Path Thru History Project update presentation was given with Fred Bonn the primary presenter. Videos produced by WSKG were shown.

A Public Comment Period was held and no one from the public spoke.

Under Other Council Business, LG Duffy recognized D. Preston, congratulated H. Stenger on Binghamton University's national ranking as one of the country's best educational values, and mentioned that he was impressed and pleased with his recent visit to Maine-Endwell High School.

Decisions/Actions

Minutes for Council meeting held September 10, 2013 were approved with change.

Council approved the Executive Committee recommendations:

1. Coordinate with HCR for distribution of Community Renewal Funds.
2. Enhance Council's role in monitoring and oversight of all funds.
3. Amend the Telemedicine and Mobile Technology Fund guidelines with the following changes and proceed with issuing an RFP:
 - Academic institutions and major hospital providers are eligible applicants/recipients.
 - Use of funds is limited to "capital" only. Training is not an eligible cost.
 - A minimum cash equity participation of 10% of total project cost is required.
4. Reallocate \$375,000 from the Telemedicine Fund Award to:
 - *Bates-Troy Energy Conversion* \$200,000
 - *BU STEM Student Research* \$175,000

Next Council meeting will coincide with the visitation from the various State Agency Personnel being planned for March or April 2014.

- Date: TBD

- Time: TBD
- Location: TBD
- Agenda: TBD