



Southern Tier Regional Council Meeting

January 26, 2016, 12:00 at BU

Council Members Present: Tom Tranter, Harvey Stenger, Patricia Cummings, Diane Lantz, Kevin McLaughlin, Tom Santulli, Martha Sauerbrey, Barbara Schindler, Mike Stamm, Rich David, Debbie Preston, Candace Vanko, Rose Sotak, Mike Krusen, Mike lane, Peg Ellsworth, Dan Mandell, Uttara Prasad

Council Members Substitutes: Steve Craig (for Lawrence Wilcox), Lou Callea (for Mike Field), Jamie Johnson (for Joe Hauryski), Anthony Rosemarino (for Dan Spoor), Jan Nyrop (for Kathryn Boor), Mary Opperman (for Elizabeth Garrett), Sarah Lattin (for Tom O'Mara)

Special Guests: Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul, Richard Tobe, Ryan Silva.

State Agency/Local Government/ESD Staff: Kara Grippen (Gov. Office), Paul D'Amato (DEC), Pam Eshbaugh (DOT), Christian Harris (DOL), Ken Lynch (DEC), Julie Sweet (DOS), Janet Roach (DOH), Michael Straight (NYSERDA), Fred Bonn (Parks), Jaime Reppert (DOS), Ken Smith (DOL), James Smith (EFC), Jack Williams (DOT), Lenny Skrill (HCR), Pam Michon (BU), Betsey Hale, Glenn Nealis, Lee Ann Tinney, Dawn Burlew, Robin Alpaugh, Barbara Furch, Terry Kane, Tom Kowalik, Susan Payne, Joe Roman, Tammy Kocak, Donna Howell, Ashley McCloskey, Matt Isgro, Jason Conwell

Reports/Discussions

- H. Stenger called meeting to order. He welcomed Council members, staff, and guests. He introduced special guests, Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul, Upstate Revitalization Director Rich Tobe, and Deputy Director of Regional Economic Development Councils Ryan Silva.
- H. Stenger asked members/designee's to introduce themselves and their affiliation.
- H. Stenger called for approval of minutes of September 10, 2015 Council meeting. J. Johnson made the motion. M. Stamm seconded. Council approved.
- T. Tranter reviewed agenda for the meeting and asked Lt. Governor K. Hochul to present the "2016 Build to Lead" agenda.
- Lt. Governor K. Hochul presented the highlights of Governor Cuomo's 2016 State of the State and Budget Address, "Built to Lead." (See PowerPoint on website.)
- T. Tranter introduced a video prepared by S. Craig showing the URI award ceremony and the STREDC receiving their award.
- R. Tobe discussed the rollout of the URI. He emphasized this program is a 5 year marathon. It is important that the Regional Council keep moving forward with its plan. He reminded them that it is possible for the Region to utilize other State funds to supplement and augment the URI funding. He also reminded Council members that there may be new projects emerging that have

not been foreseen and to be prepared to include them if they fit within the overall regional plan. He encouraged the Council to establish a system to track the cumulative impact of the URI within the Region.

- R. Silva provided an update on support for the URI. He encouraged people with prospective projects, but have not yet proposed them to the Council, to complete the URI Intent to Propose form on the website. Projects will be considered throughout the term of the URI. He announced that Round 6 of the CFA process is in the Governor's Budget and he reminded Council members to prepare to compete for these funds starting in the spring.
- Robin Alpaugh provided a brief update on council initiatives and projects. In December, the Community Revitalization Fund rec'd its latest disbursement of \$750k with the next round of \$1.6M to be disbursed very shortly, in addition to a Shovel Ready disbursement of \$631k. The next Rural Initiative round of funding is expected to go to the ESD board in March. Earlier this month, SUNY Broome's Rad Tech project was approved by ESD and the project is completed. The college held an open house to showcase the new equipment this past November. We are continuing to work on establishing our regional Mentoring Program and have our first school lined up – Windsor Schools, working with Jason Andrews, Superintendent and corporate partner Modern Marketing Concepts. This important initiative will partner elementary students with corporate volunteers that will spend 1 hour a week as a mentor. Patricia Cummings has volunteered to serve on the Mentoring Work Group on behalf of the council – if anyone else is interested in helping or would like more info, please see me after the meeting.
- D. Howell presented provided a Broadband update. She discussed the new \$500 million opportunity for internet providers to extend high speed service to unserved and underserved areas in the Southern Tier. She distributed a copy of a map showing eligible areas. She asked members of the Council to help notify interested providers and to inform them that the applications are available March 1, with a due date of April 15.
- D. Howell presented information on the new Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program for which \$25 million is available through Ag & Markets. Applications are now available and are due March 7.
- T. Tranter opened the discussion for public comments. There were no public comments at this meeting.
- H. Stenger announced the next meeting date for this Council as Thursday, April 21, 2016 at Binghamton University. T. Tranter indicated that the Council will meet quarterly and the Executive Committee will meet monthly.
- T. Tranter asked for Council members to look over the URI Coordination Team proposal and volunteer, or nominate volunteers, to join one of the four initiative work groups that are forming to guide the four strategies outlined in the URI plan.
- T. Tranter adjourned the meeting.

Decisions/Actions

- Minutes from STREDC September 10, 2015 meeting were approved.

- Council members are to submit recommendations and volunteer names for URI Strategy Work Groups to T. Tranter, H. Stenger and/or D. Howell.
- Meeting dates of the full Regional Council will be:
 - April 21, 2016
 - July 21, 2016
 - September 15, 2016