



WNY REDC MEETING SUMMARY

Introductory Information:

Date and Time Meeting Commenced: Friday, February 10, 2017, 3:10 pm

Location: Niagara Falls Conference & Events Center, Cataract Room, 101 Old Falls Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Council Members Present: Co-Chair Jeff Belt, Outgoing Co-Chair Satish Tripathi, Incoming Co-Chair Dr. Virginia Horvath, Michael Metzger, Paul Brown, Dr. Michael Cropp, Tom Kucharski, Dr. Rosa Gonzalez, Dr. Katherine Conway-Turner, Melinda Vizcarra, Dr. Mark Zupan.

Ex-Officio: Chautauqua County Executive Vince Horrigan, Niagara Falls Mayor Paul Dyster

Council Members Substitutes: Tuona Batchelor for Mayor Byron Brown & Ben Biddell for Niagara County Legislature Chair Keith McNall

State Agency/Local Government/ESD Staff: ESD Staff: Ray Salaberrios, Christopher Schoepflin, Michael Ball, Janet Murray, Mo Sumbundu, Lynn Marinelli, Diego Sirianni, Angela Rossi, Ray Witzleben, Laura Magee, Paul Tronolone, Rob Sozanski, John Risio, and Amanda Mays. Executive Chamber: Adam Sassone & Lori Cornell. DOS: Christopher Bauer. DOT: Jim Cuozzo. DOL: Carolyn Bright. EFC: JC Smith. NYPA: Lou Paonessa. Niagara Falls Economic Development: Anthony Villardo. UBRI: Laura Quebral, Christina Farrell.

Special Guests: Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul, ESD Commissioner Howard Zemsky, NYS DOL Commissioner Roberta Reardon, Town of Tonawanda Supervisor Joe Emminger, Niagara County Legislator Mark Grozio, City of Olean Mayor William Aiello, Village of Springville Mayor William Krebs.

Time Adjourned: 4:30pm

Welcome and Remarks:

Call to Order:

Preamble requesting disclosure of any conflicts of interest read.

Conflicts noted: (Please List)

Recusals noted: (Please List)



- No conflicts noted.
- The record of recusals was noted and acknowledged at the meeting.

Reports/Discussions:

3:10pm - Welcoming Remarks

Jeff Belt, Co-Chair, WNY Regional Economic Development Council, welcomed members, staff and guests. Mr. Belt introduced NYS Department of Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon, who remarked that she and her department are willing partners with the REDCs. ESD Commissioner Howard Zemsky welcomed attendees. WNY REDC Director Christopher Schoepflin read the Conflict of Interest statements.

3:15pm - 2016 Year in Review

Christopher Schoepflin, Executive Director, WNY Regional Economic Development Council, and Michael Ball, Deputy Director, WNY Regional Economic Development Council

Handouts of A Strategy for Prosperity Progress Report 2106 and Buffalo Niagara's Strategic Plan for Prosperity 2017 (aka Buffalo Billion 2)

Power point presentation

3:20pm - Building the Project Pipeline in 2017 / Technical Assistance Initiative

Christopher Schoepflin, Executive Director, WNY Regional Economic Development Council, and Laura Quebral, Executive Director, University of Buffalo Regional Institute

Handout information

3:30pm - Downtown Revitalization Initiative Update

Presented by Michael Metzger, President, Blackstone Advanced Technologies, REDC and Christopher Bauer, NYS Department of State

Power point presentation

Work Plan Timeline ends February 28, 2017. 100 projects were consolidated into 36, with 13 selected

3:45pm - Bridge to Success Loan Program

Presented by Ray Salaberrios, Vice President, Economic Revitalization



They manage \$5 million in flow of funds, helping mostly advanced manufacturing and agriculture. They are seeking more local banks to do financing of loans. Mr. Salaberrios mentioned the importance of MWBEs and Bridge to Success loan program. They wish to do more in WNY and asked for advocacy assistance from REDC.

3:55pm - Buffalo Billion Update

Presented by Howard A. Zemsky, President & CEO/Commissioner, Empire State Development

Power point presentation (approx. 60 slides)

4:20pm - Closing Remarks, Award Presentation to Outgoing Chair Satish Tripathi, President, State University of New York at Buffalo

Presented by NYS Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul, President & CEO/Commissioner, Empire State Development Howard A. Zemsky, and WNY REDC Co-chair Jeff Belt

Adjourn. Reception for REDC and staff