



Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council Meeting
December 16, 2011
Binghamton University

Council Members Present: Tom Tranter, Steve Johnson (for David Skorton), Jay McNamara, Steve Craig (for Richard Decker), Linda Shumaker, Barbara Schindler, Kathryn Boor, Martha Robertson, Patrick Brennan, Ernest Hartman, Tim O’Hearn, Carolyn Peterson, Terry Kane (for Peter McGrath), George Miner, Michael Stamm, Diane Lantz, Jamie Johnson (for Joe Hauryski),

State Agency/Local Government Staff Present: Julie Sweet, Tom Kowalik, Tim Grippen, Kevin McLaughlin, Robin Alpaugh, Kelsey Jones

Reports/Discussions

T. Tranter welcomed everyone and opened the meeting. He thanked members for the time and work they invested in preparing the Council Strategic Plan. He summarized observations he had of the Regional Council Awards Event and emphasized that the Southern Tier Region, although receiving \$43 M as part of the Awards process, was the recipient of more funds than any other region in the State. As a result of Council activities and priorities, the ST Region will receive an additional \$110 M in flood relief funds. He indicated that he believed the process used during the past six months will be the process used each year in the near future.

K. McLaughlin contributed his observations of the Awards Ceremony and feedback he has received from the Governor’s Office. He emphasized that he hoped all members of this Council would continue to serve the ST Region as this year’s plan is implemented and to help in the future. He indicated that moving forward in the next month or two it will be necessary to reconvene some of the Work Groups, identify new projects for future funding, and establish an RFP and review process for projects that could apply for funds out of this year’s awards. He distributed a list of funded projects supporting the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Plan. (See attached.)

There was general discussion among members seeking clarification of the implementation of the RFP process and criteria that will be used to prioritize projects for funds that will be administered by STREDC on behalf of the Council. M. Robertson suggested that an RFP process be established. T. Tranter suggested a Council subcommittee be established to rate proposals. The review process will include the rating committee reviewing and recommending projects to the full Council for ratification and then full

Council would vote on projects. Clarification was sought to verify projects seeking funds as part of the Downtown Revitalization category did not have to meet flood criteria. Since special additional funds were received for flood recovery efforts, it was felt that projects submitted for Revitalization funds did not need to meet flood criteria.

The group discussed the need to meet early in 2012 to begin implementation. K. McLaughlin and T. Tranter indicated they believed the Governor's Office would be following up with Councils mid-year to determine progress being made. As a result, everyone felt it was important to show results as soon as possible.

T. Tranter reported that Regional Council Chairs did not meet in November to discuss statewide issues with the Governor. They re-scheduled the meeting for January 2012.

Decisions/Actions

The Council will meet sometime during the last week of January. Council members were asked to check their availability for the dates of January 25, 26, and 27, 2012 and contact K. McLaughlin.

Selected Work Groups will reconvene to help develop specific projects for future submission.

A Rating Committee will be established consisting of a subset of private sector members of the REDC. The Committee will meet in early January to begin to develop the project RFP process and selection/ranking criteria. S. Payne will assist with this group.

Project RFP's will be distributed throughout the ST Region in February with a response date of mid-March.

The Rating Committee will review proposals and prepare a ranked list of projects for Council review and approval.

The Council will meet again in April to review and vote on project proposals and assess progress to date.

Next meeting:

- Date: One of the following dates: January 25, 26, 27, 2012
- Time: To be announced
- Location: To be announced
- Agenda:
 - Review and vote on project proposals
 - Assess Council progress to date

