



Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council Meeting
September 7, 2011
Binghamton University

Council Members Present: David Skorton, Tom Tranter, Peter McGrath, Martin Dietrich, Tony Rosemarino, Barbara Schindler, Thomas Santulli, Steve Craig, Martha Robertson, Ernest Hartman, Doug Barton, Tim O’Hearne, Lou Santoni, Keith Baumann, John Bernardo, Philly Desarno (for Carolyn Peterson), Frank Evangelisti (for Pat Brennan), Glenn Nealis, George Miner, Diane Lantz, Patricia Cummings, David Patak, Bob Howarth, Joe Hauryski, Dennis Fagan, Robert Duffy, LG

State Agency/Local Government/ Staff/Guests Present: Bob Howarth, Cornell; Christian Harris, DOL; Frank Surdey, DOL; Laura Magee, ESD; Julie Sweet, DOS; Kevin McLaughlin, ESD; Kevin McCabe, Governor’s Regional Representative; Paul D’Amato, DEC; Robert Furlani, DOH; Robin Alpaugh, ESD; Tim Grippen, DOL; Tom Kowalik, SUNY Binghamton; Susan Payne, Ken Lynch, DEC; Donna Lupardo, Assemblywoman; Phil Palmesano, Assemblyman; Tom O’Mara, Senator; Chris Friend, Assemblyman; Cliff Crouch, Assemblyman; Kyle Wilber, DOS; Christopher Grant, DOS; Linda Hardie, NYSERDA; JC Smith, NYSEFC; Leonard Skroll, NYSHCR; Tim Joseph, OPRHP; Irene Baker, ESD

Reports/Discussions

Lt. Governor Duffy welcomed everyone and provided an overview of Regional Council activities around the State. He introduced D. Skorton, as Council co-chair, who opened the meeting and thanked members for the work they have invested in the work of the Council.

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

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 17 meeting notes. The notes were approved.

T. Kowalik presented the current vision statement draft. He reported that comments received from Council members and the public continue to be incorporated in the draft. He reminded

Council members that a final version of the vision statement would need to be approved for inclusion in the Council's strategic plan (Draft Vision Statement was distributed at the meeting and will be placed on the Council website.)

S. Payne presented the revised Project and Action Priority Criteria with recommended weightings. She reminded Council members that the criteria were intended to assist with decision-making when reviewing projects and strategies to be included in the region's strategic plan. Following discussion the Weighted Project and Action Priority Criteria were approved. (Weighted Project and Action Priority Criteria were distributed at the meeting and will be placed on the Council website.)

S. Payne presented the revised CFA Endorsement Standards explained their use when the Council reviews submitted CFA's. She indicated that Council members needed to adopt Endorsement Standards at this meeting. Following discussion and with minor edits, the Endorsement Standards were approved. (Endorsement Standards were distributed and will be posted on the Council's website.)

K. McLaughlin presented an update on Public Engagement including recently completed activities and planned events scheduled through the middle of October.

I. Baker presented an update of the Consolidated Funding Application process and its ongoing relationship to regional councils. Several Council members sought clarification on timing of applications and number of applications expected 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. One person stepped forward for to voice the concern that public comments might not be given adequate attention due to the speed and timing of the strategic planning process. T. Tranter assured her that public comments were being reviewed and considered by Council members as soon as information was gathered. In addition, public comments were posted on the Governor's website for public viewing. Following this comment period, T. Tranter indicated that the Council was to move to private work session.

S. Payne presented a summary status report from each Work Group describing Work Group outcomes to date and anticipating projects and strategies that might come from each group.

T. Tranter and D. Skorton asked Council members if they would feel comfortable allowing a greater portion of the remaining Council meeting to be open to the public. Council members agreed to open meetings unless confidential or proprietary information was to be discussed.

D. Skorton, T. Tranter and Lt Governor Duffy thanked Council members for their excellent work and encouraged all to continue the excellent momentum achieve thus far.

Decisions/Actions

The notes from the August 17th Council meeting were approved.

The revised draft vision statement will be posted on the Governor's website and presented at public forums with the intent to solicit additional 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 for approval.

Weighted Project and Action Priority Criteria were approved.

Endorsement Standards were approved.

Project and strategy recommendations from Work Groups will be presented to the Council at its next meeting.

It was agreed that a larger portion of the next Council meeting would be open to the public and press.

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

Next meeting:

- Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2011
- Time: 3:00 – 6:00
- Location: Cornell University