

Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council Meeting

Binghamton University, Innovative Technology Complex, Smart Energy Building

September 6, 2018

12:00-2:00

Executive Session 12:00-12:50

Council Members Present: T. Tranter, H. Stenger, B. Hale, L. Shumaker, R. Sotak, R. David, E. Hartman, M. Dietrich, J. McKinney-Cherry, M. Printup, M. Robertson, E. Hartman, K. Boor, J. Garnar, M. Laliberte, L. Tinney

Council Members Alternates: T. O'Hearn (for D. Fagan), J. Johnson (for J. Hauryski), S. Craig (for L. Wilcox), G. Nealis (for T. Mole), L. Callea (for M. Field),

State Agency/Local Government/Staff: Assemblywoman Lifton, D. Lupardo, J. Sweet (DOS), D. Howell (ESD), J. Roman (ESD), T. Kocak (ESD), J. Bedrin (ESD), S. Wallmar (ESD)

T. Tranter called the meeting to order and requested that Council members and alternates introduce themselves.

T. Tranter called for approval of minutes from the 06/21/18 REDC meeting. B. Hale moved to accept the minutes of the 06/21/18 REDC meeting as presented, seconded by E. Hartman. The members voted in favor and the minutes were approved unanimously.

H. Stenger reviewed the list of 29 Round 8 projects which will create 411 jobs. Total value of the projects adds up to \$20 million which brings the Southern Tier to a top performer.

B. Hale provided a URI Update, including new projects awarded, the number of applications received and status of each.

Work group updates

J. Johnson, Co-Chair of the Food & Agriculture Work Group, provided an update on the Food and Agriculture Work Group which has been focused on the 2018 CFA application submissions which have increased by 20%.

T. Schryver, Co-Chair of the Innovative Cultures Work Group, provided an update about the review of applications in conjunction with Tourism Promotion Agencies (TPAs), expanding work group membership to include TPAs request for funding and support. Regional update, business has increased from 2015 – 2017.

B. Hale, Co-Chair of the Advanced Manufacturing Work Group, provided an update on the Advanced Manufacturing Work Group. The 2018 CFA process created the best list of projects for advanced manufacturing that has ever been seen by the workgroup.

J. Conway, Co-Chair of the Workforce Development Work Group, provided an update on the apprenticeship program, team is working on an apprenticeship model that would include classroom and on the job training, training of veterans creating pathways and programs which will produce quality candidates for the workforce.

L. Tinney, provided an update on the \$10 million DRI project awarded to Owego. Kickoff meeting will be held on 9/7 in Owego to discuss the projects and the team is eager to begin.

J. Cherry provided an update on the Watkins Glen DRI project which is moving forward.

J. Roman, Elmira was awarded \$40 million for the airport project to enhance the experience. Improvements have been made and the deadline of completion will be October 31st which will be met.

M. Robertson, provided an update on Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport, \$14.2 million was approved for the space as part of a DOT project which will be expanding the terminal by 22,000 sq ft. A connection flight to Dulles will be added on October 4th by United.

Staff Report

D. Howell presented the staff report, discussed upcoming dates, the Global Trade and Investment Forum being held on October 3rd and the NYS MWBE Forum on October 3rd and 4th in Albany, NY.

Public Comment:

Allan Michaels from Industry Building Blocks discussed his business – Industry Building Blocks provides information on 20,000 industries and 11,000 global companies, as well as 3,000 Southern Tier businesses. A Summit is scheduled for October 17th. His website is: <https://southernTier.info> which provides more information.

Jen Gregory from Southern Tier 8 provided an update on the constantly interruptible power, limited lines, gas and electric in the Northern regions which contain SUNY Oneonta, Norwich (Chobani) and Sidney (Amphenol) that are being affected by this especially in the winter months. She requested support from the REDC on this initiative which would be upgrading the current infrastructure.

There being no further public comment, T. Tranter stated that the next REDC meeting will be held January 2019 and the meeting was adjourned.