

**Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council**

**Meeting # 1, 2012  
Dominican College  
February 8, 2012  
11:00am-1:30pm**

**Meeting Notes**

**Public Session**

Lt. Governor Duffy and Co-Chairs Schleifer and Murray welcomed the public into the open session of the council meeting. The Council continued its discussion on project development, including the issue of offering more clarity and outreach to the region's community to both create a project pipeline and help businesses and organizations understand how to apply for grants. The Council also discussed the issue of CFA scoring and the need for more explanation on what factors the Council should be using in its consideration of projects.

**Irene Baker—CFA Presentation**

Irene Baker, the Governor's Director of Cabinet Affairs, presented on what is expected for the Council's in 2012 and the next round of funding. She indicated that moving forward, it will be helpful for the Council to focus its strategies. She also said that the state will be issuing more guidance and dates for the new CFA process shortly and will work on a significant outreach component to educate the public about the application process.

**Review of Regional Issues and Inhibitors**

Councilmember Al Samuels presented an overview of the issues and inhibitors identified by the Council in 2011.

**Council Organization**

Co-Chair Schleifer provided a brief overview of the next steps for the Council's organization, including the formation of four committees to advance the plan's implementation: Executive Committee; Project and Resources Development; Metrics, Measurement and Compliance; Marketing and Public Engagement.

**Re-Charge New York—Michael Huvane, NYPA**

Michael Huvane from the NY Power Authority gave a presentation on the ReCharge NY program. The Council is currently in the process of scoring applications to this program.

**Public Comment**

Comment: Sustainable projects should be a priority.

Comment: Requesting the Council's support to maintain employment status of Bellayre employees if that ski center is transferred to ORDA (the Olympic Regional Development

Authority). The Council discussed this issue and the Lt. Governor and Irene Baker noted that the will convene a meeting with the appropriate staff.

Comment: The SEQRA process is an impediment to construction and should be reformed.

**Closing Comments**

The Council discussed the timeline for next steps, including the creation of the Executive Committee which is comprised of the co-chairs Jonathan Drapkin, Carol Fitzgerald, and Mary Rodrigues. The Council will next work to populate the other three committees to advance the implementation of the plan. The Council also discussed formulating a public outreach effort to promote and the CFA program