



FLREDC MEETING SUMMARY

Introductory Information:

Date and Time Meeting Commenced: September 28, 2016 at 10:00am

Location: Monroe Community College, Flynn Campus Center
1000 E. Henrietta Road, Rochester, NY

Council Members Present: David Callard, Matt Cole, Bill Destler, Cheryl Dinolfo, Tony Jackson, Anne Kress, Steven Leroy, Jack Marren, Theresa Mazzullo, Augustin Melendez, John Noble, Wade Norwood, Mark Peterson, Joseph Robach, Peter Robinson, John Sheppard, Erin Tolefree, Jon Verkey, Lovely Warren, Danny Wegman, Christine Whitman, David Young

Council Members Substitutes: Bill Bacon for Eric Gott, Julie Pacatte for Eugene Jankowski, Nicole Malec for Rob Sands, Bob Bergin for Joseph Morelle

State Agency/Local Government/ESD Staff: Vincent Esposito, Kiska Stevens, JaMone Turner, Helen Blum, Steve Golding, Hector Gonzalez, Jessie Sleezer, Fred Bonn, Paul D'Amato, Greg Parker, JC Smith, Leonard Skrill, Chris Bauer

Time Adjourned: 10:44 AM

Welcome and Remarks: Anne Kress and Danny Wegman (Co-Chairs) welcomed everyone to the FLREDC Meeting.

Call to Order: Vincent Esposito called the meeting to order and gave a brief overview of what would be covered in the meeting. He then presented the video that was created for the Finger Lakes region to show what the Finger Lakes Forward Story is.

Introduction of New FLREDC Members: Vincent Esposito and Danny Wegman introduced Wade Norwood and Erin Tolefree who were appointed by Governor Cuomo.

Funding for Airport: Vincent Esposito and County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo updated the FLREDC on the \$40M award the Governor made to the ROC Airport; this was one of two airports to receive funding in the entire state. This will create 1,200 year round jobs for two years.

Executive Director Update: Vincent Esposito thanked all of the Council Members and Scorers for all their hard work. He remarked on the negative news that happened last week and reiterated that the Governor reaffirmed that the work of the Economic Development Councils will continue as planned even with all of the negative news. He noted that things are heating up for our region and we are building momentum on the job creation front as well as AIM Photonics which is moving ahead on schedule.



CFA Scoring & Priority Project Lists: A list of the Priority Projects was given to the FLREDC members for review. There were 67 projects that have been identified as regionally significant, this is out of approximately 205 CFA applications. There are a total of 49 priority projects. Of which there are 33 that are for ESD grant, which is dependent on whether our region wins the Regional Council competition. Anne Kress stated that we do a good job of putting forth the whole region and not just Monroe County and we have also represented all of our pillars. Mark Peterson commented that we take a lot of care and time with this process and we think this list strongly reflects our region's needs, our highest priority and our best opportunities for job creation and new investments.

A motion was made by Bill Destler to vote to accept the Priority Project List and was seconded by Theresa Mazzullo. A vote was taken and all were in favor of the Priority Project list, no abstentions and no one opposed. The Priority Project list will be announced to the public in detail on Monday, October 3, 2016.

Semi-Final Progress Report: Vincent Esposito discussed the process and work that went into the Progress Report and that minimal responses were received to make changes to the report. Anne Kress reflected that report fully integrates and incorporates the feedback from the Rochester Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative and the organization of the report says a lot about our region. A motion was made by Augustin Melendez and seconded by Christine Whitman to vote to accept the Progress Report. A vote was taken and all were in favor of the Progress Report, no abstentions and no opposed. Vincent Esposito stated that the Progress Report will be going to the printers today and we will now start working on our verbal presentation to the SIAT Committee on November 1st.

Upcoming Events:

Sustainability Conference – November 2

Downtown Revitalization Initiative local planning committee has been finalized and they have their first kickoff meeting next week.

The URI Implementation is continuing and hopefully you will see more fruit coming from that process.

Open Discussion:

Danny Wegman gave a presentation on Pathways to Prosperity. He stated that we need to demand job creation and find out what the needs are from the demand side and supply side and that we need to realize we all need to learn that we need to help each other in order for this to work. There are four initiatives that we should concentrate on: Early Childhood Supports; Youth Mentoring; Adult Mentoring-skill development/job placement; Low Graduation Rates. We will be starting with 300 people to start with and work together to help them. There are some government created disincentives (i.e. If you don't work you can get \$29,000 support from Social Services; If you do work and get \$9 an hour, you



make \$51,000 working 40 hours a week; If you make \$12/hr. you would lose \$1,000; \$15/hr. you would lose \$2,000). The main problems for people with low income are housing subsidy and daycare subsidy where the more you earn, the less you get. You don't clear this cliff until you start making \$24/hr. These issues need to be dealt with and we need to spend our time figuring out what we can do better in negating the disincentives. There are three initiatives ready to go: Hillside (if we raise \$3M in private funds the state will provide \$3M in public funds); RMAPI (if we raise \$1.5M the state will provide \$1.5M); Monroe Community Colleges project (the state has covered the building and we will need to cover the soft costs). We are trying to take the private dollars and the state will cover some of the costs. If this works, the state will use this model and we are calling this the One Community Plan.

Anne Kress stated this is the realization of one barrier to our rooms was workforce development. The shortage doesn't begin at school, it begins at the beginning. The One Community Plan recognizes this and in order to make our region stronger, we have to begin at the beginning. We have to make sure people reach their full potential. She thank Danny Wegman for championing this effort as it sets our region apart, and if it works here, we can expand this into other areas. She also thanked Vincent Esposito, as he has been championing this effort also, even though ESD does not typically fund this type of initiative.

Vincent Esposito stated this is a good snapshot of the Council is doing to contribute to the community wide Anti-Poverty initiative and the work being done in the Finger Lakes Regions workforce development that goes from the cradle to career.

Danny Wegman stated that 300 people may seem insignificant to start with, but if we start with a small enough number of people to get our arms around it, we can then scale it up when it starts to work.

Closing Remarks:

Anne Kress thanked the council for all of their hard work.

Danny Wegman stated that a lot of people say we won't win this year, but we are in it to win it.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: To be determined at a later date.

/kls