



Executive Committee organizational meeting held on 01.17.2014

10am to 12pm @ 207 N. Genesee Street, Utica NY – State Office Building Conference Room B

Attendees: Dr. Robert Geer, Mayor Ann Thane, Mark Kilmer, Dr. Dustin Swanger, Wally Hart, Carolyn Lewis, Steve DiMeo, Sarah Blood, Mike Rees, Nancy Pattarini, Chuck Green, Mary Morse, Ken Tompkins, Jane Thelen, Deb Tczinski, Christian Mercurio

6-Month Strategy & Focus Areas

Dr. Geer

Discussion on priorities, near-term objectives, and capacity building

- All efforts should focus on Project Development.
- It is important to recruit partners outside of the Council to advance our strategies.
- Mark Kilmer agreed to function as a liaison to chambers of commerce in the region.
- General consensus was that we should be prepared for an early CFA Round, and plan events/engagement accordingly.
- Executive Committee meetings should host new stakeholders and/or speakers, beginning in February.
- We will need to address the Global Initiative this year; and figure out how to work it into our 2014 strategic plan
- HCR Round should be driven by *Project Readiness* on a rolling basis; rather than a definitive “round” with projects that may not be ready yet.
- It was noted that this meeting was particularly well-attended; that we should endeavor to maintain this level of participation; and that this was a good way to begin the year.

Committee Structure

Ken Tompkins

A proposed committee structure was presented, based upon feedback and 2014 objectives.

- Dr. Swanger made the point that our committee structure should follow what we are trying to accomplish.
- Project Development was unanimously the most important committee/objective. Mike Reese agreed to Chair PROJECT DEVELOPMENT Committee with Steve DiMeo.
- First observation is that the proposed “Workforce Development” committee was too restrictive, if not misleading. The group agreed to refer to this committee as “EDUCATION & WORKFORCE” to reflect the fact that educators see themselves as *educators*, not necessarily *workforce trainers*.
- It was noted that Oneida County’s workforce component of Vision 20/20 was comprised of Education, Housing, and Opportunity.
- The [ad-hoc] Scoring Committee structure and members should be figured out early this year.
- Suggestion for a “Community Development” committee to target engagement of communities & local governments.
- In place of a “Public Relations” committee; assign a Public Information Officer (PIO) to each committee to handle outreach and communications relative to specific subject matter; in hopes of having a subject-matter expert function as PIO rather than a communications or PR clearinghouse. This suggestion was very well received.
- Carolyn Lewis, Mayor Thane, Chuck Green, and Wally Hart volunteered to work on the SUMMIT committee; but still needs a chair. Dan Robinson was suggested as a possible chair.
- The topic(s) of local government consolidation and shared services should be addressed at summit. Address successful examples and Best Management Practices of consolidation.

Presentation

Ken Tompkins

A “generic” presentation & talking point script was drafted and presented to the committee for comments & editing.

- Insert better picture of Fage, USA.
- Insert before/after for REVIVE.
- Address the “What’s in it for me?” better with a slide or two at the end outlining funding opportunities, etc.
- Keep talking points to 1-minute per slide and wrap it up in less than 15-minutes.
- Suggestion to develop spin-off presentation on funding sources/programs in a generic, yet informative, style
- Work with CJM to tailor presentation to your specific stakeholder group/target audience
- Assemble a “Speakers Bureau” to address specific subject matters & stakeholders

MVREDC Calendar (6-months out)

Dr. Geer

Brief discussion on calendar items in order to map a six-month guide to Council meetings, workshops, and related activities.

- The first full MVREDC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 6th @ SUNY-IT with reception to follow at F.X. Matt’s.
- Calendar template will be sent out; please respond by COB Friday, January 24th with any suggestions, blackout dates, etc.
- Full REDC meetings will be suggested; but final approval will come from Albany
- One Executive Committee meeting per month on Fridays
- One Full REDC meeting per month
- 7:30am Conference Calls will continue; except after observed holidays
- Summit to be held in early April; details forthcoming; start thinking seriously about topics, venue, etc.

Figure 1 – Revised (draft) Committee Structure for 2014

Figure 1: Proposed (Draft) Committee Structure

