

**Regional Council Meeting – May 3, 2012**  
**Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site**

**3:05 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Closed Session**

**3:35 p.m. – Open to the Public**

**Council Members**

in Attendance: John Maggiore (representing Lt. Governor Duffy), Howard Zemsky, Satish Tripathi, Christina Orsi, Aaron Bartley, Deanna Brennen, Rosa Gonzalez, Pamela Henderson, Brenda McDuffie, Robert Brady, Richard Tobe (representing County Executive Mark Poloncarz), Samuel Teresi, Duncan Ross, Jeff Belt, Andrew Rudnick, Paul Brown, Connie Vari, Jennifer Parker, Tom Kucharski, William Ross, Greg Edwards, John Koelmel, Colleen DiPirro, Paul Dyster, Curtis Crandall, Crystal Abers, Byron Brown

Others Present: Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, and Senator George Maziarz

Closed session of the meeting – Presentation by John Maggiore from the Lt. Governor’s Office on SAGE (State Agency Redesign & Efficiency Commission)

3:45 p.m. – Opening welcome and remarks by Howard Zemsky. Thank you to Molly Quackenbush from the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site for hosting the meeting. She took a few minutes to go over the history of the buildings.

Awardees’ overview of projects (PowerPoint presentations to be posted to website)

The first of the Regional Council Project Presentations was by:

**Niagara County Community College (NCCC) Culinary Institute**

Presentation by Megan Stadler, NCCC.

Megan gave a brief overview of this transformational project which is built on the abandoned Rainbow Mall property and will build on the strengths of the tourism sector and expand educational access. In the first two years, the Institute will hire 30 new employees. It will increase visitor spending; retail shops at the Center will include Barnes & Noble, deli, pastry shop, and wine boutique.

**Jump Start – Launch New York**

Presentation by Marnie LaVigne, UB Center for Advanced Biomedical & Bioengineering Technology

Marnie began by thanking the partners in this project, especially Al Culliton and David Colligan.

Launch New York is a new 501c3 created to accelerate formation of new high-growth businesses and to create an entrepreneurial environment or ecosystem that will drive entrepreneurship and high-potential start-up companies in the region. Launch New York

represents the implementation of a business plan developed through the JumpStart NY Project, which is a planning project funded in 2010 by a grant from the Economic Development Administration to the ECIDA in collaboration with nationally-recognized JumpStart Inc. in Cleveland, Ohio. Phase I of this project involves the initial development of the organization and entrepreneurial resources.

### **Niagara Falls International Airport (NFIA) Master Plan**

Presentation by Pascal Cohen and Mark Clark

Pascal began by briefly going over a study conducted by the NYSDOT on Economic Impacts of Aviation in New York State. In a 2009 study, 18,000 passengers were boarding planes and today that amount is five times higher. A Master Plan is needed to continue this growth in the future.

Mark Clark explained that the NFTA has been trying for more than four years to get a Master Plan funded through the FAA and thanked the Council for the opportunity to do this master plan. FAA requires a Master Plan because without it, it is difficult getting funding from the FAA.

### **Dream It – Do It**

Presentation by Todd Trantum, Chautauqua Chamber of Commerce, and Dave Johnson

Dream It Do It Manufacturing Campaign was first launched in Chautauqua County and has now expanded to Erie and Niagara Counties. It is a great way to fix the shortages of qualified workers that manufacturers are facing. It highlights the importance of manufacturing and career opportunities.

Megan Daly from the Governor's Office gave a brief update on the CFA Process. She commended the Council for their work in Round 1 and the projects they came up with. An internal system is now in place to track the CFA projects. The second round of CFAs is up and running today (May 3<sup>rd</sup>). There is \$150 million in capital funding and \$70 million in tax credits. Many improvements have been made to the CFA system, making it more business-friendly. There are new funding programs this round such as Agriculture and Markets and Council on the Arts. The new website is [regionalcouncils.ny.gov](http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov). A new Guidebook will be available on the web on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

There is more time for applications with this round:

Release of CFA Round 2 is May 3<sup>rd</sup>; Application deadline is July 16<sup>th</sup>; Scores due August 27<sup>th</sup>; and awards to be made September/October. WNY will be hosting three CFA Workshops. If the Council wants to schedule a meeting with all state agencies regarding funding programs, that would be arranged.

Howard Zemsky gave a very brief update on the \$1billion that the Governor has allocated for WNY over a five-year period. He thanked Bob Shibley and Laura Fulton and the UB Research Institute for working with Brookings who is providing their services on a pro bono basis. They are starting to advance from data collection to best practices to working with businesses on opportunities. They will have a roundtable discussion on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and a public session on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

Work group chairs gave brief summary updates of their committees.

Meeting closed at 6:05 p.m.