

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES – APRIL 21, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on April 21, 2016 at the Center for Regional Excellence, Salamanca, New York. The following persons were in attendance:

Board Members

Kier Dirlam, Vice Chairman
Jerry Scott
Charles Jessup
Craig Clark
Debra Root
Robert Keis, Chairman
Crystal Abers
Chuck Couture
Donna Vickman
Jay Gould, Secretary
Joe Galati
Vince Horrigan

Representing

Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Chautauqua County
Chautauqua County
Chautauqua County

Others Attending

Jill Koski
Don McCord
John Thomas
Richard Zink
Sarah Phearsdorf
Kimberly LaMendola
Susan Avery
Tom Barnes

Representing

Congressman Reed's Office
Chautauqua County
The Villager
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff

Chairman Keis called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was circulated.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Jay Gould made a motion to accept the March 17, 2016 minutes as distributed. Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Project Review Report

There were no project review reports.

Executive Director's Report

1. Federal Funding

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved the FY17 Energy & Water Development Appropriations Bill, which includes ARC's non-highway funding for the next fiscal year. The measure provides \$151 million, an increase of \$5 million over this year's level. The committee report accompanying the bill states that the overall total includes \$75 million for a program of industrial site and workforce development in Southern and South Central focused on the automotive and aviation sectors, and \$6 million for a program of basic infrastructure improvement in distressed counties in Central Appalachia. Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), the ranking member of the committee, expressly mentioned ARC. In addition to Senator Mikulski, Senators Cochran, Alexander, and McConnell, all members of the committee, were actively engaged in working on the final number.

The House Energy & Water Appropriations Subcommittee approved its own version of the FY17 funding bill. It provides \$146 million for ARC, the same as this year. The committee report that accompanies the bill is not yet available. The Full House Appropriation Committee may take the bill up next week. The President's budget had ARC at \$120 million, \$70 million for the base program and \$50 for the POWER Initiative.

2. STEDO

The STEDO Board will review their mission and the impact they could have in the region in terms of small business developments. The by-laws of STEDO state that:

2.0.0 PURPOSE

2.1.0 The Corporation shall be authorized to participate in any small business program designed for the promotion of small business development.

There are a number of different programs highlighted at the recent US Department of Commerce EDA Conference, that STEDO will explore and aim to create programs around. Many, if not all, of these programs will work with STW's development partners that will make them a success. Some of the programs that will be explored include:

- o 700 credit score communities
- o Small business plan competitions for high school students
- o Marketing and working with consultants to provide necessary services
- o Reviving manufacturers productivity improvement program
- o Assisting with transportation options
- o Stressing the potential of PTAC and MWBE certification

Southern Tier West Program Report

Executive Director Richard Zink reported on the following STW programs: Local Government Program (Local Government Conference at Houghton College), Local Foods (USDA SNAP Program, SNAP Consumer Support Intern, Farmers Market Network, Website Update), Broadband, ARC Process, ARC and EDA Technical Assistance (Jamestown National Comedy Center), GIS Data Collection Visions (Food System Development Projects, ARC Area Development Program & Regional Economic Development Coordination, Community GIS, Watershed/Stormwater, and Planning).

Committee Reports

CEDS Planning Process

The Southern Tier West Board will revise and appropriate the 2016 CEDS document to be approved at the September Board Meeting; the final 2016 CEDS document is posted to the STW website and transmitted to EDA.

Questions on the 2016 CEDS planning process can be directed to Tom Barnes at tbarnes@southerntierwest.org or 716-945-5301 ext 2209 or direct 716-373-8880.

Public Comment

Crystal Abers reported that the 5th Farmer-Neighbor Dinner held at the West Valley Fire Hall had a very successful turnout. There were approximately 323 people in attendance.

Don McCord reported that a CFA Workshop was scheduled for April 29th hosted by Fredonia.

Kier Dirlam reported that a Hazard Mitigation Plan was kicking off in Belmont on April 26th. A consultant was hired to take on most of the projects.

Audit Abstract

The December 2015 – March 2016 Audit Abstracts were approved by Crystal Abers, seconded by Jay Gould.

Next Board Meeting

Jerry Scott made a motion to skip the May Board Meeting, Kier Dirlam seconded the motion and it carried.

The next regular meeting of the Southern Tier West Board of Directors will be held on June 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Center for Regional Excellence, 4039 Route 219, Suite 200, Salamanca, New York. ARC project presentations will start at 9:40 a.m. and continue until approximately 2:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Crystal Abers made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Sjp