

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES – JANUARY 19, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on January 19, 2017 at the Center for Regional Excellence in Salamanca, New York.

Board Members

Kier Dirlam, Vice Chairman
Debra Root
Jerry Scott
Charles Jessup
Craig Clark
Robert Keis, Chairman
Chuck Couture
Norm Marsh
Joe Galati
Vince Horrigan
Kevin Sanvidge
Willie Rosas

Representing

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

Others Attending

Jill Koski
Rebecca Yanus
John Thomas
Richard Zink
Sarah Phearsdorf

Representing

Congressman Reed's Office
City of Dunkirk
The Villager
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

Chuck Couture made a motion to accept the October 20, 2016 minutes as distributed. Jerry Scot seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Project Review Report

Kier Dirlam moved to acknowledge receipt of the Project Review Report, Joe Galati seconded the motion and it carried.

Executive Director's Report

1. Federal Update

House and Senate Republican leaders are moving forward with a stopgap spending measure to extend current federal funding levels through April 28th. This is a month later than originally proposed, reflecting a request from the Senate for additional time. Congress has abandoned plans to complete work on fiscal year (FY) 2017 appropriations bill this fall to give the new Congress and incoming Trump administration the final say over FY2017 spending decisions. The latest continuing resolution for FY2017 expired December 9.

2. Appalachian Regional Commission

ARC requested Southern Tier West submit a funding application for the calendar year 2017. I am asking for board approval to apply to ARC for 2017. Chuck Couture so moved, Vince Horrigan seconded the motion and it carried.

2017 LDD Administration Grant Program: With FY17 funds appropriated through April 28th, ARC decided to provide 50% of the LDD Administration grants for 2017 (which will fund the first 2 quarter payments for the year with funding through June 30). The remaining funds will be provided through a contract amendment once Congress approves appropriation legislation and the bill is signed by the President. If level funding for ARC is maintained in the final budget bill, the remaining half of funding will be provided to the LDDs for the final 2 payments of the year. If there is any type of cut, the Commission must determine the extent of the cut that will be borne through the LDD program.

3. State Archives and Record Administration Grant

Staff has had many conversations with local municipalities about the next NYSED SARA grant. Staff has decided not to proceed with an application that focuses on cemetery records and mapping until next year. The project will digitize records and geocode the cemeteries to make them searchable on-line. We have worked with a few cemeteries in the past, but this grant will serve to upgrade our software and hardware to provide a better more reliable service. There are currently 6-8 municipalities we are working with to prepare this grant for next year.

4. Economic Development Administration

EDA is requesting Southern Tier West to submit materials related to the second year of our three-year grant. Though they remind us that this invitation to continue funding is not a guarantee and that EDA will approve the application contingent upon many factors, including, but not limited to, the availability of funds, the performance of your organization, and satisfactory evaluations by EDA. A motion was needed to approve submittal of the application for the calendar year 2017. Kier Dirlam so moved, Joe Galati seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Southern Tier West Development Foundation

The Town of Randolph applied for the following project: Town of Randolph is to have a working electronic message center for communication purposes. The Town has come to greatly rely on the sign for communicating important messages to and among their

townspeople. The current sign is no longer working and unrepairable. The total project cost is \$25,500 and they did not specify a funding amount. I am asking the board to consider a grant in the amount of \$4,000 to help offset some of the costs associated with this project. Jerry Scott moved to decline, Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried. One opposing vote by Norm Marsh.

Southern Tier West Program Report

Executive Director Richard Zink reported on the following STW programs: Local Government, Broadband, Entrepreneurial Development, NYSERDA – Clean Energy Communities, STEDO, and STERA.

Committee Reports

1. **Environmental Committee**

Richard Zink reported that the Stormwater Meeting was postponed until February.

2. **Transportation Committee**

Richard Zink reported that the Transportation Committee Meeting was postponed until February.

Public Comment

Kier Dirlam reported that Allegany County launched a new and improved website.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Executive Session

Chuck Couture made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss staff salaries. Joe Galati seconded the motion and it carried. Back in regular session, Vince Horrigan made a motion to approve staff salaries as recommended by the Executive Director. Kevin Sanvidge seconded the motion and it carried.

Audit Abstract

Chuck Couture made a motion to approve the November/December 2016 Audit Abstract, Jerry Scott seconded the motion and it carried.

Next Board Meeting

The next regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Board of Directors will be held on March 16, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. at the STW Offices in Salamanca, NY.

Adjournment

Jerry Scott made a motion to adjourn, Joe Galati seconded the motion and it carried.

Sjp