

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES – APRIL 18, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on April 18, 2013 at the Center for Regional Excellence, Salamanca, New York. The following persons were in attendance:

Board Members

Sue Myers, Vice Chair
Jerry Scott
Fred Sinclair
Ted Hopkins
Bob Keis, Chairman
Charles Couture
Joseph Eade
Stephanie Kiyak
Jay Gould
William Daly

Representing

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

Others Attending

Sheila Ransbottom
Chris Chapman
Nick Piercio
Richard Zink
Ginger Malak
Eileen Weishan
Tom Barnes
Patrick O’Connell
Kim LaMendola
Courtney Waters
Max Easton
Sarah Phearsdorf

Representing

Nussbaumer & Clark
The Buffalo News
The Villager
Staff
Staff
Staff
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

Joe Eade made a motion to accept the March 21, 2013 minutes as distributed. Fred Sinclair seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

In absence of Secretary Edwards, Vice Chair Myers read the following correspondence:

Letter from Mayor Judith Lynch, Village of Wellsville, relaying that the Village Board wanted to recognize Eileen Weishan for her many years of service and contributions to organizations and municipalities; and especially coordinating the Local Government Conference that is celebrating its 20th year this year.

Project Review Report

There were no new Project Review Reports.

Executive Director's Report

1. Appalachian Regional Commission

The President's FY14 budget requests \$64.6 million for ARC's non-highway work. This is a 5% reduction from the final FY12 amount and is roughly level with the post-sequester amount for FY13. It reflects the Administration's continued commitment to building a strong economy in Appalachia while honoring the budget constraints and trade-offs that are required under the Budget Control Act of 2011. The budget assumes no major policy changes for ARC. The Administration expects to submit reauthorization legislation that would continue ARC's current.

2. Economic Development Administration

Southern Tier West received the contract from the Economic Development Administration for the calendar 2013 in the amount of \$56,000. This is a decrease of \$10,000 from calendar year 2012.

3. Farm to School Grant Program

USDA Announces Request for Applications for FY 2014 Farm to School Grants. The purpose of the USDA Farm to School Grant Program is to assist eligible entities in implementing farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. On an annual basis, USDA awards up to \$5 million in competitive grants for training, supporting operations, planning, purchasing equipment, developing school gardens, developing partnerships, and implementing farm to school programs.

STW is looking at a Support Service grants are intended for state and local agencies, Indian tribal organizations, agricultural producers or groups of agricultural producers, and non-profit entities working with school districts or schools to further develop existing farm to school initiatives and to provide broad reaching support services to farm to school initiatives. Authorization was needed to apply for this grant opportunity. Bill Daly so moved, Jay Gould seconded the motion and it carried.

NEWS

1. Bemus Point CFA Project

This project involves (a) needed repairs to the building (roof replacement), which are essential to the maintenance of the facility, and (b) needed upgrades to the building (elevator, second floor HVAC system, thermal envelope upgrades for energy code compliance, and some essential fire and life safety improvements), which are essential to the Village's plan to make the second floor of the building usable to the general public in the summer time (air conditioning) and usable in a longer season (heating), plus ADA accessibility for the second floor and essential fire and life safety improvements (e.g., fire alarms in a wood frame structure, etc.). The project will ensure the longevity of the building, provide improved safety and accessibility for occupants and transform the second level into a year-round use facility. Lengthening the season and making the second floor of the building usable will increase the building's economic impact. Estimated Project cost: \$466,710

2. Southern Tier West 20th Annual Local Government Conference

The 20th Annual Local Government Conference will be held on May 8, 2013 at Houghton College, Houghton, New York. Over 45 sessions will be held at the Annual training conference. Eileen is hard at work finalizing the details of this very large event. The day has a session that will fit everyone's needs. Registration packets were included in Board packets.

3. Broadband Update

Southern Tier West has met with DFT concerning the tower locations that will be utilized with this newest round of funding from NYS. DFT is looking at several locations across Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties and plan to have the viewsheds completed within the next 2 weeks. Once the maps are received; staff, DFT, and the counties will decide on the best locations to build out. Letters were sent to all the participating libraries and hospitals explaining the process and what they need to do in order to receive reimbursement for their purchases.

4. ARC Grant Funding

Staff is looking to submit an ARC proposal under the Area Development funding process the board takes part in that relates to health care. There have also been discussions at the staff level of administering one or more grants this year. Southern Tier West has done this in the past, and is currently administering the Foundations in Healthcare grant for BOCES and the Chautauqua WIB.

ARC Application Workshops will be held on April 30th in Chautauqua County, Jamestown, 10 AM - 12 NOON; May 1st in Cattaraugus County, Olean, 10 AM - 12 NOON; and May 2nd in Allegany County, Belmont, 10 AM - 12 NOON.

5. Farm-to-School Networking Event

Southern Tier West, Healthy Schools NY, & Cornell Cooperative Extension will sponsor an informative and interactive evening at Alfred State College for Cattaraugus and Allegany County school district representatives and food service directors to meet regional farmers and food producers and learn about local food procurement opportunities for school meal programs. Learn about exciting Farm to School activities and how schools and food producers can partner for healthy kids and healthy community initiatives. Taste new recipes for school meals using local products and prepared by the culinary arts students at Alfred State College.

New Business

1. 2013 Annual Comprehensive Planning Process

Tom Barnes reported that the 2013 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) document will be an update of the 2012 CEDs. Southern Tier West requests that Board members provide (a) suggested revisions of 2012 CEDs document, (b) new input into the 2013 CEDs document, (c) priority economic development project information, and (d) priority EDA project designation, with response due back to Southern Tier West by the July Board Meeting. At the July Board Meeting Southern Tier West will adopt resolutions designating priorities for EDA investment in each county and also for regional projects.

In September 2013 Southern Tier West will prepare a draft of the CEDs document and transmit a final document to EDA on September 30, 2013. The final CEDs will be posted on the Southern Tier West website at www.southerntierwest.org/publications.

A list of the current EDA project priorities and the CEDs project list were included in the Board packets.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Committee Reports

Ginger Malak reported that minutes of the February 20, 2013 and March 28, 2013 Education and Training Committee were included in the Board packets.

Ms. Malak gave a brief overview of the Education and Training Committee and reported on an upcoming event sponsored by Southern Tier West and coordinated by the Committee -- "STEM Education for the Future Workforce" will be held on Friday, May 31, 2013 at the Tannenbaum Lodge, Holiday Valley Resort, in Ellicottville. Speakers at the education forum will include the Deputy Commissioner for Adult Career and Continuing Education Services at NYS Education Department, Labor Market Analyst for NYS Department of Labor, representatives of Dream It Do It, and Cuba Rushford Central School District. Topics will cover current statistics regarding

employment, common core challenges, incorporation of career exploration, and examples of STEM education programs.

Chairman Keis asked if the Committee had a Board member as the Chair. Ms. Malak replied that at this time there were no members of the Board on the Committee. She serves as the Chair.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Audit Abstract

Joe Eade made a motion to approve the March 20, 2013 – April 17, 2013 Audit Abstract. Ted Hopkins seconded the motion and it carried.

Next Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board will be held on May 16, 2013 at the Center for Regional Excellence in Salamanca, New York. A Special Meeting of the Board will be held at 11:30 a.m. prior to the regular Board Meeting to discuss the future of Southern Tier West.

Adjournment

Joe Eade made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m., Jay Gould seconded the motion and it carried.