

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

**MINUTES – MAY 16, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on May 16, 2013 at the Center for Regional Excellence, Salamanca, New York. The following persons were in attendance:

**Board Members**

Jerry Scott  
Fred Sinclair  
Ted Hopkins  
Kier Dirlam  
Bob Keis, Chairman  
Charles Couture  
Joseph Eade  
Crystal Abers  
Stephanie Kiyak  
Jay Gould  
William Daly

**Representing**

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

**Others Attending**

Sheila Ransbottom  
Nick Piercio  
John Foels  
Corey Wiktor  
Richard Zink  
Ginger Malak  
Eileen Weishan  
Tom Barnes  
Kim LaMendola  
Courtney Waters  
Max Easton  
Sarah Phearsdorf

**Representing**

Nussbaumer & Clark  
The Villager  
Allegany County IDA  
Cattaraugus County IDA  
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 April 18, 2013 minutes as distributed. Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

## **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

## **Project Review Report**

Chuck Couture moved to acknowledge receipt of the Project Review Report, Jerry Scott seconded the motion and it carried.

## **Executive Director's Report**

### **1. Appalachian Regional Commission**

Southern Tier West is still waiting for ARC to provide a contract from July to December. Previously they provided a contract from January thru June with the knowledge that after the sequestration talks there would be more solid numbers to work with in determining the amounts for the remainder of the year.

### **2. Bemus Point CFA Project**

This project is being reviewed by NYS OCR to determine eligibility before the complete list is returned to the WNY REDC to decide the rankings for funding priority.

### **3. Southern Tier West 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Government Conference**

Over 45 sessions were held at the Annual training conference. As this was the 20<sup>th</sup> year for the conference, the opening session included comments from Donald Rychnowski and Jim Pierce. Also, a dinner was held the night before the conference to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> year. The conference was once again a success; Houghton College has continually upgraded their services and once again everything went very smoothly. Approximately 400 registrants attended the day with over 100 speakers and vendors bringing the total attendance to almost 500 people.

### **4. Broadband Update**

Staff met with DFT concerning the tower locations that will be utilized with the newest round of funding from NYS. Several locations are being considered across Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties and viewsheds should be completed within the next two weeks. Once the maps are received; staff, DFT, and the counties will decide on the best locations to build out. Letters have been 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.

The State informed Southern Tier West that a contract should be forthcoming and the Development Foundation can expect to have it finalized by July or August.

### **5. CFA Round for 2013**

Ten regions will compete against each other. Five regions identified as "top performers" will receive \$25 million each and the remaining will compete for the balance of \$25 million. Each region is also eligible for up to \$10 million in tax credits.

Regions designated as a “Top Performer” will be required to demonstrate:

- Implementation of the Strategic Plans;
- Performance in encouraging economic growth through job creation and investment; and
- Identification of transformative projects that support collaboration (e.g. leveraging computing assets to establish research partnerships; utilizing equipment and co-locations to assist manufacturers; and developing shared-space for food processing)

Application materials will be available by June 3rd. The CFA will open to applicants on June 17th and submissions from the regional councils are due September 24th.

**6. WIB Discussion**

The Workforce Investment Board’s (WIBs) currently needs a lead agency. The Cattaraugus-Allegany WIB has contacted Southern Tier West and discussed the pros and cons of Southern Tier West being their lead agency.

**7. 2013-14 Southern Tier West Budget**

Richard Zink gave an overview of Southern Tier West’s proposed 2013-14 budget and potential funding.

**8. ARC Project Application Process**

Ginger Malak presented the FFY 2014 ARC application process and schedule. Important dates for the Board’s participation were noted.

**New Business**

**1. Farm to School/CTG**

Kim LaMendola reported that under the Farm to School Program, the goal is to increase the amount of fresh local food served in school meal programs because statistics demonstrate that child and family nutrition improves when children are exposed to better food choices at school. Key issues that will be addressed include food production capacities that are not able to supply demand, food safety certifications, economies of scale \$\$, lack of resources for schools and farmers, distribution, processing, and how to quantify/qualify impacts.

Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and Broome Counties each received a community transformation grant from the NYS Dept of Health that was funded by the Centers for Disease Control. Each county will receive \$450,000 to help high-needs school districts including Olean, Salamanca, Gowanda, Jamestown, Dunkirk, and Silver Creek to improve risk factors such as physical activity, nutrition, and tobacco use. Southern Tier West entered into a contract with the Cattaraugus County Health Department to fulfill the food procurement objective for the 3 target schools in Cattaraugus County. The hopeful outcome of this project is a regional food

procurement initiative that consolidates food procurement and menu planning to leverage buying power, secure competitive pricing, and improve nutritional quality of school lunch programs. These community transformation grants will increase schools' cost efficiencies and enhance food literacy, which will lead to improved community health and leverage on other investments.

Save the Date – Friday, June 14, 2013 will be the release of Southern Tier West's consultant study on regional capacity for food/aggregation/distribution.

## **2. Eileen's Retirement Party**

Richard Zink informed the Board members that Eileen Weishan's Retirement Party is on Wednesday, May 29, 2013 at the Elkdale Country Club, Route 353 in Little Valley, starting at 5:00 PM.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **Committee Reports**

There were no Committee Reports.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Audit Abstract**

Chuck Couture made a motion to approve the April 17, 2013 – May 16, 2013 Audit Abstract. Fred Sinclair 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 June 20, 2013 at Jamestown Community College in Jamestown, New York at 1:00 p.m. There will be a tour of the Nursing Program that ARC helped fund starting at 11:30 a.m.

### **Adjournment**

Chairman Keis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m., Kier Dirlam seconded the motion and it carried.