

SOUTHERN TIER WEST REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD

JULY 16, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board was held on July 16, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Zoom.

Board Members

Kier Dirlam, Chairman
Jerry Scott
Charles Jessup
Craig Clark
Robert Keis, Secretary
Chuck Couture
Donna Vickman
Crystal Abers
Jay Gould, Vice Chairman
Don McCord
Joe Galati
Lucille White

Representing

Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Allegany County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County
Chautauqua County
Chautauqua County
Chautauqua County
Seneca Nation of Indians

Others Attending

Tony Funicello
Richard Zink
Sarah Phearsdorf
Halley Kasperski
Fileve Palmer
Kimberly LaMendola
Tom Barnes

Representing

Allegany County Intern
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff

Chairman Dirlam called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Attendance was taken and recorded.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Bob Keis moved to approve the June 18, 2020 minutes as distributed. Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Project Review Report

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

Executive Director's Report

1. CEDS Planning Process

The CEDS Planning Process will continue as normal with the final version being submitted to the Board for review at the September Board Meeting. Staff will contact Board members during the upcoming weeks as to their role as CEDS Committee. The 2020 CEDS will be revised substantially from prior years.

Tom has sent e-mails with files associated with the following components of the CEDS: strategic target clusters; CEDS planning process; economic resilience; and vision, goals, objectives, priority strategic foci, and strategies.

The top EDA project priorities to be included in the 2020 CEDS document that will be presented to the Board for approval at the September 17th Board meeting are as follows:

- Allegany County 1. Alfred Center for Technology Transfer 2. Crossroads Infrastructure System Project. Craig Clark so moved, Chuck Jessup seconded the motion and it carried.
- Cattaraugus County 1. Portville (Town) Water Line Extension Project 2. Allegany (Town) Exit 24 Wastewater Infrastructure Project. Crystal Abers so moved, Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.
- Chautauqua County 1. Dunkirk Harbor Multi-Model Commercial Development Project 2. GATEWAY Center in Ripley, NY. Don McCord so moved, Joe Galati seconded the motion and it carried.
- Regional Projects 1. Transload Facility Project Phase 2. Broadband Development Project 1 3. Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority Rehabilitation Project. Chuck Couture so moved, Jay Gould seconded the motion and it carried.

2. EDA CARES ACT Grant Award

Southern Tier West accepted the grant award in the amount of \$400,000. The components of the grant include an online resiliency plan in coordination with the current CEDS, in conjunction with the county planning boards; the manufacturers productivity improvement program; and the ecommerce enhancement for small businesses.

A motion was needed to enter into an agreement to put the CEDS and Pandemic Response Plan online with StateBook for \$60,000 over a two-year period to provide the data and platform for this part of the project. Jay Gould so moved, Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

3. Angel Fund

The Angel Fund is holding monthly meetings to familiarize members with the processes of running the organization. In conjunction with the Chautauqua County IDA, there will be a zoom meeting on July 28 at 1:00 p.m. Contact Richard for details of the session – all are invited to attend. Visit www.southerntierangelfund.org for more information.

4. NYSAWG

NYSAWG received a grant in the amount of \$2,000 from the Allegany County United Way for additional supplies in relation to the farm-to-school food project they have assisted with over the past year.

5. STW ARC Application Letters of Intent

Staff continues to work with and advise applicants prior to August 1st pre-application deadline.

Southern Tier West Program Report

Richard Zink reported on the following STW Program:

1. Local Government: Planning & Zoning Training Webinars Schedule

Committee Reports

1. Program Development Committee

Richard Zink reported that the Committee has not met. The next meeting will be scheduled in mid-August.

2. Policy Committee

A motion was needed to approve the new updated version of the STW By-Laws. Jerry Scott so moved, Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried. One of the biggest changes was adding a new officer (Treasurer) to the Southern Tier West Board of Directors.

3. Economic Development/Entrepreneurship Committee

The Committee met on July 13, 2020. Discussion included various needs and struggles of small businesses and the several webinars that are being provided to assist them at this time, and the EDA Cares monies and how to best deploy these monies to assist with ecommerce and manufacturing assistance across the region.

4. Transportation Committee

The Committee has not met.

5. **Water Source Committee**

The Committee has been pro-active in meeting with DEC to continue through the Base-Line Program.

6. **Local Government Committee**

The Committee has not met; however, Training Webinars have been set up for every Wednesday starting September 9 – December 2, 2020 for Planning & Zoning Officials.

7. **Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority**

The next STERA meeting will be scheduled in early October.

8. **Nominating Committee**

The Chairman will appoint the nominating committee within the coming weeks and inform those on the committee at that time.

Public Comment

Donna Vickman stated that she was concerned that Broadband is very important due to some of our children that may not be returning to school because of the COVID Pandemic.

Richard Zink reported that through the ARC Power Grant, Fredonia installed towers providing service on the Oak Hill Tower. This will allow for fixed wireless service to be deployed in the southeastern corner of Chautauqua County.

Craig Clark reported that there are currently 12 solar projects going on through the Allegany County IDA. There is also a truck-stop opening.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Audit Abstract

Chuck Jessup made a motion to accept the June-July 2020 Audit Abstracts. Chuck Couture seconded the motion and it carried.

Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Southern Tier West Board of Directors will be the Annual Meeting held on September 17, 2020 at 1:00 PM via Zoom.

Adjournment

Jay Gould made a motion to adjourn, Bob Keis seconded the motion and it carried.

sjp