



Minutes of August 21, 2024
Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors
Held in person at 11 South Street, Suite 201 at 8:00 a.m.
And via Zoom

Present:

Dr. Kristine Duffy – Interim Chair
Kathy Muncil – Vice Chair/Treasurer, Chair of Audit & Finance Committee
Mike McLarty – Finch Paper
Mike Wild – Representative, Warren County
Laura Ladu – Secretary
Sue Corney – Director/Chair of Governance Committee
Melanie Weber - (g)row
Jim Marco – Glens Falls Hospital

Absent:

Ashley Walden – ORDA
Judy Calogero – Representative, City of Glens Falls
John Strough – Representative, Town of Queensbury

Guests:

Emily Discenza

Staff:

Jim Siplon – President
John Wheatley – Vice President
Diane Dumouchel – Director, Finance
Tricia Hartle – Economic Development Coordinator

On August 21, 2024, the Board of Directors for the Economic Development Corporation met in person at 11 South Street, Suite 201 for the Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting. The meeting was livestreamed on Zoom and recorded. The following items were discussed:

1. **Welcome & Call to Order:** At 8:02 a.m. Chair Kristine Duffy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. **Reports of Committees:** **Chair of the Audit & Finance Committee, Kathy Muncil**, provided the report on the Audit & Finance Committee meeting held on August 13, 2024, reviewing the **June and July 2024** financials indicating no surprises to revenue. She also reviewed the 2025-2027 Pro Forma Budget for PARIS recommending approval by the full board. She indicated the Audit & Finance Committee reviewed the service agreement between the EDC and the WCLDC and that further review of the

Indemnification policy would be reviewed before recommending the Service Agreement to the full board.

3. **Governance Committee:** **Chair of the EDC Governance Committee, Sue Corney**, provided the report on the Governance Committee meeting held August 14, 2024, reviewing Board Composition as well as the upcoming 2025 Membership campaign adding two levels of membership. A review of the membership policy will ensue before going before the full board.
4. **President/Staff Report:** President Jim Siplon addressed the committee regarding the addition of Emily Discenza as our new Communications/Marketing Manager. All welcomed Emily.

He then addressed the board reviewing the July event that took place featuring new or returning residents highlighted in the past by Glens Falls Living. This event is part of a strategic effort to bring the voice of our new and emerging economy of small and often unseen elements of our new economy. The event was co-sponsored by Common Roots Brewing, thanks to Board Member Melanie Weber. Ms. Weber added that the audience was instantly ready to provide feedback and engage in how to make the community more sustainable for their demographic. She indicated more similar events should be held in the future.

President Siplon announced to the board that our revised website is now live. He then asked Tricia Hartle to review the updates with Board. She addressed the board indicating the ease of navigation and editing capabilities as well as moving forward with content updates such as links to current incentives to assist businesses.

President Siplon announced the EDC Luncheon date at October 1, 2024 – featuring “Our Economy - Past, Present & Future”. Speakers will be secured, and invitees notified. The publication “The Past, Present and Future of Economic Prosperity in Warren County” will be launched at the luncheon.

President Siplon and Vice President Wheatley provided a monthly update on EDC activities. Updates were provided on business activity by category and a breakdown of active projects.

President Siplon noted that the Town of Queensbury – EDC Contract runs through June 30, 2024 and that he met with the Town’s Board in a workshop in June to review progress, solicit feedback and discuss the pending contract. No action was taken at the workshop but the consensus was to continue the contract at the current level of funding while adding some additional scope and measures. The revised contract was submitted to the Town. He asked for support from Board Members as the dialogue continues.

Chair Duffy addressed the board as a reminder to complete and return the Annual Confidential Evaluation of Board Performance to Tricia Hartle. She then opened a discussion on strategic planning discussion for the full board seeking participation. All agreed to schedule such a session.

5. **Approvals/Resolutions:**
The following were approved by unanimous vote and passed unanimously; motion made by Sue Corney; seconded by Kathy Muncil
 - June and July 2024 Financials
 - June 12, 2024 EDC Regular Board of Directors meeting Minutes
 - 2025-2027 Pro Forma Budget as recommended by the Audit & Finance Committee

Resolutions:

- Resolution No. 20240821-1 Approval of EDC Pro Forma Budget for 2025-2027

All in favor, motion carried unanimously.

6. **Other Business:** Member Mike Wild addressed the Board that he had a couple of issues that he would like to ask for support on. The first was the issue of the increased tax for Warren County and the second was the issue of the National Grid 7.1 billion transmission fees for industrial and commercial entities. He asked that members reach out to express their concerns regarding each issue.
7. **Executive Session:** Executive Session motion made by Laura Ladu; seconded by Melanie Weber at 9:02 a.m. for discussion regarding staff compensation.

Executive session ended at 9:07 a.m.; motion made by Mike Wild; seconded by Jim Marco. No action taken.

8. **Adjournment:** Upon no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Kathy Muncil; seconded by Melanie Weber; carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 a.m.