



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board
126 N. Salina St., 100 Clinton Sq., Suite 200, Syracuse, N.Y. 13202 • Tel. (315) 422-8276 • Fax 422-9051
Paul Vickery, Chairman David V. Bottar, Executive Director

MINUTES

CNY RPDB Board Meeting 16 June 2004

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Daniel Dineen, David Elleman, Russell Lura, Mary Messinger, William Meyer, David Miller, James Murphy, Royden Parratt, Ann Petrus, Louis Pettinelli, James Rafte, Kathleen Rapp, Clarence Rycraft, Kimberly Seager, Joseph Slivinski, William Southern, Michael Treadwell, Bruce Trexler, Paul Vickery, and Stephen Zabriskie.

Guests: Marilyn Higgins, Niagara Mohawk-A National Grid Company; Anthony Kolinski, Empire State Development Corporation; Robert Trachtenberg, CNY Technology Development Organization.

Staff: David Bottar, Carol Faucher, and Benjamin Manton.

BUSINESS MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Paul Vickery called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. at the office of the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB) and stated that a quorum was present.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA/MINUTES OF THE 21 & 29 APRIL MEETINGS**

Chairman Vickery asked if Board members had any changes to the day's agenda and minutes from the 21 & 29 April 2004 meetings. Hearing no comments, Chairman Vickery asked for a motion to approve the day's agenda and minutes from the April 2004 meetings as presented, so moved by Mrs. Petrus; seconded by Mr. Southern; unanimous approval.

3. **FEATURE PRESENTATIONS**

CNY Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Chairman Vickery introduced Executive Director David Bottar, who presented the annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to Board members and guests.

Mr. Bottar opened his presentation by stating that the CEDS outlines and identifies the characteristics of the Central New York economy, and identifies the tasks the CNY RPDB will be working on in the coming year. The CEDS is also a resource that can be used to help coordinate local economic development efforts and direct public resources to key economic development projects in the region. The plan is divided into five sections including a look at the local economy, an evaluation of economic development resources and initiatives, a development strategy, a workplan for the CNY RPDB, and most importantly a project priority list. Mr. Bottar emphasized the state of the Central New York economy in a number of presentation slides highlighting regional population, labor force issues, employment and wages, and job occupations in CNY.

The area continues to capitalize on a strong transportation network, significant rail resources, a regional transportation center, airports, strong network of schools and higher education, and an abundant water supply. In addition, communities are making significant investments in cultural and recreational resources which contribute significantly to the quality of life in CNY. It is important to note that all five counties in CNY have professionally staffed economic development offices that offer business loan programs and empire zone designations. In addition, all five counties have publicly sponsored business parks, which is a key resource in attracting businesses to the area.

In order to capitalize on these comparative advantages, the CNY RPDB has adopted the following development strategy. The goal of the CNY CEDS is to support the continued growth of a diverse economic base that will provide a range of employment opportunities for citizens across the Central New York region. To help accomplish this goal, each year the CNY RPDB updates its Central New York Project Priority List. Included in the CEDS is a list of public works projects that will be submitted to the federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) for funding consideration in fiscal year 2005-2006. This list identifies projects that should receive funding consideration, and becomes the basis for federal funds coming into the region. In past years, the CNY RPDB has been able to secure between \$2 and \$3 million per year in public works projects for the Central New York region. All of the projects identified have the potential to help foster economic growth in CNY.

Cayuga County

- Aurelius Industrial Park Road Network
- Auburn Northwest Industrial Development Area
- Town of Genoa Water Supply

Cortland County

- Finger Lakes East Business Park
- Greek Peak/Hope Lake Conference Center
- City of Cortland Parking Garage

Madison County

- Trush Business Park
- Hamilton Business Park
- SUNY Morrisville Business Park
- Lakeport Business Park

Onondaga County

- Clay Industrial Park
- Syracuse Lakefront/Inner Harbor
- Hancock Airpark
- Rock Cut Road / I-481
- Syracuse City Crossroads Commercial Park
- Town of Clay Three Rivers Redevelopment
- Syracuse Downtown Redevelopment
- CSX Intermodal Terminal Access
- Carrier Site Redevelopment

Oswego County

- Oswego County Airport / Industrial Park
- Oswego County Industrial Park
- Columbia Mills Infrastructure / Brownfield Reuse
- Lake Ontario Industrial Park
- Parish Business / Industrial Park
- City of Oswego Speculative Building and Parking Garage

Regional

- DestiNY USA
- Center of Excellence in Environmental Systems and Alternative Energy
- CNY Biotechnology Research Center
- CNY Cultural / Recreation Resource Initiatives
- CNY Enterprise Development Fund
- CNY Regional Marketing and Business Recruitment Program
- Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

At the conclusion of Mr. Bottar's presentation, Chairman Vickery presented a resolution for Board approval authorizing the submission of the Project Priority List and Annual Report of the Central New York Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy to the federal Economic Development Administration. So moved by Mr. Mareane; seconded by Mr. Lura; motion unanimously approved.

Upstate New York Higher Education Study

Executive Director David Bottar introduced the day's second feature speaker, Mr. Brian Anderson representing Niagara Mohawk – A National Grid Company. Mr. Anderson presented a profile of higher education in Upstate New York in cooperation with Knowledge Systems & Research, Inc. A comprehensive analysis was conducted using online resources related to higher education statistics, including New York State sites, Central New York regional sites, national/federal education sites, non-profits with an interest in education, and university research related to higher education. A majority of the information included in this study was retrieved from the federal Department of Education. The data obtained includes enrollment statistics by institution and level of student (undergraduate vs. graduate), and graduation statistics by institution and degree earned.

Mr. Anderson stated that a total of 113 institutions were identified within a specific collection area. The collection area includes the regions of Capital, Central New York, Finger Lakes, Mid-Hudson, Mohawk Valley, North Country, Southern Tier, and Western New York. The MSA areas of Albany-Schenectady-Troy, Buffalo-Niagara Falls, Syracuse, and Utica-Rome were also included in the study. Data included in the higher education study include enrollment, average graduation, total graduation by year, and a total list of higher education institutions.

In conclusion, Mr. Anderson stated that the Upstate New York Higher Education Study will soon be available online. Copies of the study are currently available by contacting the staff at the Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board or the economic development staff at Niagara Mohawk-A National Grid Company.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Bottar noted that the Executive Committee met on May 18th to review the March 2005 financial statement and other administrative items. The next Executive Committee meeting has been scheduled for July 20th. Program committee meetings were also held on May 18th.

Mr. Bottar announced that Kathleen Bertuch has been promoted to Program Manager for the Environmental Management program. Mr. Bottar then introduced Jon Christopher who will be staffed at the Cayuga County Planning Department. Mr. Christopher will be responsible for promoting economic development in Cayuga County. In other staff news, five student interns have been hired for summer work. Four interns are conducting fieldwork for the environmental management baseline program. The other intern is conducting research on the CSX intermodal transportation study.

Mr. Bottar indicated that CNY RPDB staff is continuing a news clipping service to highlight various projects underway in each of the Central New York counties.

Mr. Bottar briefly highlighted other staff initiatives currently under way including publication of an Onondaga Lake Watershed newsletter, preparations for a Finger Lakes Symposium in October, and the Rte. 20/12B project in the Village of Hamilton.

The next Board meeting has been scheduled for August 24, 2005 in Oswego County. CNY RPDB member and Oswego County Planning Director Brian Frazier will present an overview on brownfields development in the county. Further details will be forthcoming.

5. **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

There was no old/new business to report at the meeting.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no additional business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Vickery thanked everyone for attending. Chairman Vickery adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.