

Rockland Economic Development Corporation

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MARCH 25th 2009 – 5:00 P.M. HILTON PEARL RIVER

Present:

Karyl Caplan	Thom Kleiner *	Sr. Kathleen Sullivan
Harriet D. Cornell *	Jonathan Kupperman	James B. Tully
Vincent L. DeLucia	Arlene Lapidos	Quinton C. Van Wynen
Eric Dranoff *	John A. Maraia, Jr. *	Cliff L. Wood
Rafael Espaillat	Clement Osei	Steven M. Yassky
William F. Helmer	Mark D. Rothenberg	Jeffrey M. Zupan
Judith Hershaft	Robert E. Seaman, III	
Jack F. Holt	Burt Steinberg **	

Absent:

Karim A. Abood **	Michael P. McDermott	Michael Schnieders
John Brugmann	Donald T. McNelis	Serge Seguin
Michael J. Fisch	A.Jon Prusmack	Janice J. Teal
Sandra D. Grannum	William Longhi	Hon. C. Scott Vanderhoef *
Paula Mandell	Charles Radier *	Alan Yassky **
Bruce W. Mason	David Samberg	

Guests:

James Tarpey and Tom Brizzolara, Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.

Staff:

Liz Cranston, Pauline Drakopoulos, Ronald Hicks, Liz Kallen, Jayne Nichols, Steve Porath, Karen Rehm

* Denotes Ex-Officio Directors

** Denotes Director Emeritus

- ▶ **Motion:** A Motion to approve a new committee structure.
- James Tully presented a new committee structure for REDC. Motion by Arlene Lapidos and seconded by Bill Helmer: Motion passed unanimously.

- ▶ **Motion:** A Motion to appoint Malcolm McLaren to the Board.
 - James Tully nominated Malcolm McLaren to serve on the REDC Board. Motion by William Helmer and seconded by Jack Holt: Motion passed unanimously.

- ▶ **Motion:** A Motion to appoint Hector May to the Board.
 - James Tully nominated Hector May to serve on the REDC Board. Motion by William Helmer and seconded by Sr. Kathleen Sullivan: Motion passed unanimously.

- ▶ **Motion:** A Motion to appoint William Longhi to the Board.
 - James Tully nominated William Longhi to replace John McMahon on the REDC Board. Motion by Vincent DeLucia and seconded by Sr. Kathleen Sullivan: Motion passed unanimously.

- The regular meeting of the REDC Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Steven Yassky at 5:05 p.m. and a quorum was present.

- Steven Yassky welcomed guests and thanked Bill Helmer for his service the past three years as chairman.

Treasurer's Report – Quinton Van Wynen presented the financials to date for 2009. Van Wynen reported two corrections—the REDC bottom line is a positive \$95,000 and the PTAC is a positive \$30,000. Van Wynen stated that REDC is on target with the budget.

President's Report – Ronald Hicks introduced the new lapel pin for board members, introduced Liz Kallen, the new PTAC Program Manager and gave an update on the economic activity to date for 2009.

Hicks announced that he will lead a comprehensive economic development strategy committee to update the FANTIS report and create an economic blueprint for the County.

Hicks announced upcoming events, reported that REDC continues to find creative ways to cut costs and that he has been working with film industry site selectors.

Committee Report

Board Development Committee – James Tully presented a new committee structure. The Finance and Human Resource committees will be folded into the Executive Committee; the Marketing and Retention and Expansion committees will become the Business Development Committee; and the only remaining committee will be the Public Policy Committee. The Tactical Response Group will also exist, but not as a standing committee.

Tully nominated Malcolm McLaren and Hector May to serve on the Board and offered William Longhi to replace John McMahon. Tully reported that the Committee suggested non-voting ex-officio officers be added representing the New York State Thruway Authority and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. A good deal of discussion resulted from the suggestion and it was determined that the by-laws would have to be changed. Ron Hicks will work with Eric Dranoff to resolve.

Tully notified the members that Hicks will be sending out the committee descriptions and asked that the members notify Hicks of the committee they choose to serve on.

New Business

- Harriet Cornell reported that the County Legislature passed two resolutions – one supporting the IDAs, the other against the MTA Payroll Tax. Cornell also reported that the County Legislature rejected a Bed Tax, and that she has formed an ad-hoc working group to deal with stimulus issues.
- Steven Yassky reported that a recent meeting with the County Executive and major employers was very effective.
- Ron Hicks introduced James Tarpey, Vice President for Operations at O&R. James presented a powerpoint on O&R infrastructure.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.