

GREENE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Wednesday March 8, 2023 4:00 p.m.  
Greene County Office Building, Room 427  
411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414

GCEDC Directors Present:

Mark Maraglio, Chair

Allen Austin

Linda Overbaugh

Brian Kozloski

April Ernst (Ex-officio, Non-voting)

Pamela Geskie (Ex-officio, Non-voting)

Absent:

Brad Cummings, Vice-Chair

Dr. George Timmons (Ex-officio, Non-voting)

GCEDC Staff Present:

James Hannahs, Executive Director

Evelyn Donnelly, Secretary/Treasurer

Others: Warren Hart, Deputy County Administrator, Patty Austin, Director of Tourism

A valid quorum was present for voting purposes.

1. Public Comment Period. No public comment.

2. A motion was made by Director Overbaugh and seconded by Director Austin to accept the minutes as presented from the February 2023 meeting. Vote 4-0, Motion carries.

3. Mr. Hannahs updated the Board on the NY Forward and DRI announcements in the Capital Region. The Village of Coxsackie was awarded \$4.5 million as part of the inaugural NY Forward program. Other CREDC winners were Cambridge and Kinderhook, each winning \$2 million under the same program. The City of Cohoes was awarded \$10 million as part of the Capital Region's Downtown Revitalization Initiative. Governor Kathy Hochul attended the ceremony to deliver each municipality's announcement.

Hannahs also updated the board on three GCEDC and other Greene County programs that have been submitted and are awaiting approvals. RestoreNY Round 7 was submitted in January but received an inquiry from ESD which was promptly satisfied. The EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant is still awaiting approval from the feds while the Microenterprise program was submitted this week as well. That program should be announced mid-April.

The Corporation also successfully received and retained the requested County allocation to refill operating coffers.

Hannahs also reported back on two conferences attended in February and early March. NYSEDC's focus was largely on workforce and housing development, learning from best practices across NYS. NYSAC provided insight on higher-level statewide initiatives that are impacting other counties across the State including EFMAP, In-Rem proceeds amendment, and the Governor's Housing Compact.

Business attraction, retention, and expansion efforts are ongoing, covering 8 businesses/inquiries this month. Hannahs is working closely with landowners in Catskill to market their sites to a strategic end use; a Florida-based resorts group inquiring on a large parcel in the town of Catskill; a regional restaurateur seeking for expansionary land in Cairo; an expanding business seeking potential complementary financing for equipment and FFE in Cairo; a resort owner in Round Top seeking assistance with developing a project timeline and financing mechanisms; an ongoing search for larger properties for a growing Catskill-based business; and a regional inquiry from ESD for renewable energy manufacturing.

Finally, Hannahs has been working closely with the IDA and other housing-stakeholders in the community to gather data and input on Greene County's housing shortage. Hannahs commissioned a report to be done by Camoin Associates that assesses the County's workforce, identifies its relationship with HUD income limits, and the pairing it with the most fitting housing model.

Two loans are under development and should be brought to the April meeting.

4. The Board discussed multiple projects and new businesses located in or opening around Greene County.

5. A motion was made by Director Austin and seconded by Director Overbaugh, having no further business to conduct to adjourn the meeting. Vote 4-0, Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.