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Meeting Notes
COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Thursday, May 2, 2019
4303 Route 9
Hudson, New York

A regularly scheduled meeting of Columbia Economic Development Corporation’s (CEDC) Workforce Development and Education Committee was held at their offices located at 4303 Route 9, Hudson, NY 12534 on May 2, 2019. No quorum was obtained.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived/ Departed
Ruth Adams	Committee Member	Excused	
Russell Bartolotta	Committee Member	Excused	
James Calvin	Committee Member	Excused	
David Fingar	Committee Member	Excused	
Tish Finnegan	Committee Member	Present	
Derek Grout	Committee Member	Excused	
James Lapenn	Committee Chair	Present	
John Lee	Committee Member	Excused	
Maria Suttmeier	Committee Member	Present	
F. Michael Tucker	President/CEO	Present	
Andy Howard	Counsel	Present	
Lisa Drahushuk	Administrative Supervisor	Present	
Martha Lane	Business Development Specialist	Excused	
Erin McNary	Bookkeeper	Present	
Carol Wilber	Marketing Director	Excused	

Mr. Tucker informed the Board he had met with Kaya Weidman of Kite’s Nest and Matt Fredericks, who had spoken at the public strategic planning meeting at the Hudson Area Library. He stated he had invited Ms. Weidman to attend a Workforce and Education Committee meeting. Mr. Lapenn stated he and Ruth Adams intended to meet with several of the local not-for-profits including Operation Unite, The Hudson Area Library, Kite’s Nest and the Greater Hudson Promise Neighborhood.

Twin County Recruitment Expo Update:

Mr. Tucker stated the event drew 173 attendees and 63 employers, including a great number of healthcare providers. He noted the business evaluations would be available next week.

2019 Junior Career Institute:

Mr. Lapenn stated the new program was much stronger than the initial program.



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Career Jam:

Mr. Tucker stated he had discussed the program with Jim Church. He stated the outline of the program required some refinement. He noted the program should focus on Columbia County only and suggested that the first year it begin with only one or two districts. He noted with only Columbia County districts participating, Mr. Church's involvement would be limited to a partnership, and CEDC would need to take the lead. The Committee members agreed on the need to begin planning early.

Compendium:

Mr. Tucker noted the process had been more difficult than he anticipated. He noted the woman who had developed the CEG compendium, had turned down his request to do the Columbia County document. He noted he had a couple of ideas how to proceed, noting most of the programs were handled by social service agencies or as part of after school programs.

Workforce Development and Education:

Mr. Lapenn stated he had heard about a small program in Germantown School District put together by Katy Drake the Director of the Columbia-Greene Workforce Development Board. Ms. Drake assists the underserved students with applications, financial aid forms and college searches. He wondered if the Committee would be interested in supporting similar programs.

Ms. Suttmeier outlined the Career Luncheon Series run at Hudson City School District, where students met with businesses during their lunch break and were introduced to the different positions at each company. She noted each business contained a variety of different positions, from the CEO to the maintenance person.

Ms. Finnegan suggested a mini grant program, funded by CEDC and offered to the school districts. School districts could complete a simple application outlining the amount of funds they wanted and the purpose. She asked the amount of funds available for such a program. Mr. Tucker stated \$25,000 a year. All agreed criteria would need to be determined. Ms. Suttmeier suggested a monetary range be given the proposed applicants. The targeted group would be the secondary level students. Mr. Tucker stated he would be following up.

Mr. Lapenn questioned the Committee if they wished to change the meeting time/date. Ms. Finnegan and Ms. Suttmeier were satisfied with the 4:00pm time.

With no further business to come before the committee and no quorum or public present, the meeting was adjourned at 5:08pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Draushuk