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Meeting Notes
COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 7, 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 November 7, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm by Chair Lapenn.

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	Present	
Tish Finnegan	Committee Member	Present	
Derek Grout	Committee Member	Excused	
James Lapenn	Committee Chair	Present	
John Lee	Committee Member	Present	3:38pm
Maria Suttmeier	Committee Member	Excused	
Carlee Drummer	Board Member	Present	4:02pm
F. Michael Tucker	President/CEO	Present	
Andy Howard	Counsel	Present	
Lisa Drahushuk	Administrative Supervisor	Present	
Martha Lane	Business Development Specialist	Present	
Erin McNary	Bookkeeper	Present	
Carol Wilber	Marketing Director	Present	
Amy Bonville		Present	
Jim Church	Questar III	Present	3:44pm – 4:03pm

With no quorum present, the minutes and the charter review were postponed until the next meeting.

Career Jam:

Mr. Tucker stated he had attended the Saratoga Career Jam. He stated he felt Columbia County could and should hold a similar event in the county. He expressed concern about holding the



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appropriate activities. Mr. Tucker reminded the Committee, students from the 8th and 9th grades would be targeted. He noted that the coordination of the Saratoga event had been done by a hired consultant. He suggested Columbia County do the same.

2019 Junior Career Institute Update:

Ms. Wilber stated the program was running smoothly. She informed the Committee one student had dropped out of the program. She noted the remaining students all fully participated and attended. She noted the December session would be moved to January due to a scheduling conflict with testing. She stated the last session was tentatively set for January 25th, and would be held at the Saland Forum at Columbia Greene Community College.

Mr. Lapenn asked the status of the internships. Ms. Wilber stated she was continually capturing ideas from the students. She would be meeting with the Chamber President and CEO Jeffrey Hunt to line up the internships. She noted the internships would be kept close to the student's home, due to transportation issues. Mr. Tucker stated the program had proved so successful, plans were being developed to increase the area to Greene County as well.

BOCES STEAMing Towards Success:

Mr. Tucker stated the event would take place on November 14th, noting CEDC had contributed \$1,500 to the event. Mr. Church thanked the Committee for supporting the STEAMing program. He noted Questar III was joining Capital Region and WSWHE BOCES in hosting the November 14th event. He noted the event would include workshops, panel discussions and would develop engagements between teachers and STEAM professionals. He informed the Committee, lesson plans that had been developed to introduce STEAM to the classroom, would be available to the teachers for use in their home schools.

Labor-Educational Roundtable:

Mr. Tucker stated the event would be hosted by the NYS Department of Labor and held at Columbia-Greene Community College.

Government Workforce Funding Initiative:

Mr. Tucker noted the funds awarded had been mainly designated to SUNY schools.

Mini Grant Program:

Mr. Tucker suggested picking 10 not-for-profits and asking them to submit applications for the funds. Mr. Lapenn asked if schools should be included. Mr. Tucker noted he was unsure how the schools would be able to handle non-governmental monies.



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Other Business:

Ms. Wilber gave a brief overview of the 2019 Partners for Workforce Transformation Conference, a three day conference which addressed national best practices. The conference featured 27 workshops, 3 general sessions and 79 speakers. She stated she would be sharing with the Board the 2019 Labor Market Report which provided a snapshot of who is and who isn't working; growing occupations and sectors; and the number of potential works produced by NYS training and educational systems.

Mr. Tucker introduced Amy Bonville as CEDC's outsource partner who is working on initiatives with the Patterns for Progress report. Ms. Bonville stated her business focused on specialized projects for small businesses, acting as a mid-level manager.

Ms. Wilber informed the Committee she had attended the Veterans Workforce Summit. She stated she would include information about the event in the newsletter.

Ms. Drummer stated the College was in the midst of a GAP analysis which will help to identify the current needs of the college and those three to five years in the future.

With no further business to come before the committee and no public present, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Draushuk