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Meeting Notes
COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Friday, June 19, 2020
One Hudson City Centre
Suite 301
Hudson, New York

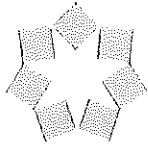
A regularly scheduled meeting of Columbia Economic Development Corporation’s (CEDC) Workforce Development and Education Committee was held via conference call due to the COVID-19 pandemic on June 19, 2020. No quorum was obtained.

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

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

2019 Junior Career Institute:

Mr. Tucker stated due to the pandemic, the Career Institute would be scheduled for September, include Greene County and would begin in a virtual format with a view to meeting in person later



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in the program. He stated a major benefit was transportation would no longer be an issue. Mr. Lapenn asked if the 2019-2020 class had been set up with their internships. Ms. Wilber stated due to COVID-19, they had not. Mr. Tucker addressed a budget, noting this was not a large cost to CEDC totaling three to four thousand dollars. He felt the program could meet an hour a week for 8 weeks instead of meeting for 3 hours on a Saturday. Ms. Wilber stated the former year's curriculum could be used again. Mr. Tucker stated the team contracted for the Career Jam could be utilized for this initiative assisted by Katherine Higgins, a CEDC consultant.

Ms. Adams suggested utilizing Zoom as a means to make the program an ongoing program. She suggested individual sessions on line which could be made interactive. Ms. Drummer stated the College was excited to hold this again as well as expanding to Greene County. Ms. Adams reminded the Committee that Art Omi was available for the career institute graduation.

Mr. Lapenn expressed his concern about the unfinished internships for the Career Institute, prior to the new session in the fall. He asked that a written presentation be circulated to the Committee along with a proposed budget for the initiatives being proposed. Mr. Tucker felt that all the initiatives being proposed would need to happen concurrently and not sequentially if they were all to be completed.

Ms. Drummer noted that timing was important. She noted Kelly Ann Radzik currently had free time to devote to the Career Institute planning.

Questar III's Youth Apprenticeship Program:

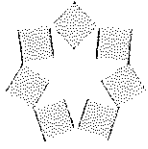
Mr. Tucker stated Questar was working on this program with the Center for Economic Growth and the NYS Business Council. He noted CEDC would be the local facilitator of this regional program. Ms. Wilber stated she has a call scheduled later in the day to get the program information.

Career Jam:

Mr. Tucker noted the Career Jam had been postponed indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He felt Career Jam could be run as a virtual event, with the assistance of Questar III, who had experience with a similar program. He noted this would reduce the overhead.

Digital Arts History Enrichment Initiative:

Mr. Tucker stated this began with a call from Sean Sawyer from Olana, A phone meeting had been held between ten to twelve arts organizations to discuss the potential of arts organizations addressing some needs of the schools, students and parents in the county, in light of anticipated budget cuts. Mr. Tucker stated he had reached out to Jim Church of Questar III to discuss the



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potential digital content that could be provided to the school districts to aid in the required distance learning. Mr. Church has a preliminary idea of how to facilitate the logistics of providing the six school districts with this program. He noted his earlier email to the committee contained information about the initiative. He stated this would be done in conjunction with Greene County.

Junior Achievement:

Mr. Tucker stated they had contacted him to partner in Career Jam. He noted the organization has an extensive library with tapes and programs. They will be included in the conversation to see how they will be able to partner with CEDC.

Coding Initiative:

Mr. Tucker stated he worked with AlbanyCanCode for several years. The business had recently received a \$60,000 grant to expand program into other counties. He had reached out to them to see what it would take for them to bring the program to Hudson. He has spoken to Hudson Development Corporation, Jim Church and Katie Drake of the Workforce Investment Board. Mr. Tucker stated he felt the Workforce Investment Board would need to obtain funding to get the project to the area.

CGCC-BTCF Education Forum:

Ms. Drummer stated the project has been de-railed. She would reach out to them to determine the status. She is anticipating there would be nothing sooner than Spring of 2021.

Mini Grant Program:

Mr. Tucker stated there was no movement. He felt that with COVID-19 there would be a greater demand for the grants. He stated he had done some research on the topic.

With no further business to come before the committee and no public present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22am.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Drahushuk