

Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC)

**BWB Building**  
**201 West Third Street, Jamestown, NY**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room**  
**&**

**Electronically via Live Stream on YouTube & Zoom**

December 19, 2023

11:17 a.m.

Gary Henry	Chairman
Brad Walters	Vice Chairman
Sagan Sheffield- Smith	Treasurer
Dan Heitzenrater	Secretary
Kevin Muldowney	Member
Steven Thorpe	Member
Daniel DeMarte	Member
Amy Harding	Member

Also in attendance:

Mark Geise	Administrative Director/CEO
Richard E. Dixon	Chief Financial Officer
Milan K. Tyler, Esq.	Counsel
Greg Peterson	Counsel
Lisa Cole	Counsel
Kristine Morabito	IDA Staff
Rosie Strandburg	IDA Staff
Carol Rasmussen	IDA Staff
Kayla Strandburg	IDA Staff
Jeanette Lo Bello	IDA Staff
Jason Sample	IDA Staff
James Feldmann	County Executive Staff

Absent Board Member(s):

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Meeting was called to order by Gary Henry, Chairman, at 11:17a.m.

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Gary Henry

We will go ahead and move right into CREDC. So, the Board of Directors of the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation - we are meeting at the BWB Building - we are streamed on both YouTube and Zoom. It is December 19, 2023 and it's currently 11:17 a.m. We will go ahead and do roll call.

Aye – Unanimous. (8 Members in Attendance)

Gary Henry

You should have already received the minutes from November 28, 2023 and had a chance to review those. Do we have a motion to accept the minutes?

Kevin Muldowney

I'll make the motion.

Gary Henry

Thank you Kevin. Do we have a second?

Amy Harding

Second.

Gary Henry

Amy, thank you. All in favor say Aye.

Board

Aye – Unanimous.

Gary Henry

Opposed? The minutes have been approved. We will move right into New Business A1. Mark, are you going to present?

Mark Geise

Yes. I'll present this. Nate is on vacation. A well-deserved vacation by the way. This Resolution allows CREDC to enter into an agreement with local foundations and the County to receive funding to keep our operations going. I know you all know this because we have been keeping you up-to-date but you know the Partnership has done a lot of really good work. It sort of fills a niche that has been needed for a long time and I think the primary one is that it assists communities that don't have the resources and the skillset really to put projects together, get the funding and make them happen. There are three staff for the Partnership-full-time staff-and so we get our money from the Ralph Wilson Foundation. We got one million fifty I think over three years and the local foundations that support us and that's what this Resolution is about. Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation has been a great partner- one hundred thousand dollars a year they have been giving us. Primarily, Nate gives them quarterly updates on what we are doing and where we are at and they like what we are doing. The Gebbie Foundation – their supporting us to the tune of eighty thousand dollars and a lot of that has to do with the work that we are doing at the Chadakoin River. We did a conceptual plan, identified projects, fleshed them out, went for funding, got two different grants-over a million dollars. There are a lot of projects that are going to occur down there. Fifty thousand dollars from the County for really our Placemaking Work

Group and it's really for projects that align with our economic development strategy. Placemaking is how do we make places that people want to live in or visit. Those are our main streets, those are creating hooks where people want to-that are memorable with walkable communities-that kind of stuff. Thirty-five thousand dollars from the County for a Greenway Development Program-we hired Jacob Bodeway part-time and we are doing a lot of work with the trail groups. There are about a dozen of them - (Equestrian folks, snowmobile people, hikers, cross country skiers) we sort of have them working altogether now. We are trying to identify projects - there's really power in numbers-by having everyone work together versus in their own silos really makes a lot of sense especially because they share a lot of the same infrastructure. So, that's for Greenway planning. We did a Greenway Plan back in 2013 and it talked about the types of projects that we need to do, which we've done several of them and also creating this Greenway Group and so we have done that now. Also, sixty-three thousand dollars from the ARPA money and that is for infrastructure development. We really want to set ourselves up, que up projects to apply for the federal infrastructure money. The money is out there but you can't just ask for it. You really got to have projects put together. So, we're going to contract with an engineering firm and we are going to go through a process where we really identify infrastructure projects that will result in more economic development -and then really again flesh those out, que those up so that we can apply for this federal funding. So, I think that is it. Those are the funding sources and sort of where that money goes -what uses it has.

Gary Henry

Were there any questions? Dan Heitzenrater can you move New Business A1 for us?

Dan Heitzenrater

Gladly. Resolution 12-19-23-16 of the members of the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation Approving Entry Into Agreement with Chautauqua County and Local Foundations for Grant Funding for the Chautauqua County Partnership For Economic Growth

Gary Henry

Do we have a second?

Sagan Sheffield-Smith

I'll second.

Gary Henry

Thank you Sagan. Roll call vote.

Board

Aye - Unanimous.

Gary Henry

The Resolution is passed. Certainly it is amazing all that Nate is able to do - getting all these grants and just the way we are able to continue to help the region. We will move into New Business B and this is pretty similar to what you have already explained.

Rich Dixon

The exact same Resolution that the IDA passed, correct.

Gary Henry

So, this is just again this is just with the banks. Did anybody have any questions? Steve can you move Resolution B1 for us?

Steven Thorpe

Sure. Resolution 12-19-23-17 of the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (“CREDC”) Regarding Deposits of Money and the Investment of Funds

Gary Henry

Do we have a second?

Brad Walters

Second.

Gary Henry

Thank you Brad. Roll call vote.

Board

Aye – Unanimous.

Gary Henry

The Resolution is approved. We will get to vote on it one more time here in a minute. Did we have an Executive Director’s Report?

Mark Geise

No, again I just wanted to reiterate that in January we will be giving – I don’t know if Nate’s going to do the Partnership for Economic Growth or if I am. I don’t know that yet. We will be developing an Annual Reports for both the IDA and the Partnership and we will sort of talk through at a high level our accomplishments for the year at the January meeting. Then you will all get copies of that report and we will also give it to the legislatures and other key stakeholders.

Gary Henry

Do we have a Treasurer’s Report?

Rich Dixon

Kayla.

Kayla Strandburg

Kayla reviewed and discussed the Treasurer's Report.

Mark Geise

That's one of the challenges when you get grant funding or funding from another source you've got to track it all. It's great because its free money but there is a lot having to do with tracking it and reporting it. So, thanks for doing all that Kayla and Crystal and others.

Gary Henry

It's great to get all those grants but it is a lot of work. Do we have a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report?

Sagan Sheffield-Smith

So moved.

Gary Henry

Thank you Sagan. Do we have a second?

Dan Heitzenrater

Second.

Gary Henry

Thank you Dan. All in favor say Aye.

Board

Aye – Unanimous.

Gary Henry

Opposed? The Treasurer's Report has been accepted. Do we have any Old Business to come before CREDC? Hearing none we will consider the meeting adjourned.

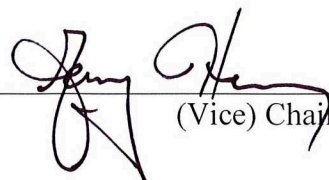
Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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(Assistant) Secretary

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(Vice) Chairman