

**Tompkins County Development Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting Final Minutes
December 9, 2020
2:30 PM
Via Zoom Conference Call and LiveStream**

Present: Rich John, Jennifer Tavares, Martha Robertson, Mike Sigler, John Guttridge, Anne Koreman, Laura Lewis

Guest: Natalie Branosky (TC Workforce Development Board)

Staff Present: Heather McDaniel, Ina Arthur (IAED), Russ Gaenzle (Harris Beach), Rick Snyder (TC Finance)

CALL TO ORDER

Rich John called the meeting of the **Tompkins County Development Corporation** to order at 4:40 pm.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

No comments from the public were submitted for this meeting.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Workforce Development Board Funding Request – Labor Market Analysis & Skills Mapping

Natalie Branosky, Executive Director of the Workforce Development Board (WDB), presented a request for funding to support work on a pandemic labor market analysis and skills mapping research project. The scope of work includes a research plan that will be carried out by the School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University that is focused on Tompkins County. Within the context of the COVID 19 pandemic, the goal for the research is to assess the local economy, workforce and skills availability in order to give businesses and community partners greater confidence for planning throughout 2021.

Themes of the research, designed in partnership with IAED and TCDC are:

- WFH: Our new understanding of working from home – the possible & the probably
- Job Creation: What have we lost and what can we expect to gain in 2021
- Skills Mapping: Industries – skills demand & skills availability in Tompkins County
- Race, Equity and Inclusion
- Green Economy & Climate Jobs

The total cost for this project is \$50,000. A payment of \$40,000 will be made by Tompkins County on behalf of the WDB. In the shared interest of the results of the work, the WDB is requesting the

remaining \$10,000 be contributed by the TCDC as the final installment, upon completion of the report at the beginning of February 2021.

Rich John commented that the data from the study will be very helpful. John Guttridge agreed.

Martha Robertson asked why talent attraction would be part of this. We have a skills shortage but there are many who commute into our County to fill that shortage.

Martha Robertson also asked if the study would focus on job loss due to the lack of childcare. Natalie Branosky commented that this is not currently part of the scope of work.

Jennifer Tavares moved to approve the request for funding of \$10,000 to support the Pandemic Labor Market Analysis and Skills Mapping project. Laura Lewis seconded the motion. The motion was approve 7-0.

2021 Memorandum of Understanding between TCDC and IAED

Laura Lewis made a motion to approve the 2021 Memorandum of Understanding with Ithaca Area Economic Development (IAED) for administrative management and economic development services. John Guttridge seconded the motion. The motion was approve 7-0.

CHAIRS REPORT - None

STAFF REPORT – Heather McDaniel reported that the Office of the State Comptroller has chosen the TCDC to perform an audit. They have completed their initial risk analysis and will be focusing on policy and procedure from January 2019 – November 2020.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Martha Robertson made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 11, 2020 Board Meeting. Mike Sigler seconded the motion. The motion was approved 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM

Minutes were approved at January 13, 2021 meeting.