

## COMMISSION MEETING

October 19, 2011  
CDRPC Conference Room  
One Park Place, Suite 102  
Albany, New York 12205

### MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Lucille McKnight, Michael Whalen, Jr., Judy Breselor, Stan Brownell, Fred Acunto, John Murray, Paul Sausville, Barbara Mauro

**ABSENT;** John Brown, Willard Bruce, John Graziano, Leon Fiacco, James Shaughnessy, Michael Stammel, Philip Barrett, Jason Kemper, Robert Godlewski, Gary Hughes, Michael Petta, David Vincent

**PRESIDING:** Barbara Mauro, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

**1. Welcome/Introduction of Guests**

There were no guests in attendance.

**2. July 20, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were distributed before the meeting.

**Action Taken**

No action taken due to lack of quorum.

**3. Appointment of Nominating Committee**

Barbara Mauro selected Judy Breselor as Chair and Paul Sausville to serve on the nominating committee for 2012 officers. Judy will report back at the December commission meeting with the recommendations for 2012 officers.

**4. Financial Statement through September 30, 2011**

The financial statement represents activities through September 30, 2011. The revenues are at 81.1% of the budgeted amount and expenses are at 65.3%. There is approximately \$169,017 cash in the bank and outstanding receivables totaling \$112,090. There are also three Certificates of Deposit totaling \$87,723.11.

The third quarter invoices have been sent out to the appropriate billing agencies for the CDYCI, CSO, Water Quality, and the UPWP work programs.

**Action Taken**

No action taken due to lack of quorum.

**5. HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Submittal**

CDRPC submitted the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant application to HUD as the lead application on October 4, 2011. This grant is an initiative jointly implemented by HUD, the US Department of Transportation, and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is designed to create and support Regional Plans that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation and infrastructure investments.

Though CDRPC will be the lead applicant, a strong consortium of 42 partners has been established that includes the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Some of the partners include Affordable Housing Partnership of the Capital Region, Capital District Community Loan Fund, Behan Planning & Designs, CDTC, CEG, CARES, Capital District Community Gardens, Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and University at Albany.

The grant is for three years and CDRPC is applying for \$2.4 million from HUD over three years with a match of almost \$1.9 million by the various partners. CDRPC's share over the three year period is \$543,500 with a match of \$187,000.

**6. NYSERDA Climate Smart Communities Grant Award**

In April CDRPC submitted a proposal to provide services under the Climate Smart Communities grant for \$322,000 for the first year. NYSERDA is interested in further pursuing the proposal that was submitted to prepare the scope of work. If an agreement can be reached with NYSERDA, the project team will consist of CDRPC and consulting firms, VHB and Climate Action Associates.

The grant is designed to be a multi-year program, however funding is only available for the first year. NYSERDA does anticipate receiving additional funding for the program as well as providing further clarification of how it will parallel the activities proposed under the Governor's recently announced Cleaner Greener Communities Grant Program.

The first phase of work will be to develop a Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory including estimates of greenhouse gas emissions from a variety of sources, the preparation of a Climate Smart Strategic Plan to enhance community awareness and understanding of Climate Smart initiatives they may want to pursue, and outreach and support initially to communities that have signed the Climate Smart Pledge.

The footprint for this project is Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady Counties as well as Columbia and Greene counties. The scope of work is less comprehensive than the Cleaner Greener Grant proposal however, there are parallel activities.

CDRPC will be the lead applicant on the grant. The total grant amount is for \$322,000 and CDRPC's share will be \$75,000.

7. **NYSERDA Cleaner Greener Communities Grant Program**

This grant is a multi stage competitive grant program designed to encourage communities to develop regional sustainable growth strategies. The plan involves an 8 county area including our four counties as well as Columbia, Greene, Warren and Washington counties. A total of \$9.6 million is available to prepare comprehensive Regional Sustainability Plans in each of the ten economic development council regions created by the Governor and to identify the activities or types of projects needed to achieve the Plan's objectives. Up to \$90 million will be made available statewide to implement the projects identified in each Plan. The Plan must be completed within 8 months of contract signing

Despite its emphasis on regional strategies, only municipalities (counties, cities, towns and villages) are eligible to apply. A meeting was held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> with interested municipalities located within the 8 county Capital Region Economic Development Council region to gauge interest in the program. It was agreed to by those in attendance that a single application be submitted with the City of Albany being the lead applicant. The application deadline is October 31, 2011.

Rocky is requesting Commission approval to support this application and work with the City of Albany and all of the Capital Region communities in the preparation of the Regional Sustainability Plan. It is unknown at this time what role CDPRC will play in the Plan.

Paul Sausville inquired if there would be a need to hire another staff person in order to accommodate the workload. Hiring a new staff person is dependent upon a number of factors including staff's continued involvement with the CSO project, the HUD Grant and the Cleaner Greener Communities Grant coming through. Rocky will discuss with the Commission at the next meeting how he plans to proceed in terms of hiring another staff person.

After some discussion, Jack Murray suggested the Commission support the City of Albany in preparing the application for the deadline of October 31, 2011. The others in attendance agreed that CDRPC support makes sense.

**Action Taken**

No action taken due to lack of quorum.

8. **Capital Region Economic Development Council**

The Governor has created ten Economic Development Councils across New York State to prepare a Regional Strategic Plan. The state was subdivided into ten regions using the existing State Labor Department regions. The Capital Region Economic Development Council includes the counties of Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington.

The Capital Region Council is co-shared by Dr. Shirley Jackson, the President of RPI and Michael Castellana, the President and CEO of SEFCU.

The draft 5 year Strategic Plan was in the process of being prepared. The next public meetings are scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at the Saratoga Springs City Center and November 3<sup>rd</sup>, location to be announced. The final Strategic Plan will be submitted to the Review Committee on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

The five workgroups that were created are: Key Issues/Opportunities workgroup, Strategic Plan workgroup, Public Engagement Workgroup, Metrics Workgroup and Project Priorities Workgroup. Rocky is involved with the Strategic Plan Workgroup the Key/Issues Opportunities Workgroup and the Metrics Workgroup.

The Strategic Planning Workgroup came up with the following five proposed strategies: demand and reward collaboration, bring coherence to workforce development, improve (renew & expand) infrastructure to support economic development and a vibrant business climate, enhance quality of life and market the strengths and successes of the Capital Region.

There is an initial allocation of \$200 million, \$130 in financial resources and \$70 million in tax credits. The four regions with the top Strategic Plans will each receive \$40 million and the six remaining regions will divide the remaining \$40 million. Paul Sausville inquired if this is new money or reallocation of existing money. The \$200 million is money set aside for economic development initiatives that were included in Empire State Development 2011-2012 budget.

In addition, there is approximately \$800 million in funding from over 13 agencies including Parks & Recreation, the Canal Corporation, Economic Development, Transportation, etc which will be reviewed and ranked by the local Regional Councils through the Consolidated Funding Application process. In order to apply for funding, the CFA process must be used. The CFA deadline is October 31, 2011.

The Regional Councils will identify their preferred list of endorsed projects to the funding agencies by November 14, 2011.

#### **9. LTCP – CSO Update**

The CSO Long Term Control Plan was submitted to NYS DEC on June 30, 2011. To date, no information has been forthcoming on the NYS DEC review.

NYS DOS has informed CDRPC that they expect to release grant applications for another round of SMSI. CDRPC will be preparing an application for funding to explore alternative organizational arrangements for Phase II of the CSO Project.

#### **10. Staff Activity Report**

The Staff Activity Report was distributed before the meeting. There was no discussion.

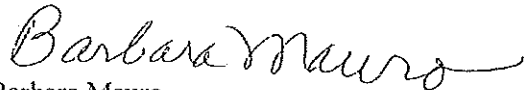
11. **Other Business**

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2011, however Rocky suggested moving the meeting to December 14 due to the Christmas holiday. An email will be sent to the Commissioners inquiring which date works best for them. Once that information is received, we will inform the Commissioners of the December meeting date.

**Adjournment**

No action taken due to lack of quorum.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Mauro". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Barbara Mauro,  
Chair