

To: ***EDC Board Members***
Re: ***Minutes of March 16, 2021 Meeting of the Board of Directors***

Present: Matt Fuller, Esq. – Chair
Alex Rotolo – Vice Chair
Mitch Amado – Treasurer & Chair of Audit & Finance Committee
Laura Ladu – Secretary
Chris Barden – Director
Judy Calogero – Director
John Strough – Representative, TOQ
Dr. Kristine Duffy – Representative SUNY Adirondack – Chair of Governance
Mike Pratt – Director

Absent: Rachel Seeber – Chairwoman, Warren County Board of Supervisors
Lisa Daly, Interim Bookkeeper

Guests: Kristy Alexander – WorkSmart
David Dammerman – WorkSmart
Stephen Thurston – FootHills Business Daily
Michael Goot – The Post Star
Andrea Harwood Palmer
Andrea Hogan – Supervisor Johnsbury

Staff: Jim Siplon, President
John Wheatley, Vice President
Linda Oldenburg, Economic Development Coordinator

On March 16, 2021, the Board of Directors for the Economic Development Corporation met via zoom meeting for a Board of Directors Meeting at 8:46 a.m. The following items of business were discussed:

- I.** **Welcome & Call to Order:** Chair, Matt Fuller welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order and took roll call at 8:46 a.m.
- II.** **Approval:** Approval of Board minutes held February 23, 2021. All minutes were forwarded to the board for review and approval prior to meeting. A motion is made by Dr, Kris Duffy seconded by Secretary Laura Ladu and unanimously approved with a roll call.
- III.** **Financial Update:** Treasurer Mitch Amado stated there was a budgeted net loss for February, but it was much less than anticipated. Again, our member contributions are lagging, we anticipated. We're balancing that out by holding back on some of the hiring of some positions and also some other program expenses. So, from a P&L standpoint, we are very close where we thought we would be. A Motion is made by Secretary Ladu seconded by Judy Calogero and unanimously approved with a roll call.
- IV.** **Reports & Committees:** Committee Chair Dr. Duffy reported committee met on March 9, 2021, we did discuss the proposed officers that were approved in our Annual Meeting and discussed replacing Jim on the board. Hoping we will have a recommendation for the board next month. A motion to

approve reports of the Audit and Finance and Governance Committee meeting reports is made by John Strough and seconded by Mike Pratt and unanimously approved by a roll call.

V. **President/CEO Report:** President Siplon stated the most important to update you on include broadband. We are in the midst of the survey effort; the participation has flattened. We've have engaged the community to try to drive the last couple of weeks of participation. There will be a media campaign that you will see. We have begun Facebook and social media pushes and ads. Trying to get participation up from it current 2% towards 5%. We have been in deep conversations with Lake George, Lake Champlain planning board to jointly release an RFP for what we call, phase four which is the aggregation of all this data with the other counties.

President Siplon pointed out a couple of things since the last meeting. Kirsh Helmets, we are attempting to support through a major growth curve and Hacker Boat which is not taking up a much larger position in the former Perkins building.

President Siplon stated he meet with the Town of Queensbury to update them in preparation for their contract, but also talked specifically about things in Queensbury with a focus on developing a medical device ECHO system of support. .

President Siplon updated the Board that EDC will be announcing soon the new Marketing & Communication Director.

VI. **Approved Resolutions:** A motion is made to move forward with approval of 2021 SEP Contribution at 9% by Vice Chair Rotolo and seconded by Dr. Kris Duffy and unanimously approved with a roll call. A motion is made by Dr. Kris Duffy and seconded by Secretary Ladu to approve the resolution for Life Insurance and unanimously approved with a roll call.

VII. **Other Business:** Posting of videos Chair Fuller stated that there's been suggestion that we are required to post the videos of our meetings online. That is actually not true but what I wanted to bring back to the board is a discussion on whether or not we want to do that or having the YouTube page and posting videos of our meetings up to that page. As I see it, its purely our call. President Siplon added that he has asked for Harris Beach to provide us with advisory, not only on our current position, but coming out of the pandemic what they believe to be likely practice and to make sure that you're fully aware of that.

VIII. **Executive Session:**

IX: **Adjournment:** Upon no further business to come before the board, a motion is made by Dr, Kris Duffy seconded by Mike Pratt and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 am.