



Southern  
Worcester  
County  
Economic  
Development  
Organization

c/o Central Massachusetts Regional  
Planning Commission  
1 Mercantile Street - Suite 520  
Worcester, MA 01608  
508.756.7717 P  
[www.cmrpc.org](http://www.cmrpc.org)

---

**Southern Worcester County Economic Development Organization  
Board of Directors  
Executive Meeting  
Remote Meeting via Zoom  
August 3, 2023  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present**

**SWC EDO Board Members: (Exec Cmte)\***

Janet Pierce, CMRPC\*  
Jeff Turgeon, Central MA Hire\*  
Jeannie Hebert, BVCC\*  
Elizabeth Cruz, LABO  
David Sullivan, WRCC  
Brad Kadelski, Town of Brookfield  
Julie Holstrom, WBCD

**Guests**

Kevin Kuros, MOBD

**CMRPC Staff**

Kerrie Salwa, CMRPC  
Zachary Davis, CMRPC

---

1. Meeting began at 3:09 p.m.: Meeting began at 3:09 p.m., and there was a quorum at 3:30.
2. Facilitated Roll-Call: Kerrie conducted a facilitated roll-call.
3. Review Minutes of the May 4, 2023, SWC EDO Executive Committee Meeting: There was a motion to approve the minutes from May 4, 2023. Kerrie conducted a facilitated roll-call and everyone voted to approve the minutes.
4. CEDS Update:

Kerrie shared that it has been a long road but we are at the end. Kerrie was very grateful to Jon Weaver and Kathy Rentsch and the help they provided sitting down with us. Julie provided incredible feedback that has been very helpful to the document.

Our third and most robust goal is, “Quality of life for all”.

From the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> the document will be put into InDesign by Elena.

Kerrie asked the board how they went about the public commenting process for the last CEDS. Julie and Janet remember there being a significant meeting at the Worcester Chamber of Commerce. The public commenting period will begin at the end of August and run until the end of September.

Kerrie asked Julie Holstrom if she had any comments other than those she sent along. She believes that with those edits it will be a strong document.

Kevin Kuros believes it would be helpful to put the document out to the secretary. Kerrie and Janet agreed that it is a great idea.

Janet thanks everyone for their feedback and says that it was very helpful. Kerrie confirms that this item does not need further discussion.

#### 5. Project Review:

Kerrie and Janet sat in on a meeting with the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission. CHNA 9 is a project that looks to replicate the Quaboag connector. CMRPC has been brought in to do a study to figure out areas that could benefit from the transit.

#### 6. Partner Updates:

Janet gave an update that the next quarterly meeting for CMRPC will be on September 14<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the meeting will be the CEDS.

Jeanine Hebert announced that the Blackstone Valley Chamber will have their annual lobster bake and invited members of the board. Jeannie also announced a new affordable project relating to childcare.

Kevin Kuros announced a new staff member at MOBD is Paul St. Pierre.

David Sullivan announced there will be a construction and real estate round table and a manufacturing round table on Aug 29. Starting up Worcester is taking applications. There will be a Young Professionals night at the chamber of commerce.

Elizabeth Cruz wanted to state that LABO is offering course about food safety.

7. Review Meeting Dates/Locations and Other Important Dates:

The next Executive Committee meeting will be Thursday September 7th at 3:00 pm

Quarterly will be held on Thursday Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> @ 3:00 pm

The Executive Committee meeting for October will be held on Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm

Janet suggested meeting in person and David Sullivan agreed.

8. Other Announcements: There were no other announcements.

9. Adjourn: Everyone observed the motion to adjourn.