



Southern
Worcester
County
Economic
Development
Organization

c/o Central Massachusetts Regional
Planning Commission
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**Southern Worcester County Economic Development Organization
Board of Directors
Online Meeting
MassDOT District 3 Headquarters (Fourth Floor)
499 Plantation St., Worcester, MA 01605
Remote Meeting Option via Zoom
September 21, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Present

SWC EDO Board Members: (Exec Cmte)*

Janet Pierce, CMRPC*`
Jeff Turgeon, Central MA Hire*
Jon Weaver, Mass Biomed
Karen Pelletier, WRCC
Sheila Cuddy, QVDC
Kim Ingalls,
Jeanine Hebert,
Peter Hoffman, Berlin EDC
Tim Loew
Brad Kadelski
Tony Sousa,
Julie Holstrom, Worcester Business Development Corporation

Guests

Kevin Kuros, MOBD

CMRPC Staff

Kerrie Salwa, CMRPC
Joseph Sziabowski, CMRPC
Zachary Davis, CMRPC

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1. Meeting began at 3:00 p.m.: Meeting began unofficially at 3:00 p.m. and was done through a facilitated role call by Kerrie.

2. Minutes:

3. CEDS Overview and Adoption:

Kerrie Salwa started off the meeting by giving an overview of the CEDS and timeline the team has followed. The CEDS is the document the EDO board will follow over the next five years. Kerrie highlighted the vision for the region and the six goals for the region.

Karen Pelletier wanted to give Kudos to Kerrie and the team for the document. She is impressed with the engagement of Kerrie with different stakeholders and the overall look of the document. She expressed her gratitude to Kerrie and to the entire team.

Kevin Kuros is pushing the document out to the Secretary of Economic Development and aspects may be included in the Economic Development plan for the state.

Janet thanked the EDO and their support for Kerrie and the team.

Kerrie then went over the adoption process of the CEDS. When we send the CEDS to Debora it will be the final adopted version and the checklist.

4. Project Review:

Kerrie discussed four projects that are waiting for funding. The tech hub application, a project by Tim, and the Warren mill renovation.

5. Organization and Partner Updates:

Jeanine Hebert has a lot going on at the Blackstone Valley CDC. The workshop with the Secretary in Wednesday, September 27th. It is a great opportunity to ask questions to Secretary Tutwiler.

Karen Pelletier put the projects in the chat.

10/13 <https://business.worcesterchamber.org/events/details/2023-game-changers-business-conference-14922>

11/14 DC trip: <https://business.worcesterchamber.org/events/details/worcester-goes-to-washington-15049>

Kevin Kuros had an update from MOBD. There is a BIG Y project

Jon Weaver discussed the EDA Tech Hub opportunity. Central Massachusetts has a huge opportunity to be able to be designated as a Tech Hub. If the Tech Hub distinction is awarded then the MBI and their partners can pursue the \$70 million grant to make this possible even quicker.

Sheila Cuddy announced that the QVDC is proud to announce that WATCH AGAIN There are also starting their first time home buyers class.

Kim Ingalls announced that Mass MAP

Janet announced that CMRPC has staff in Brookfield taking pictures of Brookfield from above.

Peter Hoffman announced that Salomon Pond mall is the largest mall in Berlin. There are more tenants in Salomon Pond mall.

Kerrie has a project she is working on with Jeff Turgeon. It is on October 26th and it is called the “Career and service Summit” from 9:00am until 12:00pm. It is free to attend.

6. New Business:

No one has any new business.

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

Call a meeting to order if there is a project that needs to be discussed.

Next quarterly meeting is Thursday, December 14th, at TBD.

Thursday March 24th at 3:00pm.

8. Adjourn: There was not a Quorum.