



# Choose Columbia

Columbia Economic Development Corporation

**MINUTES**  
**COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Tuesday, January 11, 2022**  
**One Hudson City Centre, Suite 301**  
**Hudson, NY 12534**

A regular meeting of the Columbia Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) Executive Committee held in person and via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic on January 11, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 8:31am by David Fingar, Chair.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived/ Departed
David Fingar	Chair	Present	
James Calvin	Vice-Chair	Present via Zoom	
John Lee	Treasurer	Excused	
Sarah Sterling	Secretary	Present	
Richard Cummings	Committee Member	Present	
Andrew Howard, Esq	CEDC Counsel	Present	
F. Michael Tucker	President/CEO	Present	
Lauren Cranna	Business Development Partner	Present via Zoom	
Lisa Drahushuk	Administrative Supervisor	Present via Zoom	
Martha Lane	Business Development Director	Excused	
Cat Lyden	Assistant Administrative and Bookkeeper	Present via Zoom	

**Minutes, December 1, 2021:**

*Mr. Calvin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings to approve the minutes from December 1, 2021. Carried.*

**Executive Committee Charter Review:**

*Mr. Cummings made a motion, seconded by Mr. Calvin to approve the Executive Committee Charter as presented. Carried.*

**2021 Discharged Duties:**

*Mr. Calvin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings to approve the 2021 Discharged Duties as presented. Carried.*

**Staffing Review:**

Mr. Tucker stated he was running a help wanted ad for a full time Project Manager and a part time Administrative Assistant, in the Register Star, Indeed and on the CEDC website. He stated the Project Manager position was \$45,000 - \$50,000 and the Administrative Assistant would be \$15-\$18/hour.

Mr. Tucker asked Ms. Cranna to update the Committee on the SBA. She announced the SBA had awarded CEDC an additional \$400,000 in SBA funding for the loan program. She also noted they had nominated Seung Suh, Owner of the Copake General Store for the Small Business Person of the Year. Mr. Calvin noted the SBA had a number of awards, but lacked a category for those who initiated the loans. Mr. Tucker stated the SBA would be recognizing lenders in future years with an award.

**New Initiatives Review:**

Mr. Tucker gave the background of E For All. He noted it was a 12 week program. They have asked CEDC for \$25,000. Mr. Tucker offered \$7,500 in funding and \$2,500 of in-kind services. He noted this would be brought to the Workforce & Education Committee. He noted he was also working with the Hudson River Bank & Trust Foundation, the Spark of Hudson and the Galvan Foundation to assist in founding the program as well.

Mr. Tucker gave an update on the broadband project, noting that Stuyvesant and Hillsdale were attempting to develop their own programs to assist in expanding broadband in their communities.

Mr. Tucker gave an update on the PBF project with the City of Hudson IDA. He noted there were currently three potential projects planning on coming before the City IDA board.

He noted that he was working with Redburn Associates on a new housing project to be sited in Greenport. He stated the project had submitted an application to the County IDA, which had been approved to hold a public hearing in the near future.

He stated the County was interested in holding a virtual housing summit. He stated he was currently working on planning the summit, which will bring all parties together for a more cohesive plan.

**Strategic Plan Update:**

He stated Ms. O’Loughlin felt the final meeting should be held in person. Mr. Tucker felt it may be necessary to hold the next full Board meeting virtually or nearly so, due to the rising number of COVID cases. He stated he would contact her to determine how it could be done effectively and if part could be done virtually and part in person. He stated she wanted to present what she has learned and then have a discussion and have a final report. Ms. Sterling suggested delaying it a month which may get past the current spike.

**Other Business:**

Mr. Fingar stated he wished to discuss Mr. Tucker’s contract which was set to expire in June. Mr. Tucker suggested the contract be renewed for two years under the same terms as the current contract. Mr. Calvin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings to recommend the two year contract extension under the same terms currently in place to the full board for approval. Carried.

Mr. Tucker briefly reviewed the financial reports that would be discussed at the Audit & Finance Committee at the meeting the following day.

**Public Comment:**

*With no further business and no public comment the meeting was adjourned at 9:05am upon a motion by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Lee.*

*Respectfully submitted by Lisa Drahusiuk*