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Columbia Economic Development Corporation

Meeting Notes
COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Thursday, August 3, 2023
One Hudson City Centre
Suite 301
Hudson, New York

A regular meeting of Columbia Economic Development Corporation’s (CEDC) Workforce Development and Education Committee was held in person on August 3, 2023 at 8:30 am.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Ruth Adams	Acting-Chair	Present in person
Carlee Drummer	Committee Member	Present in person
David Fingar	Committee Member	Present in person
Derek Grout	Committee Member	Absent
Michael Johnston	Committee Member	Absent
Bryan Mahoney	Committee Member	Absent
Michael Molinski	Committee Member	Absent
Sean Sawyer	Committee Member	Absent
Amanda Karch	Columbia-Greene Community College	Present in person
Chris Nardone	Columbia-Greene Workforce NY	Present in person
F. Michael Tucker	President/CEO	Present in person
Andy Howard	Counsel	Absent
Jessica Gabriel	Senior Economic Developer	Present in person
Martha Lane	Business Development Director	Present in person
Chris Brown	Housing Development Coordinator	Present in person
Stephen Vandenburg	Business Development Specialist	Present in person
Cathy Lyden	Bookkeeper	Absent
Riley Werner	Administrative Assistant	Absent
Lisa Drahushuk	Administrative Supervisor	Absent

With no quorum present, Ms. Adams began the meeting at 8:37am.

The Committee discussed childcare, with Mr. Tucker providing an overview of the current state of daycare in the county, noting there is a lack of facilities in the County.

Mr. Nardone and Ms. Karch are currently working with The Family of Woodstock to get family centers certified, registered and provide staff training. Their focus was on a rural childcare network. They noted 2 cohorts had been completed, with 5 people completing the training. They have identified several issues to date including 1) Identification of unregistered centers, 2) Identifying those in need, 3) Identify markets.



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Mr. Nardone stated funding is available, noting the program is seeking grants to support the program. Mr. Tucker stated the Columbia Forward program can assist if the businesses are for profit entities.

Mr. Tucker suggested: Creating a guidance sheet outlining daycare requirements.
 A central bookkeeper to support the network of daycare centers.
 CEDC to coordinate a meeting with the Department of Social Services office.

Question raised: Can a home daycare provider operate from a leased location? Mr. Nardone stated the funds are not available for a daycare in subsidized housing, but was unsure about a leased space.

Public Comment:

With no public present and no further comments, Ms. Adams ended the meeting with no quorum at 8:26am.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Draushuk