



# Choose Columbia

Columbia Economic Development Corporation

**MINUTES DRAFT  
COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
Executive Committee  
Tuesday, June 11, 2024  
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 accessible to the public via Zoom on June 11, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 8:31am by James Calvin, Chair.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived/ Departed
James Calvin	Chair	Present in person	
Tarah Gay	Treasurer	Present in person	
Michael Molinski	Secretary	Present in person	
Richard Cummings	Committee Member	Present in person	
Andrew Howard, Esq	CEDC Counsel	Present in person	
F. Michael Tucker	President/CEO	Present in person	
Chris Brown	Housing Development Coordinator	Present in person	
Cat Lyden	Bookkeeper	Present in person	Departed 8:47am
Lisa Drahushuk	Administrative Supervisor	Present in person	
Riley Werner	Administrative Assistant	Present in person	
Ashmini Matthiesen	Intern	Present in person	

**Minutes, January 17, 2024:**

*Mr. Cummings made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molinski to approve the minutes of January 17, 2024 as presented. Carried.*

**Executive Committee Charter:**

Mr. Tucker reminded the attendees the Committee Charters had been revised to match the revised By-Laws. *Mr. Cummings made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molinski to approve the revised Committee Charter as presented. Carried.*

**Annual Meeting Feedback:**

Mr. Tucker noted the annual meeting went well and he had received great feedback. He noted the cost was \$2,600 more than previously. He reviewed the costs for the event.

**Executive Search Timeline:**

Mr. Calvin reminded the committee that Mr. Tucker’s contract ended at the end of 2025. He stated all members of the Executive Committee would be included as members of the Search Committee, once that committee is formed. He noted that he wished to begin soon to enable the candidate to work alongside of Mr. Tucker to learn the processes and the details of the position. Mr. Tucker stated the staffing update

had to be considered as well. He explained the many places the position, previously held by Ms. Gabriel, had been posted, resulting in one resume, which was being reviewed.

He questioned if the search for the Executive actually may need to re-imagine the structure of the organization in order to identify the type of candidate you are seeking. He suggested early discussions should take place at the Committee and Board levels regarding the goals. Mr. Cummings felt that someone could be brought on to fill the deputy opening, who would then advance upon Mr. Tucker's departure to head the organization. Mr. Tucker felt that was possible but it was also possible that the Board could decide a national search may be needed. He suggested the options be kept open.

*Mr. Calvin asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter, under NYS Open Meetings Law Public Officers Law, Article 7 §105. Conduct of executive sessions.1. Upon a majority vote of its total membership, taken in an open meeting pursuant to a motion identifying the general area or areas of the subject or subjects to be considered, a public body may conduct an executive session for the below enumerated purposes only, provided, however, that no action by formal vote shall be taken to appropriate public moneys: f. the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Mr. Molinski made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gay to enter into Executive Session under the above noted NYS regulation. Carried.*

*Executive Session was entered into at 8:48am. Mr. Cummings excused himself from the Executive Session at 9:10am citing a potential conflict of interest. Executive Session was exited at 9:27am upon a motion by Ms. Gay and a second by Mr. Molinski.*

Mr. Calvin stated the Committee had discussed the possibility of renewing the lease for a 5 year term at the present location of One Hudson City Centre. He called for a motion to recommend the renewal of the lease for a 5 year term to the CEDC full Board. *Ms. Gay made a motion, seconded by Mr. Molinski to recommend the issue to the Full Board. Carried with Mr. Cummings abstaining from the vote.*

Mr. Tucker noted he had been asked to convene another meeting of the executive directors and chairs of the various foundations in the county on June 17th. He stated 20 people had attended the previous meeting. He also noted there were 15 people currently signed up for the June 1th meeting. He stated he was considering sending the foundations survey, to the CEDC board members, for their input in identifying the most pressing issues in the County.

#### **CEDC Meeting Date Change:**

Mr. Tucker stated the October 29<sup>th</sup> CEDC Full Board meeting conflicted with a conference on his schedule. He asked if the Board could consider changing the date of the Full Board to October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Calvin stated they would bring it to the Full Board for their consideration.

#### **Public Comment:**

*With no further business and no public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33am upon a motion by Mr. Cummings and seconded by Mr. Molinski. Carried.*

*Respectfully submitted by Lisa Drachusluk*