



# Choose Columbia

Columbia Economic Development Corporation

**Meeting Minutes**  
**COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
**GOVERNANCE and NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**November 11, 2025**  
**One Hudson City Centre, Suite 301**  
**Hudson, New York**

A meeting of the Columbia Economic Development Corporation Governance and Nominating Committee was held on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 8:30am for the purpose of hearing any matters that may be presented to the Committee for consideration. The meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Rachel Levine, Chair.

| Attendee Name       | Title                               | Status            | Arrived/Departed |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| James Calvin        | Committee Member                    | Present in person |                  |
| Rick Cummings       | Committee Member                    | Present in person |                  |
| Tarah Gay           | Committee Member                    | Present in person |                  |
| Christine Hinz      | Committee Member                    | Absent            |                  |
| Rachel Levine       | Committee Chair                     | Present in person |                  |
| F. Michael Tucker   | President/CEO                       | Present in person |                  |
| Andy Howard         | Counsel                             | Present in person |                  |
| Chris Brown         | Housing Development Coordinator     | Absent            |                  |
| Martha Lane         | Vice President Business Development | Present in person |                  |
| Stephen VanDenburgh | Business Development Specialist     | Present in person |                  |
| Lisa Drahushuk      | Administrative Supervisor           | Present in person |                  |
| Cathy Lyden         | Bookkeeper                          | Present in person |                  |
| Riley Werner        | Administrative Assistant            | Absent            |                  |

## **Minutes August 12, 2025**

*Mr. Calvin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings to approve the August 12, 2025 minutes as presented. Carried.*

## **2026 Slate of Directors:**

Ms. Levine stated the Slate of Directors would remain unchanged. *Mr. Calvin made a motion to approve the Slate of Directors as it was presented. Mr. Cummings seconded the motion. Carried.*

## **Committee Alternates:**

Ms. Levine stated alternates had been discussed. She stated Mr. Calvin and Mr. Graziano had been discussed as alternates for the Committees in order to ensure a quorum is present for meetings. Mr. Howard reminded the Committee that the alternates would require a review and vote by the Full Board.



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## **Board Candidates:**

Ms. Levine stated she has had several conversations with potential candidates. She felt strongly that the candidates should have a strong professional background and past Board or Committee experience in order to sit on the board. She asked if anyone had ideas for candidates. Mr. Calvin stated he had spoken with a potential candidate, but they felt they were unavailable at the present time. Ms. Gay stated she had also spoken to someone, but they had other obligations and were unable to serve. Ms. Lane stated she had an older list of potential candidates, that she will review, update and share with the Committee.

## **Other Business:**

Mr. Tucker gave an update on the Executive Search process. He reviewed where the posting is available including the Times Union, Business Review and the Columbia Paper. He stated ads were placed in the Register Star, the CEDC website, LinkedIn and Facebook as well as several other publications.

Mr. Calvin stated several resumes had been received. He stated he would continue to forward the resumes that have been received to the Committee. He asked the Committee to review and comment on the candidate resumes they have received. He asked the Committee to respond to him by email regarding those candidates they felt should be interviewed. He suggested a Zoom call between the Search Committee members to discuss the candidates.

*Mr. Cummings made a motion seconded by Ms. Gay to enter into Executive Session under Section 105 (f) of the Open Meetings Law. Executive Session was entered into at 8:55am and exited at 9:10am upon a motion made by Mr. Calvin and seconded by Mr. Cummings.*

*Having no further business and no public comments, the committee meeting was adjourned at 9:10a.m. on a motion by Mr. Calvin, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Carried.*

*Respectfully submitted by Lisa Drahushuk*