



TCPDC

TIOGA COUNTY PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

607.687. 8256

| www.tiogacountyny.gov

| 56 Main St. Owego NY 13827

**Tioga County Property Development Corporation
Governance Committee**

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 3:00 PM

Ronald E. Dougherty County Office Building

56 Main Street, Owego, NY 13827

Economic Development Conference Room #109

Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM
2. Present: S. Yetter, R. Kelsey, M. Sauerbrey
Absent: D. Astorina
Invited Guests: B. Woodburn, K. Warfle, J. Whitmore
3. Old Business
 - a. Approve minutes of May 31, 2023 Governance Committee meeting
The committee reviewed the minutes.
**Motion: Approve the May 31, 2023 Governance Committee meeting minutes as distributed:
M. Sauerbrey/R. Kelsey/Carried
None Opposed
No Abstentions**
4. New Business
 - a. Potential New Board Member discussion
S. Yetter invited J. Whitmore to introduce himself and express his reasons for interest in serving on the TCPDC Board of Directors. Ms. Woodburn noted that she and Mr. Whitmore met previously to discuss the board position and the purpose and function of the TCPDC. She also previously forwarded to the committee Mr. Whitmore's resume. Mr. Whitmore provided some of his personal, community involvement and work history and expressed his desire to help the community continue to improve. He recognized the improvements made through the NYMS and DRI grants projects. Ms. Sauerbrey expressed the success the TCPDC has had in reducing blight and improving neighborhoods in the short period the TCPDC has been in existence. Ms. Sauerbrey and Mr. Kelsey also stated the board's desire to continue this work with the help of new board members.

A PARTNER OF

TEAM TIOGA

Mr. Kelsey also complimented the Tioga County Economic Development and Planning Department for their support of the Director of the TCPDC and Tioga County's generosity in allowing the Land Bank to utilize the human resources and approving board members needed to help run the organization. S. Yetter agreed and is pleased that talented volunteers with interest in what the TCPDC does have helped make the experience of serving on the board a positive experience. Mr. Kelsey added that it has been a good learning experience with an active, involved board that continues to look for ways to not only reduce blight but rehabilitate properties. Ms. Sauerbrey concurred and noted that the rehabilitated houses provide homes for people to raise their families. Mr. Whitmore researched the TCPDC and understands the work being done and agrees with the path it is on to improving our county. Mr. Kelsey and Ms. Sauerbrey also expressed some of the challenges the TCPDC faces in the work that it does. Ms. Woodburn noted that Mr. Whitmore has experience as a property owner and in that capacity he worked on a recent NYMS project on North Avenue, Owego. Discussion ensued regarding a property that will be a new acquisition and the plans for rehabbing it. Mr. Kelsey explained when and how often the board meets and Mr. Whitmore stated he has flexibility in his schedule to be able to attend the meetings. Ms. Woodburn briefly explained how the TCPDC has been funded thus far and the board's desire to diversify their revenue streams in order to continue in the event that grants are not available. Mr. Kelsey thanked Mr. Whitmore for his time and Mr. Whitmore departed the meeting at 3:30 PM. The board continued their discussion and reviewed the number and types of board members required by their by-laws.

Motion: The Governance Committee make a recommendation to the full board to appoint Josh Whitmore to the TCPDC Board of Directors:

M. Sauerbrey/R. Kelsey/Carried

None Opposed

No Abstentions

b. Board Nominations for 2024

Ms. Woodburn asked the committee to consider the current officer positions and board member openings and asked for direction regarding discussing the positions with current and/or potential candidates. Mr. Kelsey suggested Hannah Murray to fill the Vice-Chair board position. The committee members were in favor and asked Ms. Woodburn to approach Ms. Murray and discuss this opportunity. Mr. Kelsey also suggested considering sharing the board meeting attendance record and policy at the Annual Meeting, highlighting the importance of attendance and participation. Ms. Woodburn noted that if Ms. Murray is interested in serving as Vice-Chair, then the Secretary position will be open. Mr. Kelsey suggested Lesley Pelotte for this position. Ms. Woodburn will talk to Ms. Pelotte. It was noted there are no term limits for officer positions but that when new board members are appointed, the committee structures will need to be reviewed and the new board members assigned. Ms. Woodburn informed the committee that Keith Correll, another potential board member, could not attend today's meeting but plans to attend the November 29th board meeting.

5. Meeting adjourned at 3:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Warfle, OSII

Tioga County Economic Development and Planning