

MEDC BULLETIN

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2006



"Serving Professional Massachusetts Economic Developers since 1963"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time you receive this newsletter the subzero temperatures will be a not-so-fond memory and the Red Sox will be well into spring training and getting ready for what I hope will prove to be another memorable season! I was honored to be nominated and elected President of MEDC at the last annual meeting. I look forward to working with the other officers and board members to insure that 2006 is a good year for MEDC.

I'd also like to reiterate my special thank you to Jeff Hayden and Bob Bateman for all the effort and energy they gave to MEDC last year. There is no doubt in my mind that MEDC turned a significant corner in 2005. Now the officers, board and entire membership must work to keep the momentum going.

For the upcoming year there are three main priorities which I would like the MEDC to focus on, as I outlined at the Annual Meeting this past December.

The first priority for 2006 is to provide ample opportunities to **network and communicate** with and learn from our members, other Economic Development professionals and State policy makers. A new initiative in 2006 which will improve communication and also serve as a resource for MEDC members is the redesign and upgrade of MEDC's website. Bridgewater State's Institute for Regional Development (IRD) is providing design services that include: creative direction; usability and graphic design; page layout; and proofing of provided copy. IRD will work cooperatively with an ad hoc committee of MEDC members to develop a web site that meets the needs of MEDC. IRD will also host our website on the college server. *(continued on page 4)*

Lt. Governor Healey To Speak at April Meeting

MEDC's Spring meeting will be held at the State House on Monday, April 24th. Special guests for this event will include Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey and Secretary of Economic Development Ranch Kimball. The topic of the meeting will be economic development policy in the Commonwealth.

MEDC members are encouraged to invite their legislators as their guests for "Bring You Legislator Day". The luncheon will take place at 12:15 P.M., and the Lieutenant Governor is sched-

*"Bring Your
Legislator
Day"*

uled to speak at 1:00 P.M. Contact your Legislator and encourage him/her to join the MEDC membership for this portion on the meeting.

Watch your e-mail and postal mail for more details about this event and for the registration information and materials.

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BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE HOSTS MEDC 2005 ANNUAL MEETING

The 2005 MEDC Annual Meeting was held on the campus of the Bridgewater State College (BSC) on December 2, 2005, thanks to the sponsorship of the Institute for Regional Development, and the efforts of their staff Jennifer Reid and Moira O'Brien. Over forty members and guests were in attendance at this state-wide, important economic development event. In addition to hearing several guest speakers, those present participated in a business meeting, where the Council's Articles of Organization were amended and three new members were elected to the Board of Directors.



Incoming MEDC President Rob Hubbard presents Jeff Hayden with a plaque commemorating his work as MEDC President.

BSC's Master of Public Administration Program Coordinator, Dr. Wendy Haynes, greeted the membership. Dr. Haynes stated that she is interested in working with MEDC to identify "core competencies" required by today's job market. Dr. John Mullin, Dean of Graduate Students, UMASS – Amherst, also spoke regarding the current geo-economic profile of Massachusetts and how demographics impact the Commonwealth's economic future.



Dr. John Mullin, Dean of Graduate Students, UMASS Amherst addresses the MEDC.

Secretary of Workforce Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Ms. Jane Edmonds presented a dynamic luncheon address on the Massachusetts workforce training programs and their importance related to economic and workforce development. Following her remarks, Mr. Terry Fancher, Executive Director of the Tri-Town Development Corporation discussed the comprehensive planning process and vision for the South Weymouth Naval Air Station, specifically related to the balance of the Redevelopment Program as environmentally sensitive, economically viable and technically sound.

The membership voted to amend the Council's Articles of Organization to allow for staggered terms of the Board of Directors. This amendment will be submitted to the Secretary of State's Office along with the 2006 MEDC Annual Report.

Following the business meeting and the luncheon, the Board of Directors met and elected MEDC Officers for 2006, approved the 2006 Annual Budget, and planned meeting and programs schedule for the year ahead (see box on page 5).

MEDC BOARD VOTES TO EXECUTE IEDC MOU

The MEDC Board of Directors recently voted to authorize past President Jeffrey Hayden to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Economic Development Council. The MEDC, along with sixteen other State Associations, including Connecticut and Maine, made this exciting decision to affiliate our organizations with the International Council.

The MOU outlines an agreed upon working relationship between IEDC and MEDC. Major objectives include shared access to products, services and professional information, a forum for association-to-association program development, and enhanced representation of economic organizations with public and governmental agencies.

The benefits of this agreement for MEDC include marketing of Council programs and conferences, member discounts for selected IEDC training



courses, and greater access to the IEDC.

Annual Salary Survey, copies of the IEDC Regional and State economic development associations directory, complimentary IEDC membership, and a discount registration to the IEDC Annual Conference for the MEDC Executive Director.

In addition, MEDC will co-sponsor the Annual Economic Development Summit held in Washington, D.C. each year, and will have access to IEDC professionals as speakers for various

MEDC meetings and conferences.

MEDC President Rob Hubbard enthusiastically stated: "IEDC is MEDC's connection to the Washington establishment and the federal economic development agencies, so it's in our interest to establish and maintain an ongoing working relationship with the IEDC, I am looking forward to this partnership."

ROMNEY TAPS BEVILACQUA TO CHAIR WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Governor Mitt Romney named Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce President Joseph Bevilacqua as Co-Chairman of the Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board (MWIB) last October. Bevilacqua, a current MWIB member, replaces former Chairman Len Wilson, who resigned from the board earlier this year.

"As a chamber president, Joe recognizes we must continue to strengthen our workforce development system in Massachusetts," said Romney. "His experience and interest in education and workforce development issues makes him uniquely qualified to serve in this important role."

A resident of Haverhill, Bevilacqua heads the largest chamber within the Merrimack Valley region, serving more than 1,000 business members. He is a former chairman of the New England Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and a recipient of that association's Economic Development Achievement Award. Bevilacqua is also president of the Haverhill School Committee.

"One of the most pressing issues of our time is making sure citizens are skilled and prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century," said Bevilacqua. "I want to thank Governor Romney for the opportunity to continue to serve the Commonwealth."

The Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board, under the Department of Workforce Development, was created in 2000 following the enactment of the federal Workforce Investment Act law in 1998. The MWIB, directed by Peter Torkildsen, advises the governor on ways to continuously improve the workforce development system. The 65-member board is comprised of a majority of representatives from the private sector and includes legislators, local workforce boards, labor unions and community-based organizations.

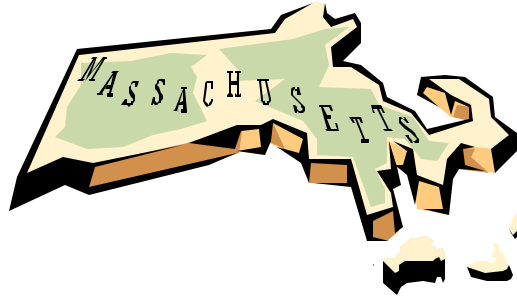
(Press Release prepared by Linnea Walsh of the Massachusetts Department of Workforce Development)

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

This year MEDC will offer two conferences and an Advanced Seminar in 2006 – checkout the “Dates to Save” section. In addition, discussions are ongoing with the Massachusetts Association of Planning Directors and the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association about participating in one or both of their annual meetings. MEDC has been asked to organize a panel session on economic development – any ideas about relevant topics and or suggestions for panelists are both welcomed and encouraged.

The newsletter will continue to improve as well – we’ve finalized an agreement with Bridgewater State’s IRD to design and administer quarterly newsletters in 2006. The addition of color printing will be the most obvious upgrade.



The second priority for MEDC in 2006 is to take a more active and public role in **legislative affairs** that impact our profession. I will be asking the Board of Directors to establish a legislative affairs committee to consider how to best monitor state activity impacting the field of economic development and how to better engage our members in policy activities. One suggestion already on the table is the creation of a contact list using e-mail addresses so timely information about legislative issues can be distributed to members who then can seek out their legislators on important issues impact us all.

Our last priority is to continue to recruit **new members**, I’ve ask each board member to reach out personally to two or three prospective members. I’m happy to report that several board members have already achieved this goal. Specifically, Gregg Simon of the Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development, a new board member deserves a special thank you. Gregg took my request very seriously and has reached out to literally dozens of economic development professionals. The final count is still not in but I think it is safe to credit Gregg with signing up at least six new members! Thanks again to Gregg for his initiative in developing and growing the membership of MEDC.

Let me close by again expressing my thanks to the membership for electing me President of MEDC, please feel free to contact me and let me know what MEDC can do to better serve you professionally.

Sincerely,

Rob Hubbard

MEMBER PROFILE

Ranch Kimball



Mr. Ranch C. Kimball is the Secretary of Economic Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As Governor Romney's chief economic advisor, he oversees the Department of Labor, the Department of Workforce Development,

the Department of Business & Technology, and the Office of Consumer Affairs & Business Regulation.

Secretary Kimball has his finger on the pulse of the Massachusetts economy. Since being appointed in April 2004, Kimball launched the Business Resource Team (a one-stop approach for businesses seeking state assistance), helped write the Governor's Economic Stimulus Bill filed in March 2005, and took a lead role in promoting the Governor's health care reform package. He serves on the boards of MassPort and MassDevelopment.

Kimball has also been recognized for his contributions in making Massachusetts a better place to run a business. The Massachusetts Network Communications Council named Kimball one of its "Policy Makers of the Year" for 2005.

With more than 25 years of private sector experience helping businesses grow and succeed, Secretary Kimball is uniquely qualified to set the direction of the Commonwealth's economic development policies and initiatives.

Previously, Kimball led the creation of a private equity unit for Kissinger McLarty Associ-

ates. Earlier, he was a partner with Boston Consulting Group, working extensively with technology, telecommunications, manufacturing, media and healthcare companies during his 16 year tenure.

Kimball is also very involved in his community. He has worked with many boards and committees in support of a variety of public policy and children's issues, including Boston's WGBH-TV and Children's Television Workshop, the producers of "Sesame Street."

Kimball received an A.B. in Economics from Princeton University in 1980, and lives in Brookline with his wife and son. In his spare time, he enjoys eco-challenge adventure racing.

2006 OFFICERS & NEW DIRECTORS ELECTED DURING ANNUAL MEETING

At the MEDC Annual Meeting the following Officers were elected by the Board of Directors to serve one year terms:

- Rob Hubbard**, Gardner Redevelopment Authority; President
- Ralph Carlson**, Economic Development Council of WMASS; 1st Vice President
- Christopher Paquette**, City of Leominster, 2nd Vice President
- Carl Eger, Jr.**, Holyoke Economic Development and Industrial Corp.; Treasurer
- Kathleen McCabe**, McCabe Enterprises; Secretary

The membership elected the individuals listed below to the Board of Directors during the business meeting:

- Tyler Fairbank**, Berkshire Economic Development Corp.; Berkshire Region;
- Daniel Curley**, City of Fitchburg; Central Region
- Gregg Simon**, Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development; At-Large

All new Directors were elected to unexpired terms. Their terms of office expire on December 31, 2007.



Bob Bateman
 Executive Director
 C/O HEDIC
 One Court Plaza
 Holyoke, MA 01040
 Telephone: (508) 487-7254
 Email: MEDC.EXECORD@EARTHLINK.NET

MEDC EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Rob Hubbard

MEDC President
 Gardner Redevelopment Authority
 Executive Director
 (978) 630-4014

Ralph Carlson

MEDC First Vice-President
 EDC of Western Massachusetts
 Vice President of Marketing
 (413) 593-6421

Vacant

MEDC Second Vice-President

Carl Eger, Jr.

MEDC Treasurer
 Holyoke Economic Development &
 Industrial Corporation, Chairman
 (413) 534-3773

Kathleen McCabe

MEDC Secretary
 McCabe Enterprises
 President
 (617) 247-7800

MEDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In addition to the Officers, the following individuals are members of the

Board of Directors:

- Tyler Fairbank**, Berkshire
- Edgar Alejandro**, Pioneer Valley
- Dan Curley**, Central
- Gaylord Burke**, Northeast
- Bruce Hughes**, Southeast
- Leslie Richardson**, Cape & Islands
- Thomas Miller**, Greater Boston
- Greg Simon**, At-Large
- Jeffrey Hayden**, Chairman, Council of Past Presidents
- Bob Bateman**, Executive Director

ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN MEDC TODAY!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEDC Membership (individual) -	\$75.00
MEDC Membership (second or more from same organization)	\$60.00
Joint MEDC/NEDA Membership - (new membership to both organizations rate)	\$150.00

Name _____

Title/Organization _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail Address _____

Website **Send your application form and check, payable to MEDC, to:**
 Rob Hubbard, MEDC President
 Executive Director, Gardner Redevelopment Authority
 115 Pleasant St., Rm. 201
 Gardner, MA 01440



DATES TO SAVE

April 20, 2006, 8:00-10:00 a.m.

“Favorable Financing for Manufacturers”, Mass. Alliance for Economic Development
 MassDevelopment, Mass. Manufacturing Ext. Partnership, MEDC, KPMG
 Worcester Chamber of Commerce, Fuller Conference Room
 339 Main Street, Worcester, MA
 Please RSVP to: RSVP@massecon.com or call 781-489-6262 x15 by April 11, 2006

April 24, 2006

MEDC Business Meeting, Conference,
 Board of Directors’ Meeting
 State House, Boston

June 8 - 9, 2006

MEDC co-sponsoring a panel
 “Economic & Community Development Delivery Models”
 at MA Association of Planning Directors’ Annual Meeting
 Lowell, MA

June 16, 2006

Mass. Alliance for Economic Development; Summer Conference
 Newton Marriott

October 15-17, 2006

NEDA Annual Conference
 Meredith, New Hampshire

December 1, 2006

MEDC Annual Meeting Conference,
 Member of the Year, Board of Directors’ Meeting

WWW.MASSEDC.ORG