

Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) Stakeholder Advisory Board

Tuesday, April 28, 2020
1:00 PM

Call in info

- Dial the call in number: [1-800-356-8278](tel:1-800-356-8278)
- Enter the 6 digit conference code: 194655

Roll Call

- Deputy Director Joseph Doiron – GOFERR office, Lisa English, Rhonda Hensley, Nancy Smith, Wendy Gilman
- William Ardinger – home office, with wife, daughter and grandson
- Dean Christon – Office of the Authority in Bedford, alone
- Jim Jalbert – office in Portsmouth, alone
- Amy LaBelle – home office, alone
- Al Letizio Jr. – Charlestown office, alone
- Donnalee Lozeau – office in Manchester, alone
- Scott Mason – in his car on I93 heading north, alone
- Michelle McEwen – office at Speare Memorial, Plymouth alone
- Jeffrey Meyers – home in Concord, alone
- Nancy Merrill – office in Claremont, alone
- Hollie Noveletsky – Greenland office, alone
- Kathleen Reardon – home in New Boston, husband in another room
- Ben Wilcox – office at Cranmore, alone

Agenda

1. Roll Call and meeting information
2. GOFERR Presentation
 - a. Nancy Smith. Legal Counsel, GOFERR
 - b. Updates from GOFERR
3. Presentations
 - a. Patricia Lynch, Executive Director, The Music Hall
 - b. John Tinos, President, Tinos Pro Hospitality Group
 - c. Dr. Angelique Sawyer, Owner, Conway Eye Care and Coos Eye Care
 - d. Donna Hajjar, President, The Learning Path
 - e. Justin Slattery, NH Alliance of Regional Development Corporations; Jac Cuddy, Mt. Washington Valley Economic Council; Laurel Adams, Regional Economic Development Center
 - f. James Key-Wallace, Executive Director, Business Finance Authority

4. Other Business
 - a. What “Sectors” of NH’s economy should be considered for allocations from the Coronavirus Relief Funds?
5. Next meeting- Thursday April 30, 2pm

GOFERR Presentations - Nancy Smith, Legal Counsel for GOFERR

Allowed uses under the CARES Act requires that necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency:

- Must be used for actions taken to respond directly to the COVID-19 public health emergency;
- May include expenditures incurred to address medical or public health needs, as well as to respond to second-order effects of the emergency, such as providing economic support to those; suffering from employment or business interruptions
- Can’t be used to fill shortfalls in government with that budget
- Is for a substantially different use from any expected use of funds in such a line item, allotment, or allocation.
- The funds cannot be used to match other Federal monies. OMB Circular 2 CRF 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards does apply. Guidance from the U.S. Treasury mentions grants not revenue to cover expenditures that wouldn’t otherwise qualify under the statute;

Only certain costs not accounted for in the government’s budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 are permitted. Costs will, however, meet the above requirement if the cost:

Can’t lawfully be funded using a line item, allotment, or allocation loans.

Updates from GOFERR

An update to the Available Funding Chart was presented to the Stakeholder Advisory Board. The GOFERR website is now live.

Presentations:

Patricia Lunch, Executive Director of The Music Hall gave some background on her organization and the effects COVID-19 has had on the arts and entertainment industry including lost revenue, returning ticket fees and laying off employees. The arts and entertainment industry supports community businesses by bring the people in. Her request is for \$250,000 for hiring employees, revenue replacement and economic support.

John Tinios, President, Tinios Pro Hospitality Group told the Board about the effects COVID-19 and the Emergency Order was having on his 5 restaurants. And others in the hospitality industry. Three hundred and twenty (320) employees have been furloughed. Of the fifty-five (55) events booked, fifteen (15) have cancelled. Two of his restaurants have gotten Payroll Protection

Program (PPP) funds. He discussed expanding outdoor seating by using the parking lots and social distancing.

Dr. Angelique Sawyer, Owner, Conway Eye Care and Coos Eye Care, spoke on the effects COVID-19 was having on her industry. There are two-hundred and ten (210) optometrists in NH and she fears some of the very small ones won't survive or will have to merge with another group in order to survive. Both customers and employees are afraid of catching the virus. Employees may have to be incentivized in order to get them back. There is a need for more public awareness for the public who are afraid.

Donna Hajjar, President of The Learning Center spoke on the effects COVID 19 had on the child care industry. There are six-hundred and fifty-six (656) child care centers in NH. Prior to the The Learning Center closing, it was at full capacity. Staff are frightened to go to work and some make more on unemployment than at their job. Social distancing in the child care industry means that less children would be cared for simply due to lack of space. Temperatures would have to be taken at the door before entering.

Justin Slattery, NH Alliance of Regional Development Corporations; Jac Cuddy, Mt. Washington Valley Economic Council (MWVEC); and Laurel Adams, Regional Economic Development Center spoke on how their organizations would be able to assist in getting CARES Act funding out to affected businesses. Jac Cuddy's organization has been making loans to small businesses and has already done twenty-seven (27) loans for mostly hospitality/lodging and child care centers. All regional development corporations normally deal with business that are unable to obtain a bank loan so they are used to dealing with small businesses.

James Key-Wallace, Executive Director Business Finance Authority, asked that some of the CARES Act funds be deposited with the Business Finance Authority, which already has procedures in place, to fund business relief for small businesses and for hard hit industries.

Other Business

The Board discussed other Sectors of NH's economy that should be considered for allocations including, but limited to, long-term care, elder-care and health care.

Next Meeting – Thursday, April 30, 2020 at 2:00 PM for Non-Profit Sector discussions

Adjourned at 3:40 PM.

