

## DRAFT

### CTNEXT Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee

Minutes - Special Meeting  
Wednesday, January 10, 2018

A special meeting of the CTNext Higher Education Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee (the "Committee") was held on January 10, 2018 at Connecticut Innovations, 865 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

#### 1. **Welcome and Brief Introduction:**

Ms. Thames opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Committee Members Participating: James Boyle; Elena Cahill; Rebecca DelValle; Jeffrey Godley; Farenc Fazekes; Makeala Kingsley; Vince Murphy; Michael Nicastro.

Absent: Dana Cerone; Chris Hamer and Radenka Maric

Staff Attending: Ali Berman; Lisa Day; Jessica Dodge and Glendowlyn Thames

Other Guests: Jen Widness (CCIC); Rita Zangari (UConn); Gail Garber (UConn); Bart Kollen (DECD) and Deb Cummings, TEconomy Partners via Video Conference

Ms. Thames briefly reviewed goals and objectives for the meeting. She made mention of the direction the committee is going in and the greater context of the work.

#### 2. **Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Nicastro made a motion and Ms. Cahill seconded and the Advisory Committee members voted in favor of adopting the minutes from the November 14, 2017 meeting as presented.

Mr. Godley abstained from the vote.

#### 3. **CTNext Emerging Strategic Roadmap Study:**

Ms. Thames introduced Deborah Cummings of TEconomy Partners, LLC.

Ms. Cummings provided an overview of the Baseline Assessment on Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the CTNext strategic planning process which included the emerging strategies and actions.

A discussion ensued and questions were addressed.

**4. CTNext Programs Overview:**

Ms. Thames introduced Ali Berman, Program Manager who will be primarily responsible for the Innovation Places Program and the Higher Education Entrepreneurship and Innovation Fund. Ms. Thames provided some background and noted that Ms. Berman's knowledge and experience will be a great addition to the team.

Ms. Dodge provided a brief overview of the CTNext programs. Next steps were reviewed and upcoming events and meeting dates were noted.

**5. Department of Economic and Community Development Program Overview:**

Ms. Thames introduced Bart Kollen, Deputy Commissioner of Department of Economic and Community Development.

Mr. Kollen provided a brief overview of the Department of Economic and Community Development Programs and how they could align with the work of the Higher Education Initiative.

A discussion ensued and questions were addressed.

**6. Discussion around direction of Higher Ed Grants:**

Mr. Boyle, Co-Chairperson addressed the committee and facilitated a discussion amongst the committee members regarding feedback from the first round of applications and the direction moving forward for future rounds. A discussion ensued amongst the committee members with regards to strategy in motion, narrative, mission, how to work with partners going forward, specific topic areas for RFP's, dates for future RFP rounds and marketing.

**7. Meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

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James Boyle, Co-Chairperson