

MEDC BULLETIN



"Serving Professional Massachusetts Economic Developers since 1963"

MEMBER PROFILE RICHARD L. SHAFER

Richard L. Shafer is the Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Economic Development, City of Taunton. He was appointed to this position in 1992. He is also the Executive Director of the Taunton Industrial Development Commission and the Taunton Development Corporation. He has served in those capacities since 1987 and has been directly responsible for the development, marketing, and management of the 807-acre Myles Standish Industrial Park and the new 350-acre Liberty and Union Industrial Park, in addition to his citywide economic and industrial development duties.

Dick served as the President of the Massachusetts Development Council for four years; from 1997 through 2000. During his tenure, he undertook many new initiatives. Among them were the establishment of the MEDC Bulletin, the drafting of the Articles of Organization for the incorporation of the Council in 1998 (with assistance from Gus Yankopoulos), the creation of regional representation on the Board of Directors, the development of the MEDC website, and the dual membership program with NEDA. He continues to be involved in the MEDC leadership as a member of the Council of Past President.

A member of many local and regional organizations and committees, Dick has also served on the Board of Directors of the Northeastern Economic Developers' Association and has chaired that organization's Education and Wage and Salary Committees. He was a member of the NEDA Conference Committee of Massachusetts in both 1994 and 2004, when those conferences were locally sponsored by the MEDC. In each instance, he served in a leadership capacity and chaired various working committees.

At the present time, he is the Chairman of the City of Taunton Employment Task Force, the City of Taunton Economic Development Incentive Board, and the SRPEDD Regional Economic Strategies Committee. In addition, Dick is a member of the Governor's Regional Competitive Council - Southeast Region, the Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development and the Bristol Regional Employment Board. He is also the Clerk of the Southeastern Economic Development Corporation.

Richard earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and Business from the University of Kentucky and has continued his education by completing courses in Personnel, Management and Economic Development. In 1999, he was selected by the "Banker and Tradesman" as one of the 125 "Leaders Making a Difference".

Dick is married to Roberta, and the couple have an adult daughter named Susanna. They are all avid travelers, where often Dick has to be restrained from side trips to check out industrial parks, downtowns, neighborhood centers.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The newly elected MEDC Board of Directors met on January 21st to complete the Council's reorganization program and to plan for 2005. The meeting was attended by all of the Officers and five other Directors.

The Board voted to adopt new Rules and Regulations in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation approved by the Secretary of State in 1998. A copy of this document was recently emailed to you for your information by our Executive Director.

A number of topics for MEDC Conferences and Programs were discussed. Among them were Statewide Wireless Internet, Biotech Site Selection, Technical Training for Board members and Elected Officials, Best Practices in Mass. Economic Development, State Report of the Regional Competitiveness Councils' activities and results, and the Measurement of Economic Development initiatives. I will be doing follow-up work on these ideas with the Officers and our Executive Director to establish a firm schedule of events for the year.

On the systems side of the ledger, the Board expressed its desire to explore and establish affiliations with various colleges and universities to co-sponsor educational venues for the membership. Among those mentioned were the UMass Donahue Center, the Institute for Regional Development at Bridgewater State, and Northeastern University's Center for Urban and Regional Policy. This concept is consistent with Bob Bateman's vision of sponsoring "advanced seminars" for the membership. Also, discussed was the idea of working with State Agency staff to collect economic development information and providing it to practitioners in a systematic and timely manner.

All in all, a good and productive start to this year's itinerary of events was begun. I will keep the membership advised as we move forward. Your interest, involvement and support is important to the establishment of a successful and sustainable MEDC program in the months ahead of us.

Jeff Hayden

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MEDC ANNUAL MEETING DECEMBER 2004

The Annual Meeting of the Council, which was held on December 10th at the Devens Conference Center, was attended by approximately forty-five members, presentors and friends. Greetings were extended and an update of the Devens project were provided by Bill Burke, Executive Vice President of MassDevelopment. His agency was a co-sponsor of the event. Secretary of Economic Development Ranch Kimball was the keynote speaker.

Long time member Michael Lanava was honored as the Member of the Year. He has served the MEDC as its President in 1983 and 1984, as a member of the Board of Directors, and as the Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the last decade. He recently retired as the Executive Director of the Fitchburg Office of Economic Development and the Fitchburg Redevelopment Authority after 20 years of employment.

A Business Meeting was conducted and the membership was briefed on the reorganization of the Council and the planned programming for 2005 by President Jeffrey Hayden. Ralph Carlson, MEDC Treasurer, provided those in attendance with a financial report; and stated that the financial situation was stable and expected to improve during the months ahead.

A highlight of the Meeting was the recognition of two Past Presidents of the Council for exceptional service. Joseph Bevilacqua, MEDC President in 2000 and 2001, was given a plaque in thanks for his leadership and continuing commitment to the Council. He is now Chairman of the newly-formed Council of Past Presidents. Stephen Andrade, who co-chaired the very successful NEDA Annual Conference which was held in Boston in the fall, was cited for outstanding service to the profession and the MEDC. He served as President of the Council in 1993 and 1994, and has had a long involvement in the leadership of the organization.

A new Board of Directors was elected under the terms of the reorganization program. The newly seated Board contains fifteen voting members and two ex-officio, non-voting members. Regional representation is a feature of the new Board structure. Following the Annual Meeting of the membership, the Board held its first meeting to discuss 2005 programming and member services.



SECRETARY KIMBALL SPEAKS TO MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MEDC members are a diverse group. Members range in experience level, educational background,, geographic region and length of time in the economic development field. Membership allows networking opportunities with many different people as well as participation in timely professional programming.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If you have not renewed your membership yet for 2005, now is the time to do so. Send your check in the amount of \$45. Payable to MEDC to Lois Kudla, MEDC, %HEDIC, One Court Plaza, Holyoke, MA 01040

Any questions about your membership can be directed to **Bob Bateman @ 508-360-5414 (cell)**

BEVILACQUA RE-ELECTED AS NEW ENGLAND CHAIRMAN

Former MEDC President and Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Joseph J. Bevilacqua, has been re-elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the New England Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives for the year 2005. Bevilacqua, may be the first ever Chairman re-elected in the history of NEACCE, which was formed in 1981.

Bevilacqua will lead NEACCE, representing Chambers of Commerce from throughout the six New England States including affiliate organizations. He has previously served as the Chairman of the Massachusetts Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.

Since becoming Chairman of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, Joe has increased that organizations membership from about 400 to well over a 1000, making it the largest Chamber in the Merrimack Valley. President Clinton, Congressman Martin Meehan and former Governor Paul Cellucci have recognized him for his effective work.

Bevilacqua, who is now serving as Chairman of MEDC's Council of Past Presidents, said " I am honored to have been re-nominated and re-elected to again lead the New England Wide Chamber Association and look forward to continuing collaboration, partnership and achievement with Chambers from the six New England States and their respective State Associations.

Joe is married to Toni Ann and is the father of two boys, Joseph Louis and Michael Anthony. He is a Haverhill School Committeeman and previously served as Haverhill's Economic Development Director.



BEVILACQUA WITH SECRETARY KIMBALL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS/ 2005 OFFICERS ELECTED

The following slate of Directors and Officers were elected at the Council's Annual Meeting:

1. Jeffrey Hayden, City of Holyoke, President
 2. Rob Hubbard, City of Gardner, 1st Vice President
 3. Ralph Carlson, Economic Development Council of Wmass, 2nd Vice President
 4. Carl Eger, Jr., Holyoke Economic Development and Industrial Corporation, Treasurer
 5. Kathleen McCabe, McCabe Enterprises, Secretary
 6. No Representative, Berkshire Region
 7. Edgar Alejandro, Western Mass. Electric Co., Pioneer Valley Region
 8. Christopher Paquette, City of Leominster, Central Region
 9. Gaylord Burke, Merrimack Valley Planning Comm., Northeast Region
 10. Thomas Miller, Boston Redevelopment Authority, Gr. Boston Region
 11. Bruce Hughes, Old Colony Planning Council, Southeast Region
 12. Leslie Richardson, Cape Cod Comm., Cape & Islands Region
 13. Lynn Sand, 495/MetroWest Corridor Partnership, At-Large
- (All Directors were elected by the Membership to three year terms. The Officers, elected by the Board of Directors, will serve a one year term).

Members who serve on the Board of Directors by virtue of their status in the Council are:

14. Robert Bateman, MEDC Executive Director (ex-officio, non-voting)
15. Joseph Bevilacqua, Chairman, Council of Past Pres., Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce (ex-officio, non-voting)



Bob Bateman, Executive Director
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MEDC EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Jeff Hayden

MEDC President
Holyoke Office of Economic & Industrial
Development., Director
(413) 322-5655

Rob Hubbard

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

Ralph Carlson

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

Carl Eger, Jr.

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

Kathleen McCabe

MEDC Secretary
McCabe Enterprises, President
(617) 469-9444

MEDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In addition to the Officers, the follow-
ing individuals are members of the
Board of Directors:

Edgar Alejandro, Pioneer Valley
Christopher Paquette, Central
Gaylord Burke, Northeast
Bruce Hughes, Southeast
Leslie Richardson, Cape & Islands
Thomas Miller, Greater Boston
Lynn Sand, At-Large
Joseph Bevilacqua, Council of Past
Presidents
Bob Bateman, Executive Director

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The **Board of Directors** welcome these economic development
practitioners who have recently joined the MEDC:

Todd Brown, Tighe & Bond

Steven Greenberg, Natick Center Associates

Ranch Kimball, Massachusetts Secretary of Econ. Dev.

Samalid Maldonado, Pioneer Valley Reg. Plan. Comm.

Michael McCue, Town of Walpole

Martha Meaney, Metro West Econ. Research Center

Thomas Miller, Boston Redevelopment Authority

Dean Rizzo, Quincy 2000

Lynn Tokarczyk, Business Development Strategies, Inc.

Jonathan Tucker, Town of Amherst

Dana Whiteside, Boston Redevelopment Authority

SAVE THESE DATES

May 20, 2005 MEDC Business Meeting, Conference or
Seminar, Board of Directors' Meeting
Site to be determined

September 30, 2005 MEDC Business Meeting, Confer-
ence, Board of Directors' Meeting,
Meeting to be held in the "Berkshires"

October 8 through 11, 2005 NEDA Annual Conference,
Baltimore, Maryland

December 2, 2005 MEDC Annual Meeting, Conference,
Member of the Year, Board of Directors' Meeting
Bridgewater State College

WWW.MASSEDC.ORG

*If you have an idea for a future MEDC event in your area, please contact MEDC
President Jeffrey Hayden at (413) 322-5655, e-mail haydenj@ci.holyoke.ma.us or
MEDC Executive Director Bob Bateman at (508) 487-7254, e-mail
medc.execord@earthlink.net*