NYS Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2024
1pm-3:30pm

10B Airline Drive, Albany NY 12235, Apple Orchard Empire Conference Room
Virtual via WebEx

1. The NYS Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup was called to order by the the Chair, Commissioner Richard A. Ball, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*

Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup Members (In Albany & Virtual)

- Commissioner Richard A. Ball, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets (CHAIR)*
- Allison Stark, *Empire State Development (ESD Designee)*
- Mary Jeanne Packer, *Empire Sheep Producers Association*
- Rabbit Goody, *Thistle Hill Weavers*
- Mimi Prober, *Mimi Prober Designs*
- Lilly Marsh, *Lilly Marsh Studios*
- Jeff Silberman, *Hudson Valley Textile Project*
- Gail Parrinello, *Hudson Valley Textile Project*
- Steve Hadcock, *CCE Livestock Team*

NYS Agriculture and Markets Staff

- *Kelly Young, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
- *Lauren Williams, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
- *Kathryn Davis, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
- *Tim Sweeney, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
- Jessica Woodward, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
- Emily Cook, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
- Laura Smalley, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*

2. Welcome and Introductions from Commissioner Ball and Allison Stark

3. Review of Minutes from the previous meeting, led by Kathryn Davis
    a. There were no objections to the minutes

4. Update on Fashion Innovation Center
    a. Presentation on FIC by Ken Simons, *Fashion Innovation Center*

5. Update on NYS Hemp Investment
    a. Presentation by Tim Sweeney, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*

6. Marketing Updates
    a. Presentation by Jessica Woodward, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*
    b. Presentation by Laura Smalley, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*

7. Break

8. Update from the New York State Fair
    a. Presentation by Christina Tuff, *NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets*

9. Group Discussion
    a. Kathryn Davis led the Natural Fiber Textile Development Workgroup in a discussion responding to questions regarding the groups priorities, based on the 2023 report and the meeting presenters.
    b. For a detailed overview of this discussion, please view the recording of this meeting posted to the NYS Agriculture and Markets website here: https://agriculture.ny.gov/natural-fiber-textile-development-workgroup

10. Closing Remarks from Commissioner Ball

11. Lauren Williams adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm.