

RESOLUTION NUMBER 5, 2016

Resolution to adopt funding for the Ignite Erie Maker Equipment Pilot Project

Whereas, ECGRA has established the Ignite Erie Initiative as a funding stream to make both grants and mission-related investments within Erie County that support job creation through small business development, entrepreneurial education through the partnering organizations, and industrial development by partnering with industry; and,

Whereas, the Commonwealth found that “existing industrial, commercial, and other economic activities throughout this Commonwealth could become more competitive and could expand more rapidly if additional means of financing were available for modern buildings, plant facilities, modern machinery and equipment, and other capital needs;

Whereas, the Ignite Erie collaboration of universities, industry, financiers, and economic development agencies has identified the use of maker spaces as fertile environments for teams to prototype, experiment, and develop new products, and whereas these spaces, laboratories, and R&D facilities will be located in Erie County high schools, both public and parochial;

Whereas, the list of high schools and equipment to be purchased is listed in the attached Exhibit “A”;

Whereas, the funding for this pilot project will consist of \$45,000 from current Ignite Erie funding awarded to Penn State Behrend and Mercyhurst University in the name of the Ignite Erie Industry+University Business Acceleration Grant;

Whereas, in order to provide all schools that have identified a coordinator, trainer, and curriculum with maker equipment, the extent of which is outlined in the attached Exhibit “A”, the fiscal agent requests an additional \$25,000 to launch the pilot project;

Whereas, ECGRA’s Strategic Plan and economic development approach recognize the importance of educational entities that have as their mission the dual purpose of cultivating our region’s youth and the economy;

Whereas, the Ignite Erie Initiative project to provide maker equipment has been selected to execute an economic and workforce-driven strategy to alleviate unemployment, improve the prospects for youth, and benefit the industrial development of the region to the extent outlined in the attached Exhibit “A”;

Whereas, ECGRA declares the following milestones to be measured and analyzed as part of the pilot project, and the successful launch of the Maker Metro concept in the region’s high schools through:

- a. Purchase of maker equipment
- b. The education and training of the initiative’s liaisons in each high school
- c. The successful integration of the maker movement into regional high school curriculum;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, pursuant to the Economic Development Financing Law and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority Bylaws, resolves to adopt the Ignite Erie Maker Equipment pilot project to the extent outlined in this document and attachments.

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____.

This resolution was passed on the 10th day of March, 2016 by a vote of _____ - _____.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Chairman, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
March 10, 2016

ATTEST:

Secretary, ECGRA