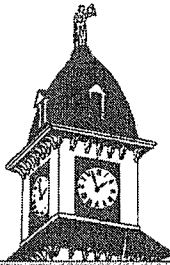




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# Leader-Enterprise

133rd Year, No. 2

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2007 • COUDERSPORT 16915

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## Expert Help Arrives For Local Job Crisis

By DONALD GILLILAND  
MANAGING EDITOR

Potter County's economic development task force will now have specialist help in preparing to recover from Time Warner's imminent pull-out.

The North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission has hired consultants to come in and help the Redevelopment Authority prepare to market the properties and employees that Time Warner is dropping next month.

Renaissance Partners, LLC, of Pittsburgh, is an investment-banking and business advisory firm that once focused primarily on steel and the in-

dustrial sector but has recently evolved to a focus on emerging technology opportunities as well.

"They specialize in crisis situations," said Doug Morley, chairman of the board of the Redevelopment Authority, which asked for the specialist help.

According to its website, Renaissance Partners offers "a distinctive blend of talents, including investment bankers, restructuring professionals, environmental consultants, technology experts, and financial advisers."

Morley said, "It became increasingly clear to me that we had limited

the magnitude of what was in front of us, and we needed to get experts on the ground."

Morley said he reviewed with the consultants what needed to be done, and said their "first assessment... was that's a rather tall task given the time we have."

"This requires strategic planning that - even for a company organized to do it - could take two years... we have about 60 days," he said. "Is that impossible? No. Is that a huge challenge? Yes."

Morley said the Redevelopment Authority's primary focus is on the

job, and the goal is to find them secure employment as quickly as possible.

"I now can say we do have in place the resources and the tools necessary to have that outcome occur as quickly as possible and have it be the best that we can come up with," said Morley.

He said Renaissance Partners "are going to put together an assessment of the situation - what the needs are, what resources are available - and from that determine what can be done."

Their analysis, he said, "will identify the best scenario; they will present it to us, and we will try to determine if any of the prospects are a fit... We

to companies saying, here's what we've got."

**Prospects Coming Forward**  
There are prospects out there - companies that are interested in doing business in Coudersport.

Late last month Time Warner sent a letter to US Senator Arlen Specter, Congressman John Peterson and Governor Ed Rendell in which they stated, "We have also identified two companies who are considering the possibility of doing business in Coudersport. It is our understanding that State Representative Martin Chausser is taking the lead role in building a plan

companies in touch with him."

The Renaissance Partners will be analyzing the assets, costs and other factors to determine which of the prospects are the best fit for what will be available.

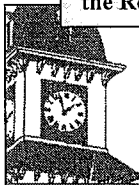
A key component, Morley noted, is that the interested companies have the capacity for a revenue stream that can support operations here over the long term.

Renaissance Partners will help analyze all the factors.

The Redevelopment Authority will Turn To EXPERTS  
ON PAGE 12

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