Minutes of the regular meeting of the UPSTATE NEW YORK REGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Monday, December 17, 2012 Federal Reserve Bank of New York 33 Liberty St., New York, NY

Present:

Bal Dixit, Chairman, Newtex Industries
Brent Saunders, CEO, Bausch & Lomb Incorporated
Julie Shimer, President and CEO, Welch Allyn
Robert L. Stevenson, President, Eastman Machine Company
Carlos Unanue, President, Goya de Puerto Rico, Inc.

Federal Reserve Bank of New York attendees:

James Bergin

John Clark

Christine Cummings

William Dudley

Krishna Guha

Kausar Hamdani

David Parkinson

Richard Peach

Rae Rosen

Ms. Cummings called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00 a.m.

1. The National Economy

Mr. Peach discussed U.S. domestic economic trends in 2012.

2. The International Outlook

Mr. Clark discussed developments in the Eurozone and trends in emerging markets.

3. Luncheon Discussion

Mr. Dudley joined the group for the luncheon discussion. Members were asked to comment on general business conditions over the course of 2012 as well as on any affects Superstorm Sandy may have had on their business. Members were also asked to share their expectations for 2013.

Some members reported relatively strong business performance in 2012, while others reported a decline from 2011. In general, members reported few to no disruptions associated with Superstorm Sandy given their firms' locations outside of the immediate path of the storm.

Looking forward to 2013, members' expectations ranged from slow to moderate growth.

Some members reported plans to hold their U.S. employment steady while others reported possible expansion in the next year. All members generally cited the difficulty of finding skilled employees.

Members reported that they are awaiting the outcome of the "Fiscal Cliff" negotiations but have not generally formulated specific plans in response.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.