



CAC Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 13, 2016
Bank of America Building, Suite 450

Allen Stucks called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

Committee Members present:

Allen Stucks	Jim Stevenson
Henree Martin	Kent Wimmer
Stewart Proctor	Peter Okonkwo
Gordon Hansen	Hugh Tomlinson

Committee Members absent:

Claudette Cromartie	George Smith
Neil Fleckenstein	JR Harding
Gina Kinchlow	

Guests/Presenters/Staff present:

Ben Pingree	Angela Ivy
Al Latimer	Susan Emmanuel
Cristina Paredes	Lindsey Volpe
Ed Young	Gray Swoope
Nancy Blum-Heintz	Megan Doherty
LaTanya Raffington	Shanea Wilks

Agenda Modifications

There were no agenda modifications.

Information Items

Item #1: Welcome and Opening Remarks

This item was informational only.

Item #2: Introduction of New OEV Director and Staff

This item was informational only.

Presentation Items

Item #3: Overview of OEV

Item #4: Introduction of Economic Development Strategic Plan

Item #5: Economic Development Strategic Plan

Item #6: Community Engagement Through a New Structure

Item #7: Next Steps

Item #8: Upcoming Events

Ben Pingree stated that staff's presentation blended the items of the agenda as the strategic plan was the singular focus of the meeting. Various staff members of the Office of Economic Vitality each spoke during the presentation; a copy of which is on file at Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency.

Regarding the MWSBE section, Allen Stucks stated that he needed to understand more fully how the consolidation of county and city programs would work; especially with the reduction of staff. Mr. Pingree stated that, if the CAC agreed, staff would host an in-depth presentation of the program at the December 2016 meeting. Mr. Stucks agreed.

Regarding Analytics and Data, Stewart Proctor questioned if it would be available via the OEV website. (oevforbusiness.org) Mr. Pingree stated that it was published to the site. If there was a specific data set that would be helpful though a call to the OEV offices and staff would gladly assist. Mr. Proctor stated that the old EDC website contained links to economic incentive areas, such as the CRA. Cristina Paredes stated that the information could be found under the "Engagement" section of the OEV site.

Allen Stucks requested an update on the Disparity Study. Cristina Paredes stated that the RFP was on the street with responses due by the beginning of November 2016. Following staff evaluation, the IA would award the contract at the February 2017 Board meeting. That would be the beginning of the 18-month study (completed in November 2018).

Regarding recruitment, Allen Stucks questioned if business resources that were not currently available in the Tallahassee area would be brought in. Mr. Pingree stated that there would be mechanisms for engagement of any company that would be recruited to support the creation and expansion of the related cluster ensuring their, and OEV's, ongoing success.

Jim Stevenson spoke about how economic and community development changed Orlando from an environmental perspective. He questioned how the strategic plan and its implementation would change the environment of Tallahassee over the next 20-years. Mr. Pingree stated that the document that best addressed Mr. Stevenson's concern was the Comprehensive Plan, developed by another sector of PLACE, the Planning Department. The strategic plan for OEV and the Blueprint plan for holistic infrastructure improvements and sensitive land protections, were aligned with the Comprehensive Plan. Both were also intended, in a non-mutually exclusive way, sought to have better connectivity in infrastructure and better economic vitality in a manner that

was supportive of the natural beauty and resources of Tallahassee and Leon County.

Henree Martin stated that one of the key elements of Blueprint was holistic planning. She felt confident that Mr. Pingree and the OEV staff would adhere to that as well. Therefore, any project that would be funded would take into consideration transportation, water quality, vegetation, natural features, etc. One piece that she encouraged all to keep in mind was that OEV operated under the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency and its original tenets remained unchanged.

Kent Wimmer stated that there were zero dollars allocated by the 2020 Blueprint sales tax extension for the conservation of natural lands. There was for stormwater cleanup but not land. Ms. Martin stated that there was a tremendous amount of money included for water quality which could be used to acquire endangered lands that effected water quality; such as flood plains. Mr. Wimmer argued that there was no money available for the conservation of upland areas. Ms. Martin was not in agreement, however, she stated that it was also not the subject of the present meeting. Mr. Wimmer connected his comments to Mr. Stevenson's earlier question of how the strategic plan would impact quality of life in Tallahassee. Ms. Martin stated, with all due respect, that line of comments, while important, seemed to take the meeting off course. They were gathered to understand the economic vitality element that fell under Blueprint and therefore was subject to review by the CAC. Mr. Wimmer was not certain that the plan even addressed it. Ms. Martin stated that the plan adhered to the Blueprint standards so it was inherent.

Mr. Pingree agreed with Ms. Martin regarding Blueprint tenets and stated that it had been impressed upon him that there was a different set of standards for Blueprint projects. He held every expectation that for brick and mortar projects constructed in accordance with the economic development component, would lean to that focus. Mr. Wimmer stated that his concern was how the plan would protect and take advantage of the natural resources of the area. How would it support the growth of environmental tourism? Mr. Pingree stated that the framework of the current conversation provided for the ability for more in depth conversations moving forward. The strategic plan was the structure that would allow for the development of a program of work, marketing plan for business, and a targeted industry sectors list that was unique to Tallahassee. As that was fleshed out it would reflect the principles and values of the community. That acknowledged, the plan was intent on growing business. It was an excellent question however the plan was not focused at the level of specificity Mr. Wimmer spoke to.

Mr. Pingree stated that in the 24-hours following the completion of the CAC meeting, staff would be disseminating the plan broadly, from the elected official through to interested citizens. He requested that the CAC review it as a framework document that could be expanded on. It would be presented to the IA at the October 27, 2016 special meeting along with the new structure and policies and procedures of the OEV. Nominations to the EDCC would be presented to the IA at the February 2017 Board meeting along with a work plan that supported each of the strategic goals and objectives and a marketing and communications plan.

Citizens To Be Heard

There were no additional citizens to speak.

Items from Members of the Committee

There were no additional items from members of the committee.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 7:15 pm.