

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, May 15, 2013 - MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mr. McDermott, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

2. Roll Call - Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB)

Present: Thomas Blawn Carol Kilian Phil Ehlinger Lawrence McDermott Ruth Trager
Bishop Derek Triplett

Absent: Tim Davis

Ex-Officio: Rob Ehrhardt, Volusia County Economic Development Manager
Keith Norden, Team Volusia Economic Development Corporation President/CEO

Chamber: Jim Cameron, V.P. Government Relations

Staff: Emory Counts, Economic/Community Development Director

3. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, April 17, 2013. *A motion to approve the Minutes of Wednesday, February 20, 2013, was made by Ms. Kilian, seconded by Mr. Ehlinger, and approved unanimously.*

4. Florida Department of Health, Volusia County *Suzanne Grubbs*

Ms. Grubbs reported about Employee Health in Volusia County. She commented that where eat, work and play really matters to our residents and employees' quality of life and that figures into their work productivity. We have very good clinical care in Volusia County but that only accounts for 20 percent of your overall health outcome. Other individual social habits such as tobacco and alcohol use and economic characteristics account for far more... about 40 percent. Health outcomes - Among the 67 counties Volusia County ranks 42nd in overall health outcomes; 45th in mortality; and 46th in morbidity. Health Factors - Among the 67 counties Volusia County ranks 30th in health factors; 33rd in health behaviors; 12 in clinical care; 38th in social & economic factors; and 11th in physical environment.

Activities such as walking, running, and sports contribute to a healthy lifestyle and ward off many illnesses. So promoting a healthy lifestyle is one of the many things we can do as neighbors, friends, and relatives to help the persons in which we come in contact. Last year, the Health Department conducted a "Walk-ability Audit" which assessed the ease with which persons can traverse our streets. They are using those results to help plan what may be needed in terms of retrofit or how we might plan to construct pedestrian and bicycle transportation routes in the future. She added that that obesity is one of the nation's fastest rising health problems where 2/3 of Americans older than 20 years are overweight and costs our economy about \$270 billion a year.

Ms. Grubbs observed that we can create a much healthier Daytona Beach/Volusia County if we reduce the overall smoking and alcohol use by just a few percentage points. One of best ways to help is to support employer-based health programs that advocate a healthy lifestyle.

5. Reports

A. Volusia County Economic Development (VCED) –*Rob Ehrhardt*

Mr. Ehrhardt congratulated the City on working with representatives of the Hardrock Hotel to bring it into the City. Next he discussed the *Q Report* that was delivered to the community last Friday which highlighted some of the good news happening in the County. He reported that unemployment was down and the sale of foreclosures is up, and so are many other positive

economic indicators. Generally, people are beginning to feel good about our economy and letting go of some their disposable income. He then talked about the *Economic Development Quarterly* which had been distributed earlier to Board members that featured a nice story about the grand opening of County's new Emergency Operations Center (EOC). He reported he had recently attended the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) Board of Visitors meeting where President Johnson gave a stirring report about the state of the university and his ambitious vision for its future. ERAU is working very hard to bring the Research Park online and on developing the kinds of partnerships that could bring viable tenants into the Park. It is hoped that the business spin-offs might give rise to a host of new jobs and business opportunities. He concluded by making the observation that the old Crane Cams building on Fentress has been leased where it had been sitting idle for some years and it's very exciting to see this potential for growth.

Mr. McDermott asked, in terms of business recruitment, how important is to have a good working relationships among the various educational institutions, for example, Bethune-Cookman, Daytona State College, UCF, and ERAU? Mr. Norden commented that the topic of education and training opportunities comes up at one time or another in each conversation to recruit a business.

B. Team Volusia Economic Development Corporation (TVEDC) – Keith Norden

Mr. Norden reported that TVEDC continues to be busy as evidenced by the uptick in project activity. There are several projects are currently in the pipeline that represent about 1210 jobs. One of the projects representing about 600 jobs has shortlisted Daytona Beach to be one of the top three locations. About 60-70 of these positions would be pretty high-paying jobs. Project Nickel was incentivized by S. Daytona and Beach and indeed has picked a location; however, their movement will depend on getting another client out of Venezuela and another regime has come into power there.

C. Vision Foundation –Larry McDermott, Vision Foundation Chair

Ms. McDermott reported that the Foundation is still working on setting up a clinic for the working uninsured between the ages of 18-65. The Affordable Healthcare Act still leaves many working persons uninsured as some businesses will try to employ people for fewer hours to avoid triggering mandatory healthcare coverage. He said over 60 percent of 18-65 group suffer from having inadequate healthcare. He announced that the Foundation close to cementing a real working relationship with Bethune-Cookman University to have their first full-fledged clinic on that campus.

6. New Business

Mr. McDermott commented the spaceport proposed by Space Florida is going to have positive ramifications for the whole of Volusia County. Mr. Ehlinger added that many of the products needed would either be flown into the City or manufactured in the County which will create more jobs.

A motion to approve that the City should pen a letter or otherwise indicate support for Space Florida to bring their spaceport to Volusia County, was made by Mr. Blawn, seconded by Ms. Kilian, and approved unanimously.

Mr. McDermott asked if Fentress Boulevard was in the Brownfield Area because he wants to address it as a special project of this Board. Mr. Counts responded that Fentress Boulevard is in the Brownfield Area.

7. **Old Business**

There was no new business brought before the Board.

8. **Citizens' Comments**

Ms. Johnnie Ponder commented that she is very happy to hear that the Board is interested in how the City looks including Fentress Boulevard. People that come into the City need to see something nice that would make them want to come and stay, and develop their businesses here. She commented that a lot of persons in the community don't know about all of the good things that are going on and offered that we need to work on getting the word out. She would like everyone to work together including the home owners, businesses, and etcetera to help us to look better and feel better about our City.

9. **Election of Officers**

A motion to approve Mr. McDermott as Chair and Ms. Trager as Vice-Chair, was made by McDermott, seconded by Mr. Ehlinger, and approved unanimously.

10. **Schedule next meeting – May 15, 2013**

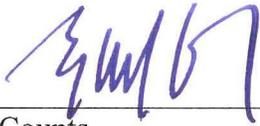
(Additional meetings will be scheduled to accommodate business development needs)

2013 Proposed Meeting Schedule:

January 16;	April 17;	July 17;	October 16;
February 20;	May 15;	August 24;	November 13;
March 20;	June (no meeting);	September 18;	December 18;

11. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 A.M.



Emory Counts
Director Economic/Community Development

Adopted: July 17, 2013