

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Wednesday, August 21, 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 Tim Davis Phil Ehlinger Lawrence McDermott Ruth Trager

Absent: Carol Kilian Bishop Derek Triplett

Ex-Officio: Rob Ehrhardt, Volusia County Economic Development Manager

Chamber: Jim Cameron, V.P. Government Relations

Staff: Emory Counts, Economic/Community Development Director

**3. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday, May 15, 2013**

*A motion to approve the Minutes of Wednesday, August 21, 2013, was made by Ms. Trager, seconded by Mr. Blawn, and approved unanimously.*

**4. Brownfield Advisory Committee -Clyde Morris Boulevard Cleanup– J.R. Sloane, City Engineer**

Mr. Sloane reported the City had received some bad news from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) about the June sampling of the well-water at the Clyde Morris site. Unfortunately, a couple of the wells that had been showing up as clean were now showing some small levels of contamination. Consequently, DEP asked that a few more wells be installed and that further sampling occur in November, afterwards they would review the sample data and advise us about next steps. Although some of the contaminated material is being removed from the site the cleanup cost is still estimated to be around \$10 million dollars. The City is diligently looking for ways to fund that cleanup cost and hired a forensic archeologist to help identify responsible entities, as well as, any applicable insurance policies that might have been in place. One such policy was found that was in force at the time of the contamination and looks promising as a funding source. Even though the insurance company has changed hands several times over the years the responsibility remains with the owner-company.

In the past, not much was known about the long-term effects of waste storage and just about anything could be dumped untreated into a landfill. Two processes are being looked at to clean-up the Clyde Morris site (1) a chemical is inserted into the ground and actually burns or oxidizes the contaminant; and (2) very large augers are drilled into the ground and concrete is mixed in with it to surround the material and keeps it from spreading. Mr. Sloane noted that the good news about this land is that it has real value estimated to about \$2 million dollars and will be used since it is located very near the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) Research Park.

Mr. Sloane was asked to comment about the Fentress Boulevard Business Park since it was probably the first in the City. He reported that several years ago Fentress Boulevard was widened from about 9 feet wide to about 11-12 feet wide. Since the Park was built much development and several commercial buildings have grown up in that area and perhaps utilities and other parts could be looked at to see if additional updates may be needed. It would still not be a quick fix as the funding for any improvements would still need to be found.

**5. Reports**

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

Mr. Ehrhardt started by noting a few important upcoming events including the 7<sup>th</sup> *Annual Manufacturer's Showcase*. It is being put on by the Volusia Manufacturers Association (VMA) on Wednesday, 9-18-13, 2:00 pm-7:00 pm at the ICI Center at ERAU. This year's theme is "We make It Here" and more than 100 vendors have already signed up. *The Symetra Golf Tournament* which will take place over four-days this year, September 26<sup>th</sup> - September 29<sup>th</sup>, instead of the three days it had been in the past. One of the goals is to grow the golf tournament into a week-long event. Important supporters of this tournament include the City of Daytona Beach, Volusia County, ERAU, Brown & Brown, and TVEDC. Mr. Ehrhardt also reviewed some of the statistics and relevant stories in the *Economic Development Quarterly Report*.

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

The Report from TVEDC was attached to the meeting materials for the Board. Neither Mr. Norden nor Ms. Mott could attend due to other commitments.

**C. Daytona Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce – Jim Cameron**

Mr. Cameron reported the Chamber is interviewing 5-6 candidates this week for its Executive Director position which had earlier been vacated by Larry McKinney. He expected they would formally hire the new Executive Director during the September 26<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. George Mirabal, the current acting Executive Director, is expected to stay on about a month after the hiring to help out with the orientation. Mr. Cameron was not sure who would represent the Chamber on this Board afterwards.

**D. Vision Foundation –Larry McDermott, Vision Foundation Chair**

Ms. McDermott again announced that the Vision Plan Review is scheduled to be held September 14, 2013, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, at the Police Station. He urged the community to attend as this will be a one-day event to review the current Vision Plan document and edit it into a smaller document that can be more easily used. There is also a survey being sent out to community members to solicit information about issues to be discussed at the event.

**6. Fentress Boulevard Strategy Plan**

Mr. Ed Schwarz, an owner of several properties in the Fentress Boulevard Business Park spoke to the Board about the Park and what it might take to revitalize it. He recalled that the Business Park was old having been built about 50 years ago. Some of the community leaders at the time thought the City needed a business park and site was chosen, and ultimately the road was put in by Consolidated Tomoka Land Development Company. Mr. Schwarz's father was the first tenant in the Park and owned the Florida Production facility. Presently, there are major design problems at the entrance to the Business Park since the 7-11 on the corner, as well as, several other commercial properties along ISB obscure its location. The entrance-way road is narrow although the road was widened some years ago... it could be widened more and have curbs on the side as it is not on the level of some of newer business parks. The storm drainage out there in the Park could also be improved. A recurrent topic during Mr. Schwarz's talk was that the directory sign that has deteriorated and reportedly more than half the businesses listed on it are no longer in the Park. He felt that the owners along Fentress would participate to match any dollars "put up" by the City to fix the directory sign. He did mention starting a property owners association to assist with maintenance and other issues. Mr. Cameron commented that he supports updating the sign and would recommend that it be placed on the list of next year's Chamber recommendations.

7. **Old Business**

There was no old business brought before the Board.

8. **New Business**

There was no new business brought before the Board.

9. **Citizens' Comments**

There were no new comments brought before the Board.

10. **Schedule next meeting – October 16, 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 21;	November 13;
March 20;	June (no meeting);	September 18;	December 18;

11. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 A.M.



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Emory Counts  
Director Economic/Community Development

Adopted: September 18, 2013