

# **Economic Development Advisory Committee**

**Thursday**

**June 10, 2010**

**7:00 PM**

City Council Chambers

16 Colomba Road

DeBary, Florida 32713

## **MINUTES**

### **I. Call to Order**

Chair Vihlen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **II. Roll Call**

Present: Chair Sid Vihlen, Dawn Fitzpatrick, Nathan Enright, John Atkinson, and Chris Yacenda

Absent: Vice Chair Val Emerson (excused), Jim Chestnutt (excused), Kristi Knight (excused)

Also present: City Manager Dan Parrott

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

- Meeting of May 13, 2010

Chair Sid Vihlen entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Atkinson moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Fitzpatrick seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

### **IV. Old Business**

- City Brochure Update

Mr. Parrott stated that the City has been in contact with John Kizer and that Mr. Kizer has received all of the pictures to be included in the brochure, which also includes a picture of the Gateway Center for the Arts. Mr. Parrott noted that Mr. Kizer would print some mock up designs on a glossy finish for the Committee to choose from and would print the final design.

- DeBary Business Organization

Chair Vihlen stated that he, Vice Chair Emerson, and Mr. Yacenda have volunteered to be a sub-committee to the DeBary Business Organization. He said that a full report would be given at the next scheduled Committee meeting regarding questions that arose at the May 15, 2010 meeting.

### **V. New Business**

- Presentation by Jose Carmona Regarding Global Educational Institute

Mr. Parrott introduced Mr. Carmona and Luis Laboy and stated that they are interested in establishing a technical college within the City of DeBary.

Mr. Carmona stated that the school they plan to open would not be based solely on technical learning, but will also focus on other academic areas of learning; that the mission of Global Technical College is to provide accessible, functional, and short term academic programs to prepare community members to join the workforce; that he hopes to operate it at a not for profit level; and that the broad idea would be to help DeBary residents, as well as surrounding communities, gain knowledge through cost efficient, short term courses of learning.

Mr. Carmona discussed his for profit business he owns in Daytona, Global Educational Institute. He said that it is considered a pre-college and offers language classes only.

Mr. Carmona described in greater detail the learning skills and objectives that he hopes Global Technical College could offer to help enhance a multi-cultural community. He suggested programs such as business administrative, computers, criminal justice, culinary management, early childhood education and childcare, hotel/motel management, language education and ESL, office administration, paralegal and legal assisting, translating/interpreting, and other industry tailored programs. Additionally, he noted that there are industries in the area that wish to help get people prepared to enter their workforce.

Mr. Laboy said that the programs could be tailored, and the college could contact interested industries to form an educational plan to help better prepare those who seek to join a particular industry. He said it is a pro-community opportunity that they would offer.

Mr. Carmona said that all the courses are offered by the Department of Education and offered a timeline of what has taken place thus far to set up the college. He noted that the Board of Trustees would need to be set up. Mr. Carmona said that the college hopes to offer scholarships, grants, and other forms of help for the community to partake in the educational benefits. He said the college would be comprised of 100-500 students, and he hopes to open its doors by the spring of 2011.

Chair Vihlen asked Mr. Carmona what size footage is specifically needed and what the capitalization looks like to open the school doors. Mr. Carmona answered that he would need close to 5,000 square feet and \$70,000 -\$75,000 in capitalization.

Chair Vihlen asked where the student base would come from. Mr. Carmona answered that students would come mostly from DeBary, but they could also come from surrounding cities. He noted that the college is not looking to compete with other technical colleges in the nearby area but hopes to offer classes that they lack.

Mr. Enright asked what the tuition would be for students. Mr. Carmona answered that it would be based on how many students are enrolled in the beginning, but that they want to keep costs low, somewhere around \$150.00 per credit hour. He also noted that they would accept foreign students, and that would help bring in more money to help the school.

Chair Vihlen asked if they would be using any federal or state government programs. Mr. Carmona answered that they would have programs linked to government help and a college with a not for profit status can get more help than one with a for profit status.

Ms. Fitzpatrick asked if the college would offer accredited courses. Mr. Carmona responded that because the curriculum comes from the Department of Education, the courses are accredited through the State of Florida. He provided further explanation on accreditation of individual courses.

Chair Vihlen asked how the Committee could be of assistance to Mr. Carmona, Mr. Laboy, and Mr. Parrott. Mr. Carmona answered that they would need help looking for ten to fourteen members to appoint the board of trustees, as well as locating a building for the college.

Mr. Yacenda stated that the Committee could help find a location that would accommodate building space, parking, and flow of traffic in the general area, as well as future expansion.

By consensus, the Committee agreed that Mr. Parrott could work with Mr. Carmona and Mr. Laboy in helping to set up Global Technical College by referring them to the Volusia County Economic Development Office.

The Committee discussed alternate location possibilities and possible ways of finding members for the board of trustees.

**VI. Public Participation**

None.

**VII. Adjournment**

Chair Vihlen announced the meeting was adjourned at 7:40p.m.

**APPROVED July 8, 2010  
CITY OF DeBARY  
Economic Development Advisory Committee  
Chair Sid Vihlen**