

City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Minutes

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

5:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room (16)

Economic Development/University Community Com

*Commissioner Randy Wells, Chair
Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Todd Chase, Member
Mayor Ed Braddy, Member*

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Wells called the meeting to order at 5:12PM

ROLL CALL

*Commissioner Wells, Commissioner Chase, Mayor Braddy
Guests: Commissioner Hinson-Rawls, Dug Jones, Angela Pate,
Kim Tesch-Vaught, Dean Cheshire*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Adopted

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[140526.](#) Economic Development/University City Committee Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2014 (B).

Attachments: [140526_Minutes_20141217.pdf](#)

RECOMMENDATION *The Economic Development/University City Committee approve the minutes of the August 27, 2014 meeting as submitted.*

Approved as Recommended

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

The minutes are a summary of the meeting and are not verbatim discussion. A copy of the meeting recording will be provided upon request.

Agenda items 140353 and 130498 were discussed simultaneously.

[140353.](#) **Evergreen Cooperative Initiative Model (B)**

Attachments: [140353 MOD evergreen 20141002.pdf](#)
[140353 Evergreen Cooperatives Model 20141217.pdf](#)

Economic Development and Innovation Director Erik Bredfeldt introduced this agenda item. He described the Evergreen Cooperative Initiative model in Cleveland as a holding company to catalyze new businesses (laundry, solar and a greenhouse) owned by the employees. Citizens from six distressed Cleveland neighborhoods participate in the Evergreen Cooperative, leading to gainful employment and living wage jobs. This model has been successful but requires many institutional partners to manage it. The City of Cleveland's role is to help steer the procurement and purchasing in a way that would be beneficial to the success of the Evergreen Cooperative businesses.

RECOMMENDATION *The Committee members discuss the Evergreen Cooperative Initiative Model.*

Discussed**130498.**

Strategic Initiative 3.5 - Work collaboratively with community economic development and workforce partners to attract, retain and nurture a diverse and skilled work force in order to strengthen the City's overall human capital capacity.

Attachments: [130498_Strategic Initiative 3.5_20140827.pdf](#)
 [130498_SI 3.5 Workforce Development Programs_20141217.pdf](#)

At the August 2014 EDUCC meeting, Erik Bredfeldt was asked to look at the Gainesville workforce issue in a traditional sense, focusing on the building construction industry. The City of Gainesville has an opportunity to partner in entrepreneurship programs locally or do something more globally, similar to the Evergreen Cooperative Initiative, to engage people who need jobs and skills. The Gainesville Housing Authority recently presented their model. Local partners could expand on the Gainesville Housing Authority model to align similarly to the Evergreen Cooperative Initiative.

In 2005 CDBG funds were allocated for the use of small business loans totaling approximately \$75,000. The City Commission can repurpose this money to be used for start-up funds that train citizens from distressed neighborhoods and the hard to employee. Career Source of North Central Florida received grant money for training citizens in poverty, the long-term unemployed, and for internship positions. Angela Pate and Kim Tesch-Vaught volunteered the services of Career Source of North Central Florida; and to create an asset map of area resources.

RECOMMENDATION *The Economic Development/University City Committee discuss Workforce Development programs and provide direction.*

A Motion was developed by the Committee members to: 1) Supply comprehensive information and components to assist Career Source of North Central Florida in the creation of an area assets map; 2) Directed Erik Bredfeldt, Economic Development and Innovation Director, to work with community partners and committees to identify areas where the City can plug-in to gaps without duplicating existing efforts; and 3) Effectively contact local businesses to identify the number of positions that they would be willing to make available if there were training programs targeting that position (creating a connection between the training and employment).

Approved by Consensus

MEMBER COMMENT

Mayor Braddy shared an article scorecarding cities for their friendliness to transportation-for-hire companies like Uber, as well as rating cities on their restrictions for taxi and limo service.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2015 at 5:00PM in the Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room (#16).

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Randy Wells adjourned the meeting at 6:22PM.