

MINUTES

MEETING: GO Topeka Board of Directors

PLACE: Chamber Board Room

TIME: 7:30 a.m.

DATE: April 1, 2005

Present: Carl Koupal, Andy Jetter, Rick Jackson, Linda Ramirez Gonzalez, Sister Loretto Marie Colwell, Lucky DeFries, Jim Haines, Maynard Oliverius, Mike Wilson, Dan Woodard, Ed Carmona, Connie Goodnow, Kris Kitchen, Matt Sabatini, Ken Schmanke, Neil Fisher, Bob Schuster, Kathleen Urbom, Dr. Jerry Farley, Commissioner Vic Miller, Council Member Lisa Stubbs, Mayor James McClinton, David Kerr, Vince Frye, John Myers

Guests: Mel Chapman, Kevin Beck, Cook, Flatt & Strobel, Curtis Pitts

Carl Koupal called the meeting to order. Lucky DeFries moved, Ed Carmona seconding, that the minutes of the March 4, 2005 meeting be approved. The motion carried.

Rick Jackson presented GO Topeka financials for the period indicating that expenses are in line with budget. Dr. Farley moved, Ed Carmona seconding, that the financials be approved. The motion carried.

Mel Chapman, Cook, Flatt & Strobel, discussed the board's request to have a break in access study prepared for the intersection of 49th & US Hwy. 75 as part of the Commerce Park master plan. The study has been submitted to KDOT and comments from KDOT have been addressed. By submitting it to KDOT, and its approval by KDOT, it will become part of the long-range transportation plan for Topeka. Once there is a need for the interchange to support proposed or pending development in the Commerce Park, the MPO could upgrade the interchange study to project status on the TIP. Ed Carmona moved, Dr. Farley seconding, that a letter be prepared and sent to Tim Green, City Engineer, requesting that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) place the study on the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The motion carried.

Doug Kinsinger reported that Mayor McClinton, Kris Robbins, Commissioner Ensley and he traveled to Washington, DC to meet with Hyjek & Fix and members of the congressional delegation staff. They received a briefing on BRAC and are very optimistic that the 190th will remain, although perhaps with a different mission. The list will be out in mid-May. The group also met with the congressional delegation on the list of federal funding projects. Mayor McClinton discussed the value of having a lobbyist in Washington and the positive response from the congressional delegation.

Doug Kinsinger advised that the bill regarding use of Star Bonds for Heartland Park Topeka has been passed by the House and Senate. He explained the use of Star Bonds and their use for track improvements. Kinsinger indicated there is a request for additional funding for HPT at the federal level.

Doug Kinsinger thanked the Shawnee County Delegation for their work on the bill for Innovia. Information from the company is that they are progressing. The retention of the plant in the community could ultimately boost the employment here by 20 people.

Kathy Moellenberndt discussed pending and closed projects. Active files include but are not limited to: a warehouse/distribution center, Reser's Fine Foods, a high tech manufacturing firm, a manufacturer of hydrostat drive systems, Project Beef, Project Fuchsia (bio pharmaceutical food manufacturer), customer support center, and a manufacturer of high tech control instruments. Staff has responded to these and other proposals and continue follow-up with local companies who are looking to expand.