

MINUTES

MEETING: GO Topeka Board of Directors

PLACE: Chamber Board Room

TIME: 7:30 a.m.

DATE: August 5, 2005

Present: Carl Koupal, Andy Jetter, Rick Jackson, Linda Rameriz Gonzalez, Jim Haines, Terry Neher, Maynard Oliverius, Mike Wilson, Ed Carmona, Connie Goodnow, Kris Kitchen, Ken Schmanke, Mike Engler, Neil Fisher, Susan Mahoney, Mayor Bill Bunten, Kris Robbins, David Kerr, Vince Frye, John Myers

Guests: Tom Ellis, Washburn University; Ken Daniels, Midwest Wholesale

Carl Koupal called the meeting to order. Ed Carmona moved, Rick Jackson seconding, that the minutes of the June 3, 2005 meeting be approved. The motion carried.

Rick Jackson presented May and June financials, indicating that everything is in line. Doug Kinsinger advised of a discussion with the county on our receipt of sales tax funding. Ed Carmona moved, Kris Robbins seconding, that the May and June financials be approved. The motion carried.

Doug Kinsinger introduced Ken Daniels, Chairman of the Mayor's Business Friendly Task Force. Ken Daniels presented a draft of the committee's findings and recommendations

Maynard Oliverius announced a ground breaking for a \$11.5 million cancer center to be built north of the current building. This is a consolidation of oncology and radiology facilities. They hope to be in operation in 14 months.

Doug Kinsinger discussed the upcoming inter-city visit to Columbus, Ohio. Kinsinger, Christy Caldwell, and David Kerr recently traveled to Columbus to visit the community and firm up details of the visit. There will be tours of their downtown, river front development, and their commerce park. The group will also spend time at the Mid-Ohio race track at the SCCA races. This visit will give the group a feeling for what these races will bring to our community in 2006. David Kerr indicated there are similar characteristics between the two cities.

Doug Kinsinger discussed the joint board retreat on Wednesday, October 19, 2005 at the Harrah's Convention Center. This is an effort for the board to focus on goals for the coming year. The tentative time is 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Further information will be forthcoming at a later date.

Doug Kinsinger introduced Tom Ellis, Washburn University; and Suresh Ram. Tom Ellis advised that for the community to evolve, it must get in the technology forefront. Technology is a business necessity and an economic growth and development avenue. Can Topeka establish a vision and develop or expand a niche in technology. Washburn University has staff that can assist the community and local businesses with technology. Suresh Ram indicated there needs to be a template to follow with an outline of timelines and actions. Kinsinger suggested that five or six companies work with Washburn University to develop a mission statement, assist in creating a resource database of local individuals, groups and/or organizations providing expertise, resources and/or assistance toward Topeka's continued growth and development in the technology field.

Kathy Moellenberndt discussed a proposed incentive proposal for a local company based on the local sales tax for a new business line. The proposal is performance based and would provide \$2,500 per job up to 200 jobs for a total of \$500,000 (jobs will be created over a four to five year time frame). The executive committee has discussed the proposal and approved it. Kris Robbins advised that this is a new business line that they are working on. He discussed the possible number of new hires and skill sets the new employees will need. Ed Carmona moved, Terry Neher seconding, that the incentive proposal be approved. The motion carried. Kris Robbins abstained from voting.