



Meeting: GO Topeka Board of Directors
Place: Partnership Board Room
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. (abbreviated meeting due to Board retreat)
Date: April 5, 2019

Board: Bob Archer, Brent Trout, Collin Hildebrand, Daina Williams, Dan Foltz, Don Beatty, Doug Wolff, Dr. Jerry Farley, Eric Johnson, Gianfranco Pezzino, Kurt Kuta, Madan Rattan, Marsha Pope, Martha Piland, Matt Pivarnik, Robert Kenagy, Scott Anderson, Stephen Wade, Tony Emerson, Treena Mason, Angel Romero, Keith Warta

Staff: Barbara Stapleton, Curtis Sneden, Diann Faflick, Katrin Holthaus, Kayla Bitler, Lindsay Lebahn, Molly Howey, Rhiannon Friedman, Vince Fry, Glenda Washington, Natalie Zeller, Freddy Mawyin

Kurt Kuta called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes from the February 1, 2019, Board meeting. The motion carried.

Financial Report: Natalie Zeller presented the financials in Scott Gales' absence. Zeller referred the Board to the financial narrative included with the Board meeting packet. She said in the future, financials will be discussed in depth on a quarterly basis. The motion was made and seconded to approve the financials. Motion carried.

Nomination: Kuta explained there is a need for an additional person to sit on the Audit Committee. Kuta nominated Scott Anderson to the GO Topeka Audit Committee. The motion was made and seconded to accept the nomination. The motion carried.

Go Topeka Bylaws: Curtis Sneden provided a redline version of the Go Topeka Bylaws, which were approved by the Executive Committee in the March 1, 2019, meeting. Sneden reviewed the changes to the Bylaws. The motion was made and seconded to accept the Bylaw revisions. The motion carried.

Projects Update: Molly Howey provided a project update.

- A special JEDO meeting was called to approve funding for Project Blueberry. This existing business expansion represents a \$30 million investment by the company. Howey said the name of the organization and contract will be revealed at a later date.
- Project Sherwood is an expansion of existing business and has not yet been announced.
- Several new business inquires have come in, which GO Topeka staff are working with along with submitting new building sites.
- Project Lightening at the last meeting was put on hold due to some international trade issues. This project is active again, and Topeka remains one of two possible sites.

Pivarnik added that confidentiality remains critical for these projects. Nondisclosure agreements are signed and must be taken very seriously if we want to be considered for any future projects.

A question was asked about how the activity level this year compares to last year. Molly said new projects are on track, with 5 to 10 new projects per quarter. There has been a slight increase over last year but leads, in general, are down for all of Kansas.

Innovation Advisory Board (IAD): Dan Foltz said the IAD has been very active building networks with key people around the state and region. Katrin Holthaus said one way they can move forward quickly is to work with currently active developments. Overall, Holthaus said the organizations she has spoken to are very open to collaboration. The IAD Board is making sure their involvement with any organization will be a good fit for Topeka.

Together Topeka Design Institute Outcomes: Diann Faflick shared some of the highlights from the March 29th TogetherTopeka Design Institute. She explained the purpose of the meeting was to bring community stakeholders together to discuss the collective impact partnership and local priorities for Topeka and Shawnee County.

They are engaging in a process of reorganizing the Talent Development Work Group to gain traction and accelerate progress of committee work. She said they need representation from a cross-section of business, education, non-profit, faith-based, and civic leadership from the community. She asked the anyone interested in serving to contact her.

Executive Committee Overview: Kuta reported out from the last Executive Committee. He said the Committee has identified some priorities. One of those is changing our vocabulary when we discuss projects and what incentives are being paid out. He said, in the future, we should change our approach from incentives to investments, by focusing on the economic impact of a project, rather than the money paid out.

Another priority is the contract with JEDO, which would need to come up at the next meeting, with a goal for a fall contract renewal period.

The committee reviewed an analysis from Freddy Mawyin, which looked at funds that come in for Economic Development from the half-cent sales tax, which is \$5 M. Projecting to 2031, the operating expenses would increase, but the \$5 million does not increase. Currently, the difference between the operational costs and the \$5 M is carryover for future investment, such as incentives.

Meeting Adjourned.