

MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP - PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE COMPETITIVE FLORIDA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE FLORIDA, HELD IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBER AT CITY HALL, March 18, 2014, AT 5:00 P.M.

The following were present: Mayor Magidson, Commissioners Buzzett, McCroan, Patterson and Thursbay. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce and Attorney Tom Gibson were also present.

The purpose of the Workshop was to provide a Public Hearing on the Competitive Florida Partnership Pilot Community Program Grant.

City Manager Jim Anderson welcomed everyone and thanked them for their interest in the grant opportunities.

Julie Dennis, Program Manager with the Department of Economic Opportunity provided an overview of the new program, the purpose of the program and assumptions. She described the asset-based economic development approach, its benefits as it is based on human organizations and physical assets and it is locally driven.

Ms. Dennis provided details on the upcoming Asset Mapping Exercise intended to identify local assets and get an outside perspective on such assets. She described the objective to create a network of leaders with other pilot communities to share successes and challenges and learn from each other's experience.

She also describe the final task of the Case Study where the community will describe some of the experiences, how they all have contributed to position the City where it has already developed an economic strategy and now will be identifying specific projects and activities to achieve the communities objectives.

Tom Gibson, City Attorney, described the tasks to be performed under the agreement with DEO and general timeframe to complete these tasks:

- Survey
- Asset Mapping Exercise
- Action Plan
- Case Study

Marina Pennington, City Planning Consultant, provided background on the Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The goal of the community is to "create and retain jobs while maintaining and improving the quality of life in the community". She described the six objectives included in the plan:

- Diversified Economy – Expand the economic base by promoting a diversified economy that takes full advantage of the City's strategic location, natural resources, public facilities and infrastructure.
- Transportation Network – Improve transportation network facilities in order to attract new businesses, create new jobs and increase tax base
- Education and Workforce Training – Provide quality education and responsive workforce training to support and attract new businesses.
- Quality of Life – Balance economic development while maintaining the quality of life that makes the City of Port St Joe a very unique place to live.

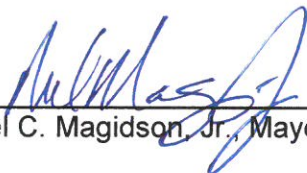
- Coordination and Communication - Improve coordination and communication among local, regional and state economic development organizations to foster a more collaborative business environment and promote assets of the city as part of the larger Northwest Florida Region.
- History and Culture – Celebrate the history and culture of the region through educational and cultural venues to attract a new demographic of visitor and increase local jobs for local residents.

Ms. Pennington described how the City has organized six teams and has been meeting with each team to begin the process of identifying Projects and Activities to be included in the Action Plan. She invited others in the community to join these teams and received responses from citizens in the meeting to do so.

The group recommended posting the information about the six teams on the City's website, including the policies and the initial list of "Projects and Activities" encouraging residents to join these teams.

Mayor Magidson adjourned the Workshop at 5:50 P.M.

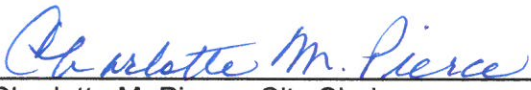
Approved this 1st day of April 2014.



Mel C. Magidson, Jr., Mayor

4/2/14

Date



Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

4/1/2014

Date