

JEDO BOARD  
Joint Economic Development Organization  
Wednesday, March 12, 2003  
4:00 p.m.

The JEDO Board met in the Chamber of Commerce Board Room with the following present: Mayor Butch Felker; Councilmembers Betty Dunn, Lisa Stubbs, Gary Price and Harold Lane; County Commissioners Vic Miller, Ted Ensley and Marice Kane; Carl Koupal, Mark Wittenberg, Sister Loretta Marie, Vince Frye, Neil Fisher, Randy Tomlin, Doug Kinsinger, Christy Caldwell, Kathy Moellenberndt, Jo Beilman, Jack Porteous, Go Topeka; John Myers, City; Richard Forster, CVB; Trinket Harding, Rich Eckert, Shawnee County; Jon Hummell, Senator Brownback's Office; Michelle Butler, Congressman Ryun's Office; Glen LeRoy, Gould Evans Goodman; Mel Chapman, Cook, Flatt & Strobel; Woody Carter, New Business Development – Topeka Capital-Journal; Sonny Scroggins, National Action Network and Alicia Henrikson, Topeka Capital-Journal.

**Agenda #1.** A motion was made by Councilmember Dunn to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2002, meeting. Motion seconded and approved unanimously.

**Agenda #2. Federal Funding Priorities.** Christy Caldwell reported on the requests. \$720,000 for the infrastructure at Commerce Park was in FY 03 Budget that was approved and those dollars will be coming to our community. She distributed reports on the request for Taxiway C to be refurbished from supplemental funds at the federal level and on Topeka Bridge Replacement. Great Overland Station Riverfront Park - \$1.8 million and an additional \$200,000 for educational programs. Commerce Park \$1,750,000 for sewer, water and road construction. The 190<sup>th</sup> project will be supported and the Monroe School project is still being worked on. Christy asked for assistance on it. After discussion on various ideas, Councilmember Lane stated the National Park Service and the neighborhood along with the Planning Commission will get together and submit a project by the end of March, first of April.

Doug Kinsinger reported that the Mayor, Dave Stremming, John Dicus and he will travel to Washington on April 1st and 2nd to personally deliver the funding requests.

**Agenda #3. Inter-City Visit.** Christy reported that a second visit is being planned and asked for ideas/suggestions to be submitted to her for the bus trip.

The cities being looked at are: Lincoln, Nebraska; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; Columbia, Missouri; Providence, Rhode Island.

**Agenda #4. Master Plan for Commerce Park.** Mark Wittenberg gave a report on the current development at Commerce Park of which 460 acres are left for development. RFP's were mailed to local engineering firms with 3 firms responding. Cook, Flatt and Strobel were selected to prepare the master plan. Mel Chapman and Glen LeRoy gave a power point presentation (copy of slides attached to the original of these minutes). Commissioner Miller asked who are the decision makers? After discussion, Mayor stated the firm should keep moving on their schedule and if necessary, resolutions would be prepared to clarify issues as they come up.

Doug Kinsinger gave an update on Target with a few aerial slides. The completed building will be 1.4 million square feet and they hope to start hiring in December.

**Agenda #5. Request for Residency Requirement Waiver.** A motion was made by Marice Kane to approve the request for the Residency Requirement Waiver for Jack Porteous, a Go Topeka employee. Gary Price seconded and motion carried unanimously.

**Agenda #6. Discussion of Potential Reimbursement to the City by JEDO for Building Permit Waivers.** Harold Lane discussed his suggestion of waiving building permit fees inside the city and requesting reimbursement from JEDO. Doug Kinsinger stated it was felt that it could cut substantially into Go Topeka/JEDO dollars. The fees for 2002 were approximately \$1.4 million. Doug briefly discussed the incentive fund currently being used. Harold stated more building occurring adds dollars to the community. Commissioner Miller asked if the City waives fees – Answer: some non-profits have requested waivers and received them. After further comments, Harold Lane stated he would work with Legal and draft a resolution for the City Council.

**Agenda #7. Heartland Race Track Sale.** Doug Kinsinger reported that the Wakarusa 504 loan program one stop center has helped with the Heartland Park sale and a major press event will be scheduled in late March. He distributed a news article from the KC Star. (copy attached to the original of these minutes) Mayor stated he would bring a map to the next JEDO meeting.

**Agenda #8. Marketing update – Commerce Park.** Vince Frye presented several marketing pieces that have been developed – a new name: South Wind Commerce Park – (Doug Kinsinger asked for comments on the name) - 3 brochures for the 3 targeted areas identified by Wadley Donovan; one stop center brochure; private sector campaign goal of \$2M along with the ¼ cent tax; video pointing out types of jobs needed in Shawnee County in the future – these items can be secured through the Chamber.

Doug Kinsinger discussed some recent news articles that have listed Topeka in the top cities around the nation. He had a copy of the front page article in the Wichita Eagle which was good positive coverage.

**Agenda #9. Year end summary reports.** Doug stated copies which included micro loans, expansions, relocations and retentions had been mailed to all members.

**Agenda #10. Project Activity Report.** Doug Kinsinger reported there should be a BNSF consolidation decision this spring. Senators, Congressmen, Governor and Mayor have all contacted Matt Rose. Kathy Moellenberndt gave a report on the kinds of inquiries that have been made and she is continuing to work with Kansas Department of Commerce/Housing and the KC Area Economic Development Council. Direct mailing to national firms has been implemented making them aware of our successes.

Mayor Felker recognized Woody Carter. Mr. Carter stated he would hold his presentation until the next JEDO meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Donna Freel, Mayor's Office