



Florida Atlantic Research and Development Authority

Economic Development Planning Workshop

3651 FAU Boulevard, Suite 400, Boca Raton, FL 33431

January 25th, 2017 at 9.45 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members present

Michael I. Daszkal	Chair
Bob Swindell	Vice Chair
Daniel Flynn	Treasurer
Dr. Robert D. Parks	Member
Lonnie H. Maier	Member
Bruce Rosetto	Member
Susan Whelchel	Member

Staff present Andrew Duffell, President & CEO
Christine Burres, Director of Operations
Jacki Wales, Office Administrator

Others Present

Sarah Pearson – Boca Chamber, Dave Rigby – Broward College, Ngoyen Tran – City of Pompano Beach, Brian Donovan – City of Pompano Beach, Emily Marcus – City of Pompano Beach, Dahlia Baker – City of Pompano Beach, Chris Clemens – City of Pompano Beach, Carol Thompson – Palm Beach County, Sherry Howard – Palm Beach County, Alan Chin Lee – Palm Beach County

I. Call to order & roll call

Meeting called to order by Chairman Daszkal at 9:47 AM. Mr. Duffell performed the roll call. All members present.

II. State of the Research Park

President Duffell presented an overview of the Research Park, its mission, past accomplishments, its companies, 2016 results: jobs, industries, investment inflows, the

TBI and the ongoing collaboration with FAU and Tech Runway. PowerPoint available on demand.

III. Broward County opportunities discussion

A. Soft Landings Center – In order to have a deeper impact on the fostering of economic development in Broward County, the idea of an international soft landings center was discussed. Any effort would be in collaboration with Broward county and FAU and would involve creating and operating a soft landing location for international companies. The concept was well-received and the consensus was to include it in the plan of work.

B. Pompano Beach presentation – The City and CRA of Pompano Beach presented the nascent innovation district being planned for that city. A request for FARDA to participate in the opening of a cultural innovation district in Pompano Beach by locating some kind of innovation-centric facility. Plans were reviewed and tabled for another meeting.

C. Deerfield Beach update – Future plans for Deerfield Beach parcel 4 lease of open underdeveloped land were discussed. Parcel 4 lease will expire with the city in 2019 and FARDA's tenant will need to sell, develop or forfeit. PowerPoint available on demand.

IV. Boca Raton opportunities discussion

A. Second stage companies – Economic gardening has been shown to help develop a strong entrepreneurial culture, critical to company, industry and regional growth. Economic gardening focuses on working with the community's existing companies in targeted industries on strategic development and scalable growth instead of recruiting companies from outside or awarding incentives or tax rebates. GrowFL, created by the 2009 Florida Legislature as the Florida Economic Gardening Institute at the University of Central Florida, is a critical component to the state's economic development strategy; it was also the first initiative in the U.S. to be certified by the Edward Lowe Foundation to work with second stage businesses. The concept was well-received and the consensus was to include it in the plan of work.

B. Existing assets in the Research Park – FARDA has the opportunity to acquire more of a controlling interest in the existing assets in the Research Park and, as approved in the preceding Authority meeting, staff is authorized to bring proposals forward. PowerPoint available on demand.

V. Working Lunch

VI. Northern Palm Beach County opportunities discussion

A. RIS grant – Northern Palm Beach County Research Park Feasibility Study presentation – The feasibility study was presented and the potential role of FARDA in developing a northern county Research Park was discussed. The proposed first phase of a new project would not be financially

independent for at least ten years, raising concerns among members. The consensus was to present the findings to Palm Beach County and other stakeholders and report back to the Authority for further direction. Presentation available on demand.

VII. Overall strategic direction discussion – An overall agreement from the Authority was to initiate discussions with Broward stakeholders for new initiatives there and to concentrate on Boca Raton's existing assets and to find more strategies for working with FAU before devoting resources to a northern Palm Beach County project unless a new financing stream is identified.

VIII. Public Comment – None

IX. Adjourn

There being no other business Chairman Daszkal asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to adjourn the strategic planning workshop meeting of the Florida Atlantic Research and Development Authority was made by Dr. Flynn at 1:40 PM and seconded by Mr. Rosetto. The motion passed 7-0 with no members absent.

Respectfully presented to the Authority for review and approval on March 8th, 2017.
Reviewed and approved by the Authority by 7-0 vote on March 15th, 2017.

Signed:


Andrew Duffell, Secretary

