

Business Advisory Council (BAC) Meeting Agenda

At Triad

October 16, 2023

Start time 1:00pm

- Benefits of a BAC (as people arrive)
 - As people arrive were asked to write down the benefits of the BAC in relation to schools/students and businesses
- Welcome and Introduction of Commissioners
 - Thank you to the Champaign County Commissioners for coming to this meeting.
- Triad Introductions and Overview
 - Thank you to Triad for providing an amazing space and stadium snacks.
 - Patrick gave an overview of Triad's Academic programs
 - 2 students in the last week have reached out about applying to places they saw last year
- BAC Goal Review
 - Manufacturing day @ Graham Middle
 - Graham would love to see more Champaign county businesses
 - Chris is setting up a time for Clark State come out to teach employers how to get their business information into YouScience
- BAC Branding
 - Slogan - Chris provided a few options but did ask for any new ideas to be shared as well.
 - A discussion was had in smaller group about potential slogans
 - No - "opportunities don't happen you create them" and "explore the world of possibilities"; nothing too long
 - Yes - "Empowering minds. Fueling Futures." "Exploring possibilities to pave brighter futures" "the future depends on what you do today"
 - Add - 10 icons "building a community together" ; asks students who have participated to give input
 - Students to create logo
 - Once a logo is achieved Chris will send out the logo to schools - with an emphasis on art classes to see what they can come up with.
- County Updates/Questions
 - Tim Cassidy talked about accepting applications for demolition funding. The county got a grant last year to help take down dilapidated buildings. They demolished 14 properties with that grant.
 - The commissioners paired with the Y to help enlarge their footprint in Childcare

**Next Meeting: January 22, 2024 from 1:00-3:00
At Sutphen (935 S. Edgewood Ave., Urbana)**

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- The commissioners have been very excited to work with the ESC to fund Chris's position. They are thrilled with what has been done.
- Mr. Hess talked about the commissioner's office having to plan for the success of the future generations. He emphasized how important the BAC and Chris are and how pleased they are.
- Champaign county is in need of high speed internet; the county has a plan on a tower project to fill the void
- 2 fiber projects; one in Cable and one in Thackery to help aide the ability for high speed internet
- The old bank building across from the courthouse is owned by the commissioners and they are currently looking into a new potential for that building.
 - It is currently used as records storage but they have been made aware it is not the safest idea to continue that
- Nino Vitale asked Chris how long she has been in her position. He feels like there has not been enough time and would like to see it continue.
- Business School Liaison Survey Results
- Business School Liaison future funding
 - Mary Mitchell, Vickie, and Chad are so excited and pleased with the progress Chris has made
 - Prior to having a BSL it felt like there were so many ideas but the follow through was not there which agitated the schools and businesses
 - Chris has been the person they have been looking for
 - Ohio Hi-Point would like to contribute 25k to the position to help keep this position up because Chris's work is so important. They have committed to do this for the next 3 years.
 - Mary and Chris have been talking to other ESC's who have similar positions to find out how they are being funded:
 - Grants
 - ODE
 - United Way
 - Ohio Workforce Transformation
 - Banks
 - Chamber
 - Local Government
 - The goal is to find the funding for this position to continue

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- Tim asked if we are looking for a one year or a three year commitment?
 - Mary stated we would like to see a commitment that will keep this position open into the future. The needs for this position continue to grow.
- Tim asked if there has been an exploration into something like ODJFS?
 - Mary let Tim know that they have and they are looking into using TANF to help BUT those dollars can only be used on children who qualify. Looking at a potential position at ODJFS who would partner with Chris.
- The commissioners will not pull the plug but down the line the ones who benefit need to chip in.
- Nino would like to see more of the business involved in the BAC
- Talks about the lack of workforce and the importance of the Liaison position to help this
- Chris notes schools and business are showing up in terms of participating in activities
- Tim asks if we are just as or more optimistic than we were when we came to the commissioners originally?
 - YES

If anyone has any other thoughts and ideas please reach out to Mary Mitchell or Chris Flowers.

Meeting adjourned at 2:54pm

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