

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

THRIVING SMALL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

May 15, 2014

Present:

See attached Sign-in Sheet. NEFRC or RCI Staff: Brian Teeple,

Margo Moehring, Lindsay Haga

Next meeting:

June 19, 2014, 2:30 pm, NEFRC

Future meetings:

7/17, 8/21, 9/11(if required)

The committee approved the minutes of April 17 by consensus. The committee considered the First Staff Draft of Recommendations.

Comments on First Staff Draft of Recommendations

Committee members made the following observations:

- Under "Measuring Success: Consider adding export data, and some context to allow those reviewing the measures to understand how we are doing in light of statewide and national economic outcomes. Look at the recent "Best City for Startups" analyses and see if there are recurring date points that should be included.
- Under "Business Development": The idea of including as possible recommended projects all projects that are listed as "areas of need" in the Innovate Northeast Florida Innovation Strategies category was questioned. After discussion, it was determined to remove the "startup connector" and "educational pathway" projects from the list, as their meaning and intent was not sufficiently clear.
- Also under "Business Development": It was determined to include a recommendation on what the first project for which funding should be sought should be. The project will be to make the Northeast Florida Small Business Help website more robust, include Flagler County resources in it (if they are willing), clarify the responsibilities for maintaining the enhanced website, and do a marketing program to get the word out on this resource.

Follow up and the Next Meeting

Committee members agreed to get their comments on the draft to NEFRC staff before the next meeting. Mr. Dinkins was asked to present information on the state of agriculture in NE Florida at the next meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

PLEASE SIGN INI		
RCI Economic Development Committee on Thriving Small Business	Meeting Date/Time:	May 15, 2014 2:30 p.m.
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