

CCSP Economic Development Subcommittee  
Minutes  
May 5, 2008

Members present:

Lonnie Jackson	Rebecca Jones
Dr. Wesley Kluck	Kelli Lancaster
Shelley Loe	Brett Powell
Fred Phillips	Anita Williams
Bill Wright	Donna Hilton
Euodias Goza	Phil Baldwin
Chuck Hollingshead	Adam LupPlace
Jimmy Bolt	George Jinks
Phil Rice	Henry Wilson

Brett Powell, Director of Administrative Services, gave an overview of OBU's future expansion plans of housing and entrance changes. Rebecca Jones was also on hand to answer questions in regards to their grant request.

Mr. Powell also gave a brief overview of the land swap between the city of Arkadelphia and OBU which will allow OBU to have more parking availability and the city will be able to proceed with plans to develop the Desoto Bluff area of the Ouachita River. OBU has requested a \$54,000 grant through the CCSP to specifically fund the new signage which will be at the future main entrance of the campus on Hwy 7.

Once the presentation was given Mr. Powell and Mrs. Jones left so discussion of the request could proceed. Shelley Loe presented the proposal and the committee approved the grant to proceed to the Steering and Finance Committee's with the contingency that OBU would successfully complete their \$45M Bond Issuance before the grant is funded.

Lonnie Jackson discussed the Arkansas Small Business Development Center's bid to provide specific market data for different needs within the plan. In regards to Goal 4a of the economic development section, Lonnie received an estimate of \$3000 to provide this information. Discussion of what types of information needed was discussed in last months meeting. The committee approved a grant being written to provide funding for this market data.

Dr. Kluck reported that Clark Easter, former co-chair of the Leadership committee, is currently serving in Iraq and is using the CCSP as a guide to assist small surrounding towns with planning efforts. Dr. Kluck is in hopes that an article can be written on Clark's efforts with his fellow soldiers and Iraqi's.

Dr. Kluck reported that a meeting was held to establish what is the most important highway change needed in Clark County. A list will be emailed out so that the public can respond with any needs they feel their community has. The highway dept has instructed Clark County to bring one specific request to them. Specific improvements such as 10<sup>th</sup> street widening from Caddo Valley to the Southwest Training Center, Ouachita River Bridge, Truck Bypass, Hwy 8 shoulder from Arkadelphia to Amity, exit at Country Club or Old Military and HWY 84 in Amity were specifically discussed. Dr. Kluck stated that the Ouachita River Bridge may be repaired through other funding.

Kelli Lancaster stated that Louisiana allows trucks to pay a \$15 annual fee to be able to access the interstate from one exit to the next exit. The funds are used for maintenance of the interstate. This is successful and may be an option here to assist with the log trucks having to use routes through town. This will be researched and discussions with elected officials will occur on the feasibility of this project.

Mr. Wilson stated that work had begun on forming committees to go door to door on Pine Street to discuss the opportunity to change Pine Street's name to Martin Luther King Blvd. He asked if the CCSP could assist with the cost of businesses having to change over their address information. Dr. Kluck stated that a grant could be submitted through the process to assist R/E owners with change over costs.

Meeting adjourned.