

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
ECONOMIC STIMULUS TASK FORCE
APRIL 3, 2009**

The Hillsborough County Economic Stimulus Task Force met in the Regular Meeting on Friday, April 3, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Rooms 26 A and B, County Center, Tampa, Florida.

The following Task Force members were present:

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| Bob Abberger (Chairman) | Trammell Crow |
| Henry Gonzalez III | GTCC Chair/Bank of Tampa |
| Chuck Sykes | Sykes Enterprises (HQ Company) |
| Dr. Steven Klasko | USF Health |
| Chuck Black | TECO |
| Dr. Jack Rechcigl | UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research Ctr |
| Mark House | Com 100/Beck Construction |
| Dr. Shawn Robinson | HCC Ybor City Campus |
| Jack Kolosky (for Dr. William Dalton) | Moffitt (Life Sciences) |
| Stuart Rogel | CEO, Tampa Bay Partnership |

The following members were absent:

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| Dr. William Dalton | Moffitt (Life Sciences) |
| John Lenyo | CAE USA (Technology & Mnftrg) |
| Ken Hagan (Vice Chairman) | BOCC Chairman |

Mr. Abberger called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

Mr. Abberger requested approval of the minutes of the March 27, 2009 ESTF meeting. The motion was moved and seconded. Said motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Abberger discussed the current state of the economy and the ever increasing job loss and unemployment rate in Florida and specifically in Hillsborough County.

Mr. Abberger called on all of the presenters, technical advisory group, and Task Force members to prepare to provide specific recommendations to be incorporated into the report to the BOCC.

Mr. Abberger recognized Renee Gilmore, President and CEO, Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance, who provided an overview of services available through the Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance. Mrs. Gilmore also indicated that the Workforce Alliance will be receiving an additional \$9 million in federal stimulus dollars on top of \$20 million of existing funding. She also indicated that the existing funding has been stable for the last two years but it has shrunk from \$35 million in 2002. Mrs. Gilmore also informed the Task Force that the federal dollars had to be expended by June 2010.

Mr. Abberger asked Jack Kolosky, CFO, Moffitt, to introduce Dr. Jeff Trent, President and Scientific Director, TGen, who presented on aspects of growing a knowledge-based economy. Dr. Trent emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships in his experience with TGen in Arizona. He pointed out that Hillsborough County has great anchors in the form of Moffitt, USF and M2Gen for a successful future establishment of a knowledge-based economy. Dr. Trent informed the Task Force that Arizona's road to biomedical research and bioscience commercial center leadership began 6 years ago with a 10 year vision and with the assistance of The Battelle Institute. Dr. Trent indicated that TGen operations are generating a \$3.95 return on every \$1 invested by the state. By FY2010 this impact is expected to be between \$5 to \$7 per every \$1 invested. He went on to recommend that our community must maintain and continue to invest in research infrastructure and core competencies, sustain commitment to public-private leadership, support innovation and investment into research and technology commercialization, collaborations and workforce development.

Mr. Abberger recognized Mr. Peter Kagayama, Creative Tampa Bay, who presented on the creative economy and attracting and retaining talent. Mr. Kagayama emphasized that talent exists in every age group. With regard to traditional tools of economic development, while still an integral part of economic development, he suggested that new tools need to be considered. Mr. Kagayama advocated greater use of the internet and social media in promoting the area.

Mr. Mark House expressed concern related to how the recommendations of the Task Force will be implemented. After brief discussion, the Task Force members decided that they should meet occasionally to get input on progress and review existing policies for potential improvement.

Mr. Chuck Sykes suggested that the report also be boiled down so that it can be easily understood by everyone and to make it easily implemented.

Mr. Kagayama suggested that the Task Force have Collaborative Labs from St. Petersburg College assist with facilitating meeting to put the report recommendations together.

Mr. Abberger and Task Force members agreed to expand the last scheduled Task Force meeting to start at 8:00 am and end time at 1:00 pm to provide sufficient time to prepare the report recommendations.

Mr. Bill Martin, NAIOP, emphasized the necessity for a boiled down report that everyone can understand with clear and focused recommendations and key concepts with a detailed report.

During public comment, the Task Force heard different ideas on how to brand and showcase the area to position the community to take the economy in a desired direction. Also, the Task Force heard about engaging the individual and the existing workforce of the community to understand how to keep them here and how to encourage them to strike out and start new companies.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

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