



Mansfield Tomorrow

OUR PLAN ► OUR FUTURE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOCUS GROUP

Tuesday, July 30, 2013 | 6:30 pm

Town Council Chambers

Draft Minutes

Present- George Thompson, Pat Bresnahan, Steven Ferrigno, Danny Briere, Vicki Wetherill, Roger Adams, Kathy Dorgan, Quentin Kessel, Marty Hirschorn Staff: Matt Hart, Linda Painter, Jennifer Kaufman. Consultants: Peter Kwass, Mt. Auburn Associates; Larissa Brown; Goody Clancy

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development.

- I. **Approval of Minutes-** Minutes of the May 29, 2013 were approved by consensus with no changes.
- II. **Draft Economic Development Strategy Report-** Peter Kwass of Mt. Auburn Associates reviewed the draft economic development strategy report with members. Discussion focused on the value statements and strategies, including:
 - The desire to add a value statement regarding developing and retaining talent
 - Estimated/potential growth projections and the potential for identifying a goal/performance measures to manage growth. Examples suggested by members included determining additional tax revenues that would be needed to make up for declining state PILOT revenues
 - The need to add a section on key resources for economic development, including infrastructure (water, sewer, transportation, etc), workforce development and constraints that will limit our ability to achieve economic development goals
 - The potential for capitalizing on the University's economic development resources as a way to help implement various strategies given limited local capacity
 - The need to more specifically address arts related economic development as part of the tourism strategy

Focus Group members were asked to provide any additional comments or thoughts by email.

- III. **Public Comment-** There was no public comment.
- IV. **Next Steps-** The economic development strategy report will be used as the foundation for developing specific goals, policies, strategies and actions for the economic development section of the new Plan of Conservation and Development.
- V. **Next steps and Adjourn-** Staff will be in touch regarding the next meeting. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.