



Lake County Alliance Meeting Minutes April 20, 2012

1. Meeting called to order at 12:15 pm by Kelly Pisciotta
2. Pledge of Allegiance to U.S. Flag
3. Invocation: Moment of silence observed
4. **In Attendance:** Susan Brooks, Mike Bucher, Robert Chandler, Deb Dyer, Mark Dushane, TJ Fish, Peggy Hayes, Cathy Hoechst, Judi Phillips Jones, Greg Malanczuk, Colleen McGinley, Kelly Pisciotta, Tim Sennett and Scott Sullivan
**Quorum not present, no voting permissible*
Visitors: Representative Bryan Nelson, Florida House of Representatives
Orange County Commissioner Frederick C. Brummer
Malcolm Barry, Foot Solutions
5. **Introductions:** None
6. **Minutes of February's Meeting:** Not Presented
7. **Financial Report:** Not Presented
8. **New Business** (Kelly Pisciotta)
Delegate Responsibilities – Delegates are appointed by representative chambers to speak on behalf of the chamber they represent and take information presented at the Alliance Board meetings back to their chambers. Individual chambers should have an Alliance Report included on their board agenda.

Chamber Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC) – Originally formed as an economic development arm of the Alliance, the CAAC will continue to address economic development issues tied to the mission and purpose statement of the Chamber Alliance Board.

Meeting Times – The CAAC currently meets the third Thursday of the month from 3-5pm in Leesburg, at Main Street Receptions and it is recommended that the CAAC meet the first Thursday of the month. It is proposed that the Chamber Alliance Board (CAB) meet on the third Thursday of the month, 3-5pm at Main Street Receptions. The CAB delegates were requested to bring their top five (5) issues to the May CAB meeting in bullet-point format representing the views of their individual Chambers.

General Discussion – Other locations were discussed, but a few charged for use of the locations. Main Street Receptions is no charge. It was initially suggested that pre-paid lunch fees would be reimbursed to the individual Chambers. It was then recommended to not reimburse pre-paid lunch fees and to apply the funds toward light refreshments at the new venue. The Hampton Inn across from LSCC was suggested since it was free. Members were asked to check on other venues and report back to Kelly. It was suggested that the Alliance meeting time be from 2-5pm.

Placement of the CAAC and CAB two weeks apart will allow the CAAC time to formulate their report in bullet format, ready for presentation at the Alliance meeting

The reason for changing the CAB venue is to restore the CAB meetings to “working” meetings.

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A formal vote could not be conducted; general consensus of members present was to move forward with moving the meeting, starting with the May meeting.

Legislative Committee – The Alliance accomplished great progress resulting in positive action from Lake County Days. However, the CAAC discussed establishing a Legislative Committee that will enable the Alliance to proactively address business issues that the Chambers will be involved throughout the year. Lake County Days currently occurs while representatives are in session and the decisions have already been decided upon.

General Discussion – Advocacy in Tallahassee would be much more effective if representatives of the Alliance were discussing the issues throughout the year with the representatives. Individuals who do not sit on the Alliance board, who have knowledge of the issues would be solicited to participate on this committee, understanding they are guided by the Alliance board.

A formal vote could not be conducted; general consensus of members present was to move forward with formulation of a Legislative Committee.

Capital Facilities Advisory Committee – The Alliance needs a new representative for this committee, starting August 2, 2012. This position is a two year commitment. This committee focuses on funding sources for: schools, transportation, fire departments, parks and libraries. The representative must be an Alliance delegate. More information will be provided, such as when/where and how often meetings occur and discussed further at May's meeting. Nominations will begin to be accepted at the May meeting.

General Discussion – Prior representatives found it very rewarding, and insightful as to how government funding works without relying on impact fees. Time requirements varied with issues; sometimes monthly/quarterly meetings. Issues on the horizon will address school funding and future Lake County impact fees.

Lake County Landscape Code Ordinance – Lake County requested an Alliance representative speak in support of the proposed ordinance. Tim Green, past Alliance delegate from Mount Dora, represented the Alliance in the past, working tirelessly and addressing the issues. Tim agreed to accept this responsibility, need Alliance board approval.

A formal vote could not be conducted; general consensus of members present was to allow Tim Green to represent the Alliance at these meetings.

Presentations: None

Reports

1. Emergency Operations Center (Kathy Hoechst)

Nothing new to report;

2. Chamber Alliance Advisory Committee (CAAC) (Mike Bucher)

Recommended changes to by-laws and the CAAC Purpose Statement have been emailed to all Alliance delegates. Delegates are to present the recommendations to their boards and contact Mike with any concerns they may have, prior to May's meeting (preferably). The revised Purpose Statement states any action/position of the CAAC requires review and approval of the Alliance board.

CAAC did not meet in the month of April. They will meet again following the CAB delegate recommendations to the board on top five (5) issues for their respective Chambers.

County Commissioners adopted a Local Purchase Preference Policy ordinance in March as a direct result of the initiative from the CAAC.

3. MPO Update (TJ Fish)

Tracks will be completely upgraded by next year and

Lake EDC working on creating freight opportunities in Lake County.

Passenger rail studies should commence in a few months

Florida East Coast Railroad reported they have a good track between Cocoa Beach and Miami with a 40 mile gap to Orlando to overcome for passenger rail service into Orlando. They have presented a private initiative proposal, titled All Aboard Florida, to provide private passenger rail service to Orlando. Amtrak will continue running east coast. Sunrail will be the commuter rail in Orlando.

4. North West Regional Board Advisory (Ray San Fratello)

Meeting May 17 from 2-4pm at the Business Incubator in Apopka, all is welcome

It was noted that the next scheduled Alliance meeting conflicted with this time, Kelly to reschedule the Alliance meeting

4. Lake County School Board (Rosanne Brandeburg)

No report

General Discussion

Community Service Awards, April 25

Representative Brian Nelson announced that on- May 17, 10a.m. to noon the Secretary of Interior will be at Katy's Landing to designate the Wekiva River a "Wild and Scenic River". Governor Scott will be in attendance,

Seaplane Fly_in scheduled for this weekend has been postponed until next weekend due to weather

Adjourned

No formal adjournment, due to lack of quorum

Next Meeting

- Friday, May 18, 2012