



REGULAR MEETING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD (EDAB)

Held at the City of Moab Conference Center

217 E Center Street

Moab, Utah 84532

[Recording](#)

[Second Recording](#)

MINUTES

November 29th, 2023 | 3:00pm

****Time stamps correspond to the video****

Members in Attendance: Forrest Rodgers, Michael Black, Melisa Jeffers, Chris Wilson, Mary McGann, Elissa Martin, Ben Fredregill (Grand County Economic Development)

Members in Attendance Remotely: Jazmine Duncan, Karen Guzman-Newton, Shalee Bryant

Members not in Attendance: Emily Campbell, Kelly Thornton, Huseyin Deniz

Also Present: Cathy Ritter (Better Destinations), Mitch Nichols (Nichol's Tourism Group), Jeremy Sage (RRC Associates), Melissa Stocks (Grand County Economic Development), Bega Metzner (Moab to Monument Valley Film Commission), Colette Cox (Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity), Sky White (Grand County Economic Development), Justin Bergeman (USU), Elisa (Student Career and Success Center (SCSC)), Hamena (Student at SCSC), Cari Caylor (SCSC)

Welcome

00:03:13

Introductions

00:03:30

Conflicts of interest, disclosures, ex-parte communication

00:07:55 - None at this time

Citizens to -be- heard

00:08:16 - None at this time

Presentations, if any

00:8:30 - None at this time

Discussion and Action Items:

A. Grand County Strategic Planning Process Update - Ben Fredregill, Cathy Ritter, Mitch Nichols, Jeremy Sage

00:08:55

Introductions and schedule of events for the week - *Ben Fredregill*

- 3 Discussion Roundtables (Off Road, Restaurants, Public Lands)
- 1:1 interviews
- In depth tour of the County
- Commission Meeting

B. Student Career and Success Center | Progress, Updates and Challenges - *Cari Caylor*

[Second Recording](#) : 00:01:13

Project Updates and Timeline:

- Doors opened 9/5/23
- 21 Students enrolled, 22 students on waiting list. Student needs for the program exceed SCSC's ability to service them until another teacher is hired.
- Career development is part of student curriculum. All students are registered with the Workforce Services Development Program. They are also participating in internships throughout the county.
- Grades 9-12 are supported.

Discussion included:

- Goal is to increase graduation rates. 2023 graduation rate in Grand County was 73%. The State's graduation rate is 92%. The graduation rate in Grand County has been decreasing since 2014.

Presentation from Elisa (Teacher at SCSC) and Hamena (Student at SCSC)

The SCSC program is different from regular High School in these ways:

- SCSC program works on a goal structure that is individualized vs. course determined.
- The SCSC system allows students to self-pace because the curriculum is online. Hamena was able to graduate early through moving at a pace that exceeded that of the High School curriculum.
- Teacher and parents meet regularly to review students' progress.
- Students have autonomy to choose the focus of their goals and program curriculum based on their strengths and interests.
- Most students have part-time jobs in addition to school curriculum.
- Curriculum requirements mirror that of the State of Utah graduation diploma requirements. Utah State HS Graduation diploma requirements are lesser than that of Grand County. Students choose which diploma path is best for their needs.
- Students have different blocks scheduled throughout their week. Blocks are scheduled at different times throughout the day to accommodate student's needs. Students can also log in online and complete work assignments on their own time.

Additional Discussion included:

- School District will be funding the second teacher for the program.

C. Board Openings and Interview Process - Forrest Rodgers

[Second Recording](#) : 00:20:52

Board Applications received to date include:

Ashley Korenblat

Forrest Rodgers

Ben Alter

Interviews: Scheduled for 12/13/23 meeting.

Discussion included:

- Concern was voiced on the interview process being held in an open and public meeting format. Last year's interviews were reported as awkward and uncomfortable for some people involved. Additional research will be done prior to the scheduled interviews to determine what format will be acceptable - open or closed meeting, etc.
- Interviews should include the Board and ex-officios will be invited to sit it. Interviews will happen one at a time. The Board will deliberate following to make a decision on how to recommend candidates to the Commission for the 2024 Board.
- All questions to be considered for the interview process should be emailed to Sky as soon as possible.
- Applicants will be accepted past the application deadline, until the day before the scheduled interviews, to include as many candidates as possible.

D. Finalize 2024 EDAB Meeting Dates - Sky White

[Second Recording](#) : 00:40:13

EDAB moved to change the schedule for 2024 meetings to the last Wednesday of the Month at 3:00pm.

Karen Guzman-Newton makes a motion to change the 2024 EDAB Meeting schedule to the last Wednesday of the month at 3:00pm.

Chris Wilson seconds the motion.

No Discussion.

All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

Consideration of Future Agenda Items

The Strategic Planning Process will continue to be a major topic of discussion on the agenda through its completion in 2024.

Explore a better collaboration between the County and City. Create a means by which EDAB can partner with the City in a great capacity in 2024. Decision was made to invite the City of Moab Mayor to the next meeting.

At 00:43:00, [Second Recording](#), Forrest adjourned the meeting.