

**CITY OF GROVE CITY, OHIO
HIGHER EDUCATION INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

August 21, 2015

Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Higher Education Investment Committee was called to order by President Berry at 4:05 p.m., in the City Hall Council Caucus room, 4035 Broadway. Roll call was called and the following were present:

Marjorie Brant Randy Holt Colin Hopkins Bill Wise

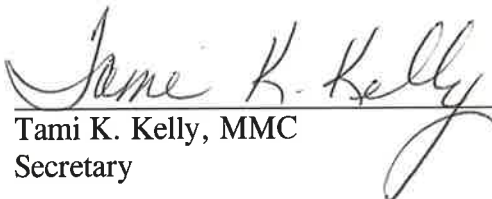
Mr. John Hampson was out sick.

Ex-Officio members: Council President Berry, Mayor Stage and Tami Kelly were present. Also present was Don Walters.

1. Mr. Berry welcomed everyone and thanked them for serving on the Committee. Introductions were made around the table.
2. Mr. Berry asked Mr. Walters to speak about the Center for Higher Education. Mr. Walters provided an historical timeline of the City's efforts to get a Center for Higher Education, similar to the one in Lorain County, to locate in Grove City. He explained that the Administration has been keeping in touch with Columbus State representatives since the initial contact in 2008. Mr. Berry stated that he, the Mayor, Don and Mr. Chuck Boso met this morning to discuss potential site options. A bit of discussion took place about the brick & mortar side of this program, with respect to the limitations of the program until another college or center locates here.
3. Mr. Berry provided a brief history on the Scholarship side of this program. He said the #1 reason for a business to locate in a specific community is the availability of a skilled workforce. He explained that the purpose of the Committee is to structure the program and submit it to Council for approval. He said there are many issues floating around that need addressed. If the initial legislation needs amended to address some of them, then the Committee can make that recommendation to Council.
4. Mr. Hopkins asked how we compare to other communities with respect to our workforce and graduation rates. Mr. Walters has some statistical information that he will get to the Committee.
5. Mayor Stage commented that Exhibit "A" of the Ordinance is elementary and the Committee needs to put some meat on the bone. Examples included the application process; grants; having guest speakers; etc.
6. Dr. Wise asked what this was trying to achieve. Who is this trying to help and what did they want to reward first? He explained that statistics show that high school students that take college courses during high school go on to complete a degree. Mayor Stage suggested targeting those who don't have access to scholarships elsewhere. Discussion took place over who to target: 2nd, 3rd, 4th year college students. Dr. Wise explained what the South-West Education Foundation does; and Ms. Brant explained how the Chamber Foundation works. Mr. Holt asked if it would be better to give many small or fewer large scholarships. Mr. Berry asked for any statistics that Dr. Wise has that many assist with some of these questions. If we can use the data to see where in the continuum there is the most need, perhaps the focus can start there.

7. Goals for the Program include: students staying in Grove City; going to school in Grove City; staying invested in Grove City.
8. There was a question of an interim option to allow students going to Columbus State or Colleges with some type of presence in Grove City to be accepted facilities until more colleges and/or the Higher Learning Center is built. Discussion took place about how the ordinance is worded now and its meaning. Different interpretations may allow for some leniency.
9. Since not all members were present, it was agreed to delay any action on organizing the committee and selecting a Chair. Ms. Kelly pointed out that the legislation does stipulate that she and Mr. Smith will provide support, so they don't have to select a secretary.
10. The next meeting was tentatively set for Tuesday, 8/25 at 4:00, if Mr. Hampson can make it.
11. A motion was made to adjourn and was approved by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.


Tami K. Kelly, MMC
Secretary


Ted A. Berry
President of Council