

**HORIZON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 19, 2018**

Members Present:

Brandon Box	Gray Davis
Roger Desjarlais	Dan Eveloff
Gary Griffin	Gail Markham
Michael Martin	Jennifer Nelson
Robbie Roepstorff	Russell Schropp
Chris Spiro	Jim Wilson

Members Absent:

Greg Adkins	Anita Cereceda
Dane Eagle	Chauncey Goss
Randy Henderson	John Manning
David Miller	Amy Quaremba
Ben Siegel	

Staff and Guests Present:

Warren Baucom	Rebecca Czyz
Antranette Forbes	Pamela Johnson
Todd Khozein	Sarah Owen
Susan Pareigis	Will Prather
Glen Salyer	Mark Stevens
Dilman Thomas (Horizon Foundation Chief Fundraising Officer)	

I. CALL TO ORDER

Gray Davis introduced Dan Eveloff as Incoming Chair.
Chair Dan Eveloff called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

II. CHAIR REPORT

None.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Guest speaker Sarah Owen, President and CEO of the Southwest Florida Community Foundation, described the Foundation's efforts concerning economic and workforce development. The Foundation's new building, the Collaboratory, is opening October 21, 2018. It serves as their regional office and offers meeting and tenant space. Will Prather, a Foundation Board Member spoke more on the history and concept of the Collaboratory facility in the midtown area.

Todd Khozein, principal with SecondMuse, described work that they will be doing with the Community Foundation to help incubate companies in Southwest Florida. spoke on the Community Foundation's focus on the front-end efforts and relationship development. He described business accelerators and how they can encourage new connections to address their research findings showing strong silos in this community.

1. Guest speaker Susan Pareigis, President and CEO of the SWFL Economic Development Alliance, provided an update regarding the Alliance's focus on business recruitment for SWFL.

IV. 2019 STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

1. Horizon Council's Role in Economic Development

Dan Eveloff reviewed the mission of the Horizon Council, and reminded the group of the five task forces that are currently in place:

- Business Issues
- Healthcare
- Commercial Corridor
- Outreach
- Workforce

2. SMART Goals and Roadmap

Glen Salyer summarized the EDO's strategy of a balanced approach to new and existing businesses and presented the organizational staffing plan. Salyer highlighted the ways other county teams will integrate into the economic development efforts, and how a potential, comprehensive destination brand will be leveraged for visitors, businesses and sports. Pamela Johnson and Roger Desjarlais also commented on the strategy.

Eveloff asked about the voice of the Horizon Council for vision, guidance and support to the Board of County Commissioners. Salyer suggested Horizon Council provides value by bringing expertise to the task forces. In addition, next year, input on branding and marketing will be needed from the Horizon Council.

Horizon Foundation bylaws and legal authority were briefly discussed.

Eveloff referenced the 2018 work plan, and expressed the desire to be more relevant in supporting and advising the Board of County Commissioners in 2019. Desjarlais explained the commitments the BoCC has and its scheduling challenges. Desjarlais will have some discussion with the incoming Board of County Commissioners Chair to determine how best to interact with the Council.

Eveloff asked that in 2019 the group find opportunity to better communicate on the activities of the Horizon Council.

Dilman Thomas provided an update on Horizon Foundation fundraising.

Eveloff would like to better collaborate with the SWFL Community Foundation and the SWFL Economic Development Alliance. There was discussions about silos and communication with other organizations.

Chris Spiro stated that he would outline the concept of an information portal grid and present it to Eveloff, Johnson and Salyer for review. Eveloff asked that findings from the Outreach Task Force contribute to the 2019 work plan.

Eveloff would like to calendar a date to help draft the 2019 work plan. Johnson will schedule.

Eveloff suggested recommendations for new task forces could be tabled for the next work group with the hope of having some findings from Spiro.

Eveloff presented the proposed calendar dates for 2019 meetings. The group discussed locations that might be used for future Horizon Council Presidents Circle events.

Discussion continued related to topic requests for next year's general membership meetings and ideas were shared: employee retention; unified building code (and software integrations); minimum wage changes; medical marijuana (insurance, hiring, legal); economic development panel on municipal, county, regional efforts; HealthyLee; water quality; and corporate social responsibility plans.

Robbie Roepstorff provided history on the President's Circle.

Eveloff announced candidate Wayne Kirkwood as President of the Horizon Foundation for 2019.

A motion to approve Gary Griffin and Gray Davis as At-Large Horizon Council Members for 2019 was made by Eveloff, seconded Spiro, and unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the application of Tommy Huether as an At-Large Horizon Council Member candidate for 2019 was made by Roepstorff, seconded by Spiro, and unanimously approved.

Salyer noted the process for all at-large members is to reapply annually. Eveloff would like a review of at-large engagement and have an annual review at the end of 2019.

Johnson mentioned that Horizon Council Orientation would follow the first general membership meeting of the year, February 2019. Eveloff asked to be part of planning.

The group had discussion of an annual membership review and bylaws review.

A motion for a Bylaws Review Task Force to be chaired by Russell Schropp was made by Spiro, seconded by Schropp, and unanimously approved.

V. BUDGET

Horizon Foundation Budget Consideration
No action.

VI. ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.