

**Economic Development and Community Partnerships
Strategic Planning Sub-Committee
Co-Chairs: Laura Jacobsen and George Low**

**Minutes
March 28, 2017**

Present: Lawrence Davin, Sharon Gilbert, Nadine Hartig, Laura Jacobsen, Stephanie Jennelle, Prahlad Kasturi, George Low, Jeff Price, Susan Trageser

Not Present: Joe Carpenter, Josh Carroll, Rhett Herman, David Horton, Chris Moore, Jackie McNabb, David Ridpath, Benny Skeens, Skip Watts, Erik Westervelt

Minutes taken by Nadine Hartig

- I. Approval of Minutes from 2-28-17.
- II. Health Care Initiatives: Dave Nutter visited our committee to share insights about economic development from a healthcare perspective. Topics of the conversation:
 - a. Hepatitis C is a major issue.
 - b. Rural health is an issue.
 - c. Health outcomes are positively correlated with educational attainment, which also relates positively to economic growth. A university that is focused on health outcomes of the region (not researching them, but improving them) is a gap in southwest Virginia.
 - d. Crossroads Institute in Galax, VA was mentioned as a highlight in southwest Virginia. They took a warehouse and created a place for community college courses, small startup business incubator, and community outreach center.
 - e. Workforce will continue to be an issue that most likely will be funded at the federal level.
 - f. Medicaid is 22% of the state budget.
 - g. 30% of the population make up 70% of health costs.
 - h. Inpatient admissions are declining. Case management models may be emphasized in the future.
 - i. Telemedicine is becoming a focus. (e.g. Mountain States in Tennessee is putting a nurse in every school).
 - j. Suggested reaching out to VCOM.
 - k. Health professional are needed in southwest VA.
 - l. The health ready, work ready workforce is shrinking in southwest VA.
 - m. Workforce Development may be an area for RU.
 - n. Research corporation could also be an idea that is explored.
- III. We went through each item initiative from our committee and created a rough draft of a budget to be able to present to Ashley Schumaker and Chad Reid.
 1. Appalachian Community Outreach Institute

2. ACCESS: Continuing Education, Community Outreach, and Economic Development office
 3. Incubator proposal: support business in region. Proposal forthcoming from COBE. Discussion about also including the mentoring of students and growing and retaining workforce in southwest VA.
 - 4.
- IV. Other business: we will meet next week April 4, 2017.