



Education Task Force Meeting Agenda April 29, 2024

Chair Jeffrey Means
Vice Chair Travis White
Member Jeremy Grimm
Member Lynn Hayes
Member Tanya Floyd

City Manager Mike DaRoza

The City Commission will conduct a
Education Task Force Meeting
At 5:00 PM
to address the item(s) below.

Meeting Date: April 29, 2024

Meeting Location: James A. Lewis City Commission Chambers

15100 NW 142nd Ter. Alachua, FL 32615

Notice given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes. In order to appeal any decision made at this meeting, you will need a verbatim record of the proceedings. It will be your responsibility to ensure such a record is made.

EDUCATION TASK FORCE MEETING MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

I. OLD BUSINESS

II. NEW BUSINESS

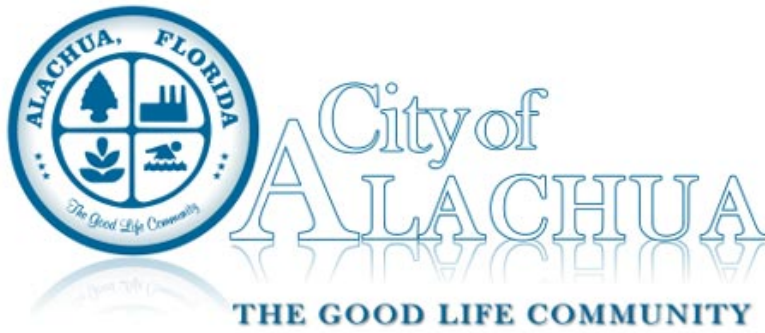
- A. February 26, 2024, Education Task Force Meeting Minutes
- B. Staff Report - April 29, 2024

C. Discuss City Education Resource Website

III. BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

IV. CITIZENS COMMENTS

ADJOURN



Board/Committee Agenda Item

MEETING DATE: 4/29/2024

SUBJECT: February 26, 2024, Education Task Force Meeting Minutes

PREPARED BY: Diane L. Amendola, Assistant Deputy City Clerk

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Approve the minutes.

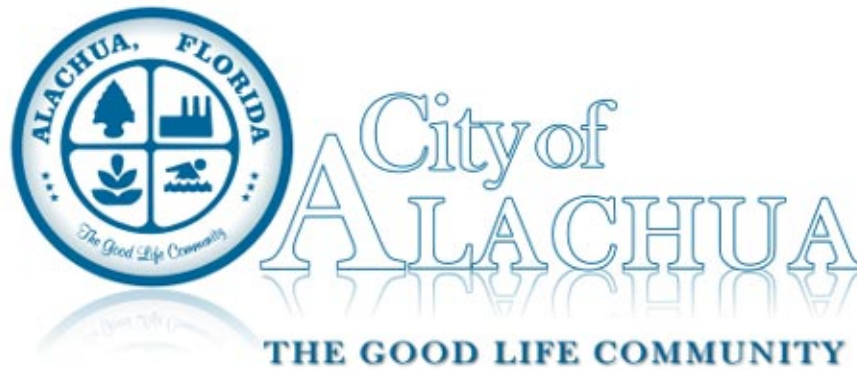
Summary

February 26, 2024, Education Task Force Meeting Minutes.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

☐ Minutes



Education Task Force Meeting Minutes February 26, 2024

Chair Jeffrey Means
Vice Chair Travis White
Member Jeremy Grimm
Member Lynn Hayes
Member Tanya Floyd

City Manager Mike DaRoza

The City Commission will conduct a
Education Task Force Meeting
At 5:00 PM
to address the item(s) below.

Meeting Date: February 26, 2024

Meeting Location: James A. Lewis City Commission Chambers

15100 NW 142nd Ter.

Notice given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes. In order to appeal any decision made at this meeting, you will need a verbatim record of the proceedings. It will be your responsibility to ensure such a record is made.

EDUCATION TASK FORCE MEETING MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Jeffrey Means, Chair.

Tanya Floyd, Member- absent.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Chair Travis White moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Member Lynn Hayes.

Passed by 4-0 roll call.

Tanya Floyd, Member- Arrived 5:02 pm.

I. OLD BUSINESS

II. NEW BUSINESS

- A. August 22, 2023, Education Task Force Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair White moved to approve the August 22, 2023, Education Task Force minutes; seconded by Member Jeremy Grimm.

Passed by unanimous consent.

- B. December 18, 2023, Education Task Force Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair White moved to approve the December 18, 2023, Education Task Force minutes; seconded by Member Hayes.

Passed by unanimous consent.

- C. January 29, 2024, Education Task Force Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair White moved to approve the January 29, 2024, Education Task Force minutes; seconded by Member Floyd.

Passed by unanimous consent.

- D. 2024 Education Task Force Calendar

Vice Chair White moved to approve the proposed 2024 Education Task Force calendar; seconded by Member Grimm.

Passed by unanimous consent.

- E. 2024 Education Task Force Strategic Plan

Received and filed.

- F. Combining Youth Advisory Council and Education Task Force Efforts

Received and filed.

III. BOARD COMMENTS/DISCUSSION

IV. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Teddy Sanchez

Jennifer Blalock

ADJOURN

Vice Chair White moved to adjourn; seconded by Member Floyd.

Passed by unanimous consent.

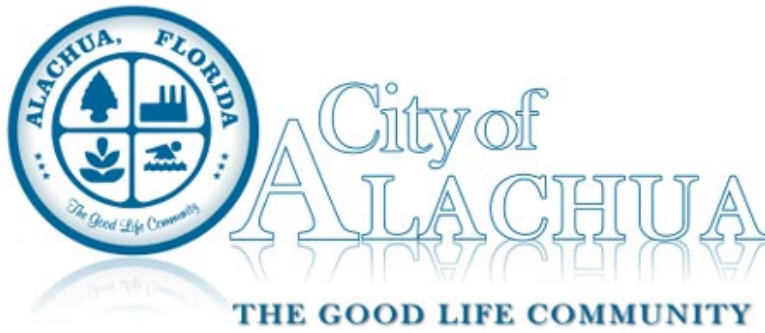
The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

ATTEST:

EDUCATION TASK FORCE OF THE
CITY OF ALACHUA, FLORIDA

Presiding Officer

Staff Liaison



Board/Committee Agenda Item

MEETING DATE: 4/29/2024

SUBJECT: Staff Report - April 29, 2024

PREPARED BY: David Wisener, Economic Development Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive the Staff Report - April 29, 2024

Summary

Staff has prepared a summary report of status updates to initiatives in the Education Task Force 2024 Strategic Plan and other relevant developments within calendar year 2024.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- ▣ ETF Staff Report - April 29, 2024



City of Alachua

Education Task Force Staff Report

April 29, 2024

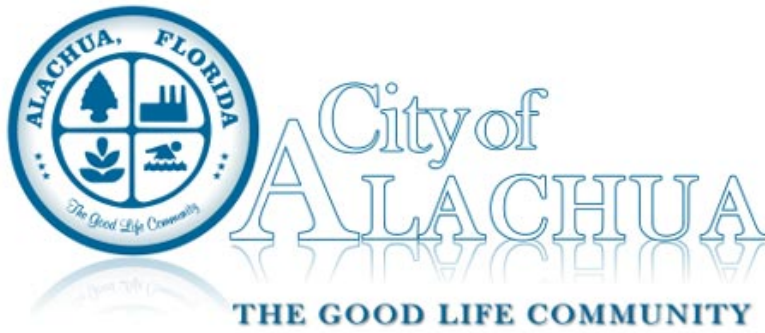
- **Strategic Plan updates**

- Initiative 1: Reestablish the City's Mentor Volunteer Program and include community business and nonprofit organizations.
 - Staff has coordinate with the SBAC to participate in the Take Stock in Children (TSIC) mentor program offered through the Education Foundation of Alachua County, with applications open for City Staff to apply through April 30. Staff will next reach out to community organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and Business League to encourage their participation, as well.
- Initiative 2: Create a centralized website to provide information for all education resources available for parents, teachers, students and potential residents.
 - Staff seeks input from the Education Task Force and members of the community regarding what kind of content and resources should be included on this site. If the ETF desires, a workshop can be scheduled to discuss this item, or input can alternatively be received during this regular meeting.
- Initiative 3: Promote and advocate for home visitation programs for families of children aged 0 to 5.
 - Staff met with Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Coordinator Stacey Williams on 3/5/2024. Staff learned that HIPPY currently covers 60 families in Alachua County that include children aged 2 to 6. The HIPPY program runs for 30 weeks per year and is reliant on outside funding sources. HIPPY in Alachua County is currently operating at capacity and would require the hire of another full-time home visitor who could meet with a maximum of 25 families in order to expand into the City of Alachua. The approximate estimated cost for a full-time home visitor and requisite program supplies is slightly under \$40,000 per year.
 - Staff conducted research regarding sustainable funding sources for this Initiative along with Initiatives 4 and 5. Staff so far has been unable to find State or National-level grant funding that would be sustainable as most government grants are not reoccurring but are for a single award. The Education Foundation of Alachua County might consider some funding requests, but their scholarships are typically limited to a maximum of \$5,000 and geared toward individual student and teacher requests. There is also a possibility the W.K. Kellogg Foundation might consider sponsoring an initiative, but they also do not typically fund reoccurring projects.
 - Staff met with Parents as Teachers manager Fay Davis on 4/1/2024. This program, offered in partnership through the Florida Association of Healthy

Start Coalitions and the WellFlorida Council, offers a similar in-home visitation program to HIPPY. There is currently capacity to add services within this program, and Ms. Davis will be responding with a proposed partnership plan of action to help advertise and promote their resources imminently.

- Initiative 4: Work with the School Board of Alachua County and private childcare organizations to expand the number of Voluntary Prekindergarten classes in the community.
 - SBAC VPK Program Administrative Coordinator Trisha Nieves reached out to Staff on 1/10/2024 regarding funding for starting a new VPK class at Irby Elementary. SBAC has decided to open this new class, which will serve an additional 20 students this coming school year, 2024-2025. The total funding required for furniture, curriculum and supplies is approximately \$18,100. Staff will research potential grant opportunities to assist with this one-time expense.
 - Staff will connect with Lee's Preschool, Little Angels Child Care, O2B Kids, Bhaktivedanta Academy, and Love-N-Care Preschool to see what resources would be needed to add capacity to their VPK offerings.
- Initiative 5: Identify sustainable funding sources from the private sector and / or State and Federal Government for subsidizing high-dose tutors and family liaisons.
 - SBAC is in the process of reconsidering whether it will provide funding going forward for these positions. Further effort by Staff will await the results of that decision. The funding needs for each position are: \$42,843.01 for each Family Liaison Specialist and \$30,844.05 for each High-Dose Tutor.
 - Ross Woodbridge, Manager of the Alachua Branch of the Alachua County Library District, reached out to Staff inquiring about the possibility of the library's tutoring services (currently offered on Mondays and Tuesdays) assisting in this regard. Staff responded to Mr. Woodbridge on 3/28/2024 providing more detail on what services high-dose tutors and family liaisons provide to local schools and welcoming his help, inviting him to today's regular meeting.
- Initiative 6: Coordinate with the Alachua Chamber of Commerce and Optimal Station to provide book vending machines in community schools.
 - Staff has communicated several times with staff at Optimal Station, and the vending machines are ready. Coordinating the source(s) for providing books for the machines is in progress. Staff and Optimal Station have so far contacted the Children's Trust of Alachua County and the UF Lastinger Center and has received recommendations for other possible sources to follow up with.
- **Children's Home Society of Florida Community Partnership School update**
 - Staff followed up with John Sherman, Senior Director of Community Partnership Schools, who had previously met with Staff on 9/11/2023 to discuss the possibility of establishing a Community Partnership School in one of the City's public schools

(currently one such school is in Alachua County at Howard Bishop Middle School, which had been established with the help of current Mebane Middle School Principle Michael Gamble). Mr. Sherman and LaToya Jennings-Lopez, Director of Howard Bishop's Community Partnership School, met with SBAC Superintendent Shane Andrew in November 2023, who was favorable to the idea of eventually seeking to expand into Alachua. Mr. Sherman informed Staff he has transitioned out of his current role with the Children's Home and has been replaced as Senior Director by Mary Brown, whom he introduced to Staff. Ms. Brown informed staff on 4/17/2024 that she recently met with the Superintendent about discussing potential school grant sites and will meet again in May to begin the strategic planning process. Staff is currently scheduling a meeting with Ms. Brown tentatively for the week of May 6 to discuss the possibility of an Alachua school as one of these school grant sites.



Board/Committee Agenda Item

MEETING DATE: 4/29/2024

SUBJECT: Discuss City Education Resource Website

PREPARED BY: David Wisener, Economic Development Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Education Task Force members hold a discussion to determine what kind of content should be included on the City's education resource website. If desired, the ETF can limit this discussion to this regular meeting; alternatively, the ETF can move, approve, and schedule a workshop to receive broader community input on this topic.

Summary

Strategic Initiative 2 of the Education Task Force Strategic Plan 2024 is "Create a centralized website to provide information for all education resources available for parents, teachers, students and potential residents." Action Step 1 of this initiative is "Discuss at April 29, 2024 Education Task Force meeting what content should be included on website; schedule a workshop if desired."
