

21ST CENTURY PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION, INC

MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 7, 2022, 11:00AM, GA VECTR:

GEORGIA VETERANS EDUCATION TRANSITION RESOURCE CENTER,

WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA

PRESENT: Dan Slagle, Ivan Allen, Mark Byrd, Charlie Cantrell, Dr. Penny Elkins, Roy Fickling, Gary Garrard, Todd Giddens, George Greer, Toni Hannah, Dwight Jones, Robert Hatcher, Randy Meade, Andi Mitchell, Jeremy Nelms, Christina O'Brien, LaRhonda Patrick, Dr. Mark Scott, Bob Walker, John Kubinec, Dan Rhoades, Bob Herrmann, Debra Cox, and Lori Freeman

ABSENT: Malcolm Burgess, Brad Fink, Kirby Godsey, Todd Kinnebrew, Lester Miller, Emily Myers, Marlan Nichols, Chris Sheridan, Tommy Stalnaker, Rob Brooks, Eddie Wiggins

GUEST: Dr. Henry Childs, Angie Gheesling, Col Don Layne, Laura Mathis, Dan Perdue, Chairman Ned Sanders, Sen Larry Walker, Rep Shaw Blackmon, Dr. Govind Kannan, Gen Jon Eberlan, Jay Flesher, Kel Thede

The 21st Century Partnership Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Slagle at 11:35 AM with a welcome and asked that brief introductions be given by those in attendance.

Chairman Dan Slagle then turned the meeting over to John Kubinec, President, and CEO of the 21st Century Partnership.

John Kubinec acknowledged Gen Eberlan's attendance and asked him to give an update on Robins Air Force Base. Gen Eberlan thanked the 21st Century Partnership and the community for their support of the Robins Air Force Base and spoke on the various missions coming to Robins and the JSTARS retirement at Robins Air Force Base and its impact on the community.

John Kubinec gave an update on the Legislative Efforts in support of the Base and support on education and military spouse licensure. He also spoke on the GA-Aim Grant award and its impact on the community. He acknowledged Bob Herrmann, Executive Director- Middle Georgia STEM Alliance, as our recent hire to help implement the grant and announced the retirement of Jamie Cook from the Partnership at the end of the year.

Bob Herrmann, spoke on the teammates involved in Ga-Aim Grant. They are as follows: 21st Century Partnership Middle Georgia STEM Alliance and Grant Administration, Development Authority of Houston County- Middle Georgia Innovation Project, Fort Valley State University- Mobile STEM Lab, and Middle Georgia Regional Commission. Bob Herrmann also spoke on the Middle Georgia STEM Alliance and its development of the STEM pipeline throughout the middle Georgia area through scholarships, dual enrollment programs, camps, and coding events. He also shared the impact of the 1st STEM City Expo held at the Museum of Aviation on Sept 10, 2022, and the Memo of Understanding signed by the Robins AFB and the Partnership for K-12 STEM.

Angie Gheesling-Development Authority of Houston County, spoke on the GA-Aim Grant and its impact on the Middle Georgia Innovation Project-(MGIP). MGIP will connect middle Georgia businesses with GA-Aim resources and strengthen partnerships with employers, schools, technology institutions and innovation centers. A “Living In Middle Georgia” Campaign will be launched as well.

Dr. Govind Kannan- Dean, Fort Valley State University (FVSU), College of Agriculture, Family Sciences and Technology, shared the impact of the GA-AIM Grant on Fort Valley State University. They are implementing Mobile Learning Programs allowing for STEM education focused on Industry 4.0 and Precision Agriculture. This will allow support for rural and underserved communities and will work in concert with FVSU FabLab.

John Kubinec gave an update on the FY 2022 Budget, the proposed 2023 Budget and the GA-Aim Authorized Funding.

Dr. Ivan Allen, President of Central Georgia Technical College, and vice chair of the Partnership shared that the 1-million-dollar grant CGTC received will allow for Robotics training in the GA VECTR center in support of the Robins AFB and Gen Eberlan.

Chairman Dan Slagle acknowledged that John Kubinec’s contract as President and CEO of the 21st Century Partnership was renewed in September by board approval for 2 years instead of one.

John Kubinec recognized our new sponsors for 2022 and thanked our continued supporters. He shared how the new donation capability on the 21st Century Partnership website was working well and was beneficial for support of the Care Package donations provided to our Robins AFB deployed Military members this year.

Chairman Dan Slagle asked for a motion on the approval of the FY 2023 Budget. The motion to approve the FY 2023 Budget was made by Bob Hatcher followed by a second from Roy Fickling and was approved unanimously.

Dr. Ivan Allen asked for a motion on the reappointment of Dan Slagle as Chairman. The motion to approve the reappointment of Dan Slagle as Chairman was made by Dwight Jones followed by a second from Dr. Penny Elkins and was approved unanimously.

Chairman Dan Slagle asked for a motion on the approval to appoint Kirby Godsey, Emily Myers, and the Honorable Bob McMahon as Trustee Emeritus. The motion to appoint those mentioned above to Trustee Emeritus was made by Bob Hatcher followed by a second from Dr. Penny Elkins and was approved unanimously.

Dan Slagle asked for a motion on the approval to appoint Dan Perdue, Steve Davison, Charles Briscoe, John Hall, and Ben Hulbert as new Trustees. The motion to appoint the new Trustees was made by George Greer followed by a second from Roy Fickling and was approved unanimously.

Dan Slagle asked for a motion on the approval to reappoint all Trustees whose terms were expiring this month. The motion to reappoint all Trustees was made by Dr. Ivan Allen followed by a second from Roy Fickling and was approved unanimously.

Dan Slagle recognized and thanked departing Trustees, Chairman Tommy Stalnaker and Toni Hannah for their continued support.

Laura Mathis- Middle Georgia Regional Commission thanked the community and leaders in the room for their support of solving the encroachment of the Robins AFB (Project name: SOAP) that had been in the works for 18 years and for the solution of the Robins Solar Facility. A Print was provided to key leadership at the SOAP Celebration held on October 26, 2022. Debra Cox was presented a framed print and appreciated as the artist of the print.

Jay Flesher, Community and Economic Developer, Flint Energies presented a check to the 21st Century Partnership for the use in STEM education.

Chairman Dan Slagle adjourned the meeting at 1:35pm.