



Richland County Council  
Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee Meeting  
**MINUTES**  
February 13, 2024 – 4:00 PM  
Council Chambers  
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jesica Mackey, Chair, Paul Livingston, and Chakisse Newton

OTHERS PRESENT: Allison Terracio, Overture Walker, Don Weaver, Anette Kirylo, Patrick Wright, Tamar Black, Ashiya Myers, Aric Jensen, Angela Weathersby, Kyle Holsclaw, Chelsea Bennett, Michelle Onley, Lori Thomas, Darlene Gathers, Susan O’Cain, John Thompson, Dale Welch, Dante Roberts, Leonardo Brown, Maddison Wilkerson, Kate Bugby, and Stacey Hamm

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairwoman Jesica Mackey called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 PM.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. December 12, 2023 – Ms. Newton moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Livingston.  
  
In Favor: Livingston, Mackey, and Newton  
  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Livingston moved to adopt the agenda as published, seconded by Ms. Newton.  
  
In Favor: Livingston, Mackey, and Newton  
  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
4. **ELECTION OF THE CHAIR** – Mr. Livingston nominated Ms. Mackey for the position of Chair, seconded by Ms. Newton.  
  
In Favor: Livingston, Mackey, and Newton  
  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION**
  - a. Initiatives – Ms. Lori Thomas, Assistant County Administrator, stated that there is a list of recommended changes before the committee today, which would decrease the number of initiatives from 94 to 50. She indicated there were a number of duplications in the initiatives. Attention was called to Initiatives 1.5.1 and 1.5.2 for additional discussion. Staff requested the committee to consider developing a list of partners with which the County is engaged and continue to update the list to evaluate additional partners with whom the County should engage.  
  
Ms. Mackey reminded the committee this is a continuation of the Strategic Planning Forum. The goal is to ensure we can make the dashboard public on the County’s website.  
  
Ms. Newton inquired if the request is to consolidate Initiatives 1.5.1 and 1.5.2.  
  
Ms. Thomas responded the initiatives would not be combined, but the response would be the same for both initiatives.

Ms. Newton expressed her desire to identify opportunities for more formal interactions with our governmental partners.

Mr. Weaver suggested establishing relationships with the surrounding counties and municipalities.

Mr. Livingston moved to approve the staff's recommended changes to the initiatives, seconded by Ms. Newton.

In Favor: Livingston, Mackey, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. County Website Update – Mr. Dale Welch, Information Technology Director, stated that once the RFP has been published, it will be approximately two and a half months before a vendor is selected. They want to improve the user interface so citizens get a better experience when they login to the website. In addition, we need a content management system. The new Webmaster will assist in writing the RFP and will also be the project manager.

Ms. Mackey stated, for clarification, that the RFP should be published by the end of February.

Mr. Welch responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Mackey inquired if the RFP would be out for two and a half months.

Mr. Welch replied the whole process should take approximately two and a half months.

Ms. Mackey asked if the timeline would be predicated on the selected vendor or if the timeframe would be included in the RFP.

Mr. Welch indicated the timeline would depend on the vendor. At this time, he does not have a timeline for implementation, but they are motivated to get it done.

Ms. Newton noted one of the important things on the backend is change management. There are some things the organization needs to consider (i.e., ADA compliance).

Ms. Mackey requested Mr. Welch to update the committee on the timeline in early April.

- c. Governmental Affairs – Ms. Mackey stated she has been working with the Clerk of Council and the County Administrator to reinstate the Legislative Reception. The Clerk of Council's Office is researching available dates and locations for the event. She maintained we want to begin partnering and establishing relationships with the Legislative Delegation, municipalities, and surrounding counties. In addition to the Legislative Reception, we want to flesh out ideas to develop a calendar.

Ms. Newton asserted we should identify and discuss more formal interactions with our counterparts. Furthermore, we could explore administrative linkages (i.e., sharing agendas). She indicated we should maximize the resources and connections through the Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG).

Ms. Mackey stated Mr. Brown does attend Legislative Delegation meetings.

Mr. Livingston noted he does not want us to exclude County educators.

6. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Livingston moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Newton.

In Favor: Livingston, Mackey, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:25 PM.