

## MINUTES OF PUBLIC POLICY FORUM

September 22, 2016 3:00 p.m.

Co-chair Gary Goodrich and Mark McBride

Held at UTC Offices

Those in attendance: Mark McBride of LANDESK, Jonathan Johnson of Overstock.com, Travis Oliver of Thumbtack, Jack Walkenhorst of All West Communications, Dan Lloyd of inContact, Mark Escobedo of USI, Marina Goldberg of Zayo Group, Jacob Andra of U.S. Translation Company, Trent Wignall of Tech9, Susan Edwards of Canyons School District, Charlie Lansche of Fidelity Investments, Brock Lyle of Overstock.com, Brent Peterson of Comcast, Troy Tucker of BlueSky Business Resources, Tom Lund of Tanner LLC, Christina Ripley of Salt Lake Chamber, Ron Cluff of Security 101, Hugh Vail of Navanas Institute, Niel Nickolaisen of OC Tanner, Katie Smith of The Leonardo, Ron Hilton of Proximinal Systems Corporation, Chet Linton of School Improvement Network, Brad Daw of Adobe, Marilyn Davies of U of U, Chris Wight of Snow, Christensen & Martineau, Billy Hesterman of Utah Taxpayers Association, Andrew Sweeney of USTAR, Brittany Lesser of The Summit Group, Jake Rust of Northwestern Mutual, Al Landon of U of U, Benjamin May of Policy Impact Communications, Elias Bishop of Utah Solar Energy Association, Jarod Marrott of Kirton McConkie, Ross Whitaker of University of Utah, Jonathan Jackson and Richard Nelson of UTC

### **Welcome and Brief Introductions** – Richard Nelson

### **Minutes** – Mark McBride

*The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from July 21, 2016 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Facilitation of Meeting** – Mark McBride

### **Discussion:**

- **Non-compete Agreement** - Richard Nelson and Abby Albrecht  
Abby Albrecht reviewed the concept for a balanced and fair research study, and is working to secure funding for a comprehensive data-driven Utah specific survey that provides employer and employee perspectives on this issue. The study will be conducted by Cicero, and will seek to survey 1,000 employers to identify key issues concerning non-compete agreements to better inform policymakers and business leaders. The SL Chamber will host two open houses to educate the public. The business community's needed funding to support research is \$50,000 and the legislature has agreed to \$50,000 in matching funds.
- **Engineering Initiative** – Marylyn Davies  
Highlighted the success of the engineering initiative to increase the number of engineering graduates in the state in order to meet unmet job demands in the industry. It is projected to have an additional 450 graduates. Val Peterson requested to sponsor legislation. HAFB has the greatest demands for electrical and computer engineering. We have a capacity problem and University Departments are growing as fast as they can. U of U tracks all PhD, M.S., B.S., and A.S. programs. ACTION: Asking for \$5M ongoing funds to add capacity to courses to help more students through pipeline faster.
- **STEM Mentor Exchange** – Brent Peterson and Richard Nelson  
There are 200 Title 1 schools where schools like Edison Elementary have up to 95% of students receiving "free lunch". This is an industry driven, industry funded initiative and working to get top officials to buy into it. Al Landon mentioned the Park City mentoring exchange pilot program which

cost \$1-2M.

- **The Great State Sales Tax Grab** - Jonathan Johnson  
There is a decent chance online sales tax legislation will pass during the lame duck session. Issue is origin based and language is available in discussion draft. Named states can opt-in or opt-out. It is the same model as transportation tax.
- **The Leonardo's Appropriation Request for the Innovation Showcase** – Katie Smith  
Seeking funding for an industry specific exhibit: the Innovation Showcase. Seeking \$250K - \$1M in funding. Requesting UTC to consider as a top priority during the 2017 legislative session because many UTC members will be featured within this exhibit.
- **Campaign Update: State School Board** – Chet Linton and Jonathan Jackson  
State School Board race is a crucial race, because if the state school board is split, we risk going back 10 years in computer science and STEM progress. Discussed sending email to UTC membership on candidates UTC supports, primarily based on NEA/UEA funding received. The following candidates were recommended: Dave Thomas, Shelly Teuscher, Richard Nelson, Gary Thompson, Lisa Cummins, Alisa Ellis, Stan Lockhart, and Michelle Boulter.

*The motion was made and seconded to send email to UTC membership of the candidates UTC supports and the reasons why.*

*The motion was made and seconded to have UTC PAC take another look at contributions to candidates running for public office.*

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.