

**MINUTES**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK**  
**Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**Department of Development**  
**500 E. Main Street, Suite 1500**  
**Norfolk, VA 23510**

Present:

Directors

Robert E. Garris, Jr. - Presiding  
Michael Lee  
Jeffrey Brooke  
Kim Brown  
B. Wayne Coleman  
Michael Cox  
Jaeson Dandalides  
Richard Ottinger  
W. Craig Reilly  
Ursula Rhodes  
Antonio Sisco

Counsel

Barry Hunter – Kaufman & Canoles

Staff

Chuck Rigney – Executive Director  
Andrew Yancey - Secretary-Treasurer  
Dawn Ryan - Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Guests

Sean Washington – Department of Development  
Eric Hartley – Virginia Pilot  
Courtney Doyle - Norfolk Public School Board  
Rodney Jordan – Norfolk Public School Board

Absent

Christine Garczynski – Director of Finance

## **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Garris called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m. and welcomed guests and presenters to the meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Garris introduced the presenters for Norfolk Public Schools board members, Ms. Courtney Doyle and Mr. Rodney Jordan. Superintendent Dr. Boone was unable to be present for the presentation and looks forward to coming in the future. Mr. Jordan and Ms. Doyle both introduced themselves and gave a handout to the directors (Attachment #1). Norfolk public schools have about 32,000 students each year and 2,100 of them are in pre-K. 28 schools, or 61%, are accredited. Competitive athletics are in the middle and high school levels. The partnership between the Norfolk Public Schools and the City's recreation, parks and open space departments/committees allow elementary, middle and high school students access to athletic facilities. Maury high school recently received a new weight room courtesy of a few alumni: NFL football players Kam Chancellor, Leroy Reynolds and Vincent Painter. The department of interagency support is working to strengthen the relationship between the military and the public schools. Computer devices are being made available to all students and City Council is working on ways to help with funding.

Mr. Jordan and Ms. Doyle both stated that the City of Norfolk has been very good about funding for Norfolk Public Schools, showing that local government is very much invested in the education of its youth. Norfolk Public Schools is one of the top 10 employers in Norfolk. With an annual payroll of \$190 million and 5,300 employees, it is the ninth largest employer in the city. The economic impact studies show that only 12.5% of high school graduates stay in Norfolk to further their education at Old Dominion University, Norfolk State University, Virginian Wesleyan University or Tidewater Community College.

Many of those graduates enter the workforce upon completing high school, work during their college years, and stay after obtaining their degrees.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Garris asked Mr. Rigney to update the Board on the Send It Climbing Gym and possible purchase of property at Central Business Park. Mr. Rigney explained that the Department of Development has a letter of intent from the owners and would like to move forward with the sale of the property.

Mr. Lee made the following motion:

“Mr. Chairman, I move that the Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk (a) accept the Letter of Intent from Send It Climbing Gym to purchase 7405 Sewells Point Road at a purchase price of \$165,000 and (b) direct the officers of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk to enter into a purchase contract with respect to such property and to execute and deliver a deed from such property, in each case, upon such terms and conditions as shall be acceptable to such terms and conditions as shall be acceptable to such officers and counsel to the Authority.” Mr. Lee’s motion was seconded by Mr. Sisco and unanimously approved. (Vote 11-0-0).

Mr. Rigney also added that once the sale of the property is final, a small portion of the proceeds will be held aside for Central Business Park ground maintenance and park upkeep. It was the consensus of the Board that this was an excellent idea.

Chairman Garris asked Mr. Rigney for an update on the IKEA project on North Hampton Blvd. Mr. Rigney explained that the IKEA footprint had to be modified to fit the project in the tight land space. The working site square footage is 332,000 sq. ft. but their stores are usually 338,000 sq. ft. So IKEA store engineers are performing more work on the site design and confirmed fall of 2018 for breaking

ground and spring of 2019 for opening. The redesign has been completed in stages due to the water reservoir and smaller building footprint.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Lee made the following motion to enter into a closed session regarding the acquisition by lease for public purpose:

"Mr. Chairman, I move that the Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk meet in closed session, as allowed by Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Virginia Code, to discuss the acquisition by lease of real property for a public purpose such real property located at 999 Waterside Drive, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor, Norfolk, Virginia, and 500 East Main Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Norfolk, Virginia, to be used for the offices of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk, where discussion in open meeting would adversely affect the Authority's bargaining or negotiating position or strategy."

Mr. Lee's motion was seconded by Mr. Coleman and unanimously approved. (Vote 11-0-0). By a roll call vote, Mr. Brook, Ms. Brown, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dandalides, Mr. Lee, Mr. Ottinger, Mr. Reilly, Ms. Rhodes, Mr. Sisco, and Mr. Garris voted aye.

After the closed session, the Board reconvened in an open meeting. Mr. Lee then made the following motion:

"Mr. Chairman, I move that the Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk, Virginia, adopt a resolution by roll call vote certifying that the only matters discussed during the closed session just concluded were those matters both lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened."

The motion was seconded by Mr. Coleman and unanimously approved. (Vote 11-0-0). By a roll call vote, Mr. Brook, Ms. Brown, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dandalides, Mr. Lee, Mr. Ottinger, Mr. Reilly, Ms. Rhodes, Mr. Sisco, and Mr. Garris voted aye.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Rigney stated that he had just returned from Toronto, Canada where the International Economic Development Council awarded the City of Norfolk two excellence awards in economic development. Out of 1300 entries, the City won the silver excellence award in Economic Development for 824 Military Highway, a project in the category of Real Estate Redevelopment & Reuse as well as a Bronze Excellence in Economic Development Award for its Norfolk Works Waterside Week Hiring event campaign, a project in the category of Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Single event of the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

### **MINUTES**

Chairman Garris advised that no minutes would be approved at this meeting but tabled until the next meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Approved by *Robert E. Sani, Jr.*

Attachments: 1. Norfolk Public Schools handout