

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK

Meeting Minutes

The Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk called, and held, its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at 12:00 Noon on the 4th floor of the Dominion Tower, 999 Waterside Drive, Suite 400 Norfolk, Virginia 23510.

Due to COVID-19, the public was also granted electronic access to the meeting via WebEx through a link on the EDA's Website.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Antonio Sisco – Chair
Jeffrey Brooke – Vice Chair
Gary Bonnewell – (Remote – Traveling at Airport)
Kim Brown
Jaeson Dandalides
Richard Ottinger
Kelsey Host-Sarcone
Carter Smith
Morgan Whayland

STAFF PRESENT:

Jared Chalk – Executive Director
Sean Washington – Secretary-Treasurer
Dawn Ryan – Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

COUNSEL PRESENT:

Barry Hunter – Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.

GUESTS:

Bob Sharak – Department of Development
Brandon Sabetta – SB Ballard Construction

ABSENT:

Linwood Fisher – recent resignation
Ursula Rhodes
Darielle Williams

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Sisco called the meeting to order at 12:12 PM and thanked staff and directors present for attending.

AGENDA OVERVIEW

The Chairman started the meeting by requesting all staff and directors, including the two newest appointees, to introduce themselves.

The Chairman then entertained a motion for remote participation by director Bonnewell. The motion was made by Mr. Brooke, seconded by Mr. Ottinger, and unanimously approved. Vote 7-0-0.

The Chairman mentioned that Mr. Fisher had recently resigned from the Board due to health issues and that director Smith had been asked to assume Mr. Fisher's position on the CAP committee.

OLD BUSINESS/BRIEFING

Chairman Sisco entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of the September 1, 2021, Board meeting. Mr. Brooke moved to approve the minutes and Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0-2, with two abstentions by Mr. Sisco and Mr. Ottinger.

Director Dandalides joined the meeting at 12:17 PM.

NEW BUSINESS / UPDATES

Mr. Chalk updated the directors on the following items: (i) The Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA) Conference (which was held in Norfolk this year); (ii) the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) (they are focusing on "Mega Sites", that have launched the Virginia Talent Accelerator Program, and they have created the first comprehensive international trade strategic plan); (iii) Metronet (they are starting in Sewells Point and will likely have customers by the first quarter of 2022); (iv) the offshore wind market; (v) Lambert's Point Docks; (vi) the IEDC Conference (one silver award for Norfolk Works – talent development and retention and a gold award for Norfolk Innovation corridor – Public-Private Partnerships); and (vii) Military Circle Mall. (Attachment #1)

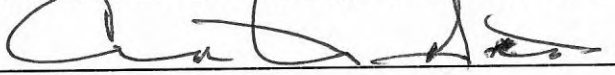
Mr. Washington presented three Capital Access Program (CAP) resolutions. After the briefing, Mr. Smith moved to approve the resolution for the \$5,000 grants, which was seconded by Ms. Brown and unanimously approved. (Attachment #2) Ms. Brown then moved to approve the \$50,000 Cares Act RLF loan to Vessel Craft Coffee, seconded by Ms. Host-Sarcone and unanimously approved. (Attachment #3) Ms. Brown moved to approve the resolution for the two \$25,000 Cares Act RLF Loans, which motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and unanimously approved. (Attachment #4)

Mr. Washington reminded the directors of that the Willis Building is in the process of being demolished and the improved land will be transferred back to the city if approved by City Council at the October 26, 2021, meeting.

In response to a question about the status of the Casino, Mr. Chalk stated the Casino is waiting on the State for a License.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Approved by 

Attachments:

1. Project Update Presentation
2. CAP Grant Resolution - \$5,000
3. Cares Act RLF Loan Resolution - \$50,000
4. Cares Act RLF Loan Resolution - \$25,000