

# 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, February 2, 2022, 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  
Kim Brown  
Jaeson Dandalides  
Richard Ottinger  
George Polizos  
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:**

Trevor Metcalfe – The Virginia Pilot  
Brandon Sabetta – SBBCC  
Larry Pendleton - PC Financial Services  
Bob Sharak – Department of Economic Development  
Nihal Vasty - Department of Economic Development

### **REMOTE PARTICIPATION GUESTS:**

Alan Boring – Department of Economic Development  
Lashawnda Williams Hall – Department of Economic Development  
Chantel Walton – Department of Economic Development  
Dan Shelton – Whiting Turner  
Jennel Baltazar - Whiting Turner

### **ABSENT:**

Kelsey Host-Sarcone

## **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Chairman Sisco called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM and thanked staff and directors present for attending.

## **OLD BUSINESS/BRIEFING**

The Chairman then asked for approval of the minutes of the January 5, 2022, Board meeting. Mr. Brooke moved to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Ottinger and unanimously approved. (Vote 8-0-0).

## **AGENDA OVERVIEW**

Mr. Chalk reviewed the agenda items and gave the Board his report on projects that have been presented to City Council in recent months. Mr. Chalk also advised the Board the Mayors' State of the City was going to be held in person on April 7, 2022, and that staff would send out a calendar request for the benefit of any member interested in attending.

## **NEW BUSINESS / UPDATES**

Mr. Chalk introduced the first presenters on the agenda: Mr. Alan Boring, Mrs. Lashawnda Hall and Ms. Chantel Walton each of whom further introduced themselves prior to commencement of the presentation. Mr. Boring started with a general description of the program catalog, mission, and vision statement, as well as outlining the small business initiative pillars of the program followed to provide assistance to local businesses. Mrs. Hall discussed the Rockefeller Foundation Opportunity and summarized how they provide funding to Black and Latinx microbusinesses, including budget totals. Ms. Walton captured a snapshot of recommended changes and reported on some one-year metrics. The presentation concluded with testimonials from some of the businesses that had participated in the program. (Attachment #1)

After the presentation, Mr. Washington updated the Board regarding changes to the program as covered by the resolution presented to the Board for consideration. Upon a motion by Mr. Brooke and seconded by Ms. Brown, the Rockefeller Grant and Small Business Technical Assistance Resolution was unanimously approved. (Vote was 8-0-0).

Mr. Washington advised the Board that the EDA's audit was complete and that it would be presented at the next meeting for approval.

Mr. Hunter advised the Board of the failed closing on the property at 935 Denison Avenue last month. He said the non-refundable deposit had already been received and a termination letter will be sent. This property will go back on the market as available.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Brooke made the following motion to convene in a closed meeting:

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Sections 2.2-3711.A.29 and 2.2-3711.A.39 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract which relate to the redevelopment of Military Circle Mall, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the Authority's bargaining position or negotiating strategy, and/or discussion or consideration of proprietary information related to economic development which is excluded from mandatory disclosure pursuant to subdivision 3 of Section 2.2-3705.6 of the Code of Virginia. Roll call vote: Mr. Brooke, Ms. Brown, Mr. Dandalides, Mr. Ottinger, Mr. Polizos, Mr. Sisco, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Whyland, all aye, with no nays. (Vote 8-0-0)

After reconvening in an open meeting, Mr. Brooks read the following certification for consideration by the Board:

The Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk certify that to the best of their knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Directors of the Authority. Roll call vote: Mr. Brooke, Ms. Brown, Mr. Dandalides, Mr. Ottinger, Mr. Polizos, Mr. Sisco, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Whyland, all aye, with no nays. (Vote 8-0-0)

Mr. Brooke then made the following motion to convene in a closed meeting:

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.39 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussion or consideration of proprietary information related to business and trade development in the Lamberts Point area of the City which is excluded from mandatory disclosure pursuant to subdivision 3 of Section 2.2-3705.6 of the Code of Virginia. Roll call vote: Mr. Brooke, Ms. Brown, Mr. Dandalides, Mr. Ottinger, Mr. Polizos, Mr. Sisco, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Whyland, all aye, with no nays. (Vote 8-0-0)

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#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the EDA, Mr. Sisco adjourned the meeting at 1:39 PM.

Approved by  \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments:

1. The Rockefeller Grant and Small Business Technical Assistance Program – presentation
2. The Rockefeller Grant and Small Business Technical Assistance - Resolution