

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 19, 2022, at 12:00 PM, 4th floor of the Dominion Tower, 999 Waterside Drive, Suite 415 Norfolk, Virginia 23510.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Antonio Sisco – Chair
Jeffrey Brooke – Vice Chair
Kim Brown – Arrived at 1:45 PM
Jaeson Dandalides
Richard Ottinger
Henri Patten
George Polizos
Kelsey Host-Sarcone – left at 1:42 PM
Carter Smith
Morgan Whyland

STAFF PRESENT:

Sean Washington – Secretary-Treasurer
Dawn Ryan – Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

COUNSEL PRESENT:

Barry Hunter – Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.

ABSENTEE DIRECTORS:

Matthew Hales

GUESTS:

Katelyn Philleo – Department of Economic Development
Mia Byrd - Department of Economic Development
Maya Keplinger - - Department of Economic Development
Chip Filer – City Manager
Christine Garczynski – Director of Finance City of Norfolk
Bill Berger – Larrymore Organization

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Sisco called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon and thanked staff and directors present for attending.

Chairman Sisco asked if there were any public comments. There being none, he proceeded with the business of the meeting.

BRIEFING

Chairman Sisco asked the Directors to review the minutes of the September 7, 2022, Board meeting and provide any comments or corrections. There being no comments or corrections, Chairman Sisco entertained a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Director Patten moved to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Director Polizos and unanimously approved. (Vote 8-0-0).

AGENDA OVERVIEW

Mr. Washington reviewed the agenda before proceeding.

REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Washington gave a brief Director's Report that included development updates on the Rosna Theater timeline, the Offshore Wind Project and Industrial Land Use. Mr. Washington requested the marketing update be delayed until the next Board meeting. Mr. Washington then asked if there were any questions. Director Sarcone asked about the vacancies in the downtown area, to which Mr. Washington responded that the upcoming Norfolk Corridor Strategy will be implemented to bring more businesses back to downtown. Chairman Sisco asked if there were any additional questions; there were none. Mr. Washington then requested the financial update be postponed to the following meeting so there would be more time to discuss the financials and budget for the upcoming year.

Mr. Washington updated the Board on Military Circle Mall, outlining the steps that had been taken since the last meeting. Mr. Washington explained the rent abatement and incentive assistance packages being offered to the current tenants. Mr. Washington said that if all tenants were eligible for the incentives being offered, the

cost to the EDA would total \$844,000; however, this case scenario was very unlikely. Mr. Washington asked if there were any questions; there were none.

Mr. Washington then requested a change in the order of the agenda to accommodate the City Manager who was there for the closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

Vice Chairman Brooke presented the following motion for consideration by the Board, which motion was seconded by Director Smith and unanimously approved:

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.3 and 2.2-3711.A.29 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of (i) discussion or consideration of the disposition of publicly held real property in connection with the redevelopment of Military Circle Mall where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the Authority's bargaining position or negotiating strategy, and (ii) discussion of the terms or scope of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds 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. Roll call vote: Director Brooke, Director Dandalides, Director Ottinger, Director Patten, Director Polizos, Director Host-Sarcone, Director Smith, Director Sisco, and Director Whayland, all aye. (Vote 9-0-0)

After reconvening in an open meeting, the Directors unanimously approved the following certification:

"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: Director Brooke, Director Dandalides, Director Ottinger, Director Patten, Director Polizos, Director Host-Sarcone, Director Smith, Director Sisco, and Director Whayland, all ayes. (Vote 9-0-0)

NEW BUSINESS / UPDATES

Mr. Washington reviewed the new business and updates section of the agenda. Mr. Washington asked Director Sisco for an update from the nominating committee. Director Sarcone reported that the nominating committee, consisting of Director Sarcone, Director Ottinger, and Director Dandalides, had met at which one member of the public was present. It was the recommendation of the committee to add an additional Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, and to have Kate Philleo fill that position. Additionally, the role of Executive Director was discussed and the committee recommended initiating a search for an outside Executive Director. It was contemplated that the search would be initiated within the next two months and the committee would meet again to discuss the job posting and compensation. Director Sarcone asked if the Board had any questions. Director Smith asked if the Board would need to approve and vote on the job listing prior to posting. Director Smith also asked what other EDA Boards do for this process and what compensation they provide. The Board discussed the questions presented and decided further research was warranted. Director Sisco suggested a motion be made to approve the slate of officers. A motion was made by Director Ottinger, seconded by Director Smith, and unanimously approved to elect the following officers:

Chairman	Director Sisco
Vice Chairman	Director Brooke
Interim Executive Director	Sean Washington
Secretary Treasurer	Sean Washington
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer	Dawn Ryan
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer	Katelyn Philleo

(Vote 9-0-0) Director Sarcone left the meeting at 1:42 PM.

Mr. Washington next presented a Black Brand support resolution. Director Brown arrived at 1:45 PM. Black Brand was seeking a match to the City's \$5,000 donation for an upcoming event on November 11-13, 2022. Motion to approve a \$5,000 sponsorship was made by Director Polizos, seconded by Director Brown, and unanimously approved. (Vote 8-0-0)

Mr. Washington suggested the next meeting be a Board retreat instead of just a regular business meeting. The suggestion was well received, and the Board decided to cancel the previously scheduled meeting on November 9th in favor of a Board retreat to be held on November 18th.

Chairman Sisco asked if there were any additional questions or concerns. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 1:49 PM.

Approved by 

Attachments:

1. Black Brand Resolution