

King George County Economic Development Authority
Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2023, 5:00PM

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Beckey Gallamore, chairman.

Present: Daniel Hudson, June Drake, Guy Booth, Delaine Richards, Sandra Wimberley.
Also present: Nick Minor, Director of Economic Development & Tourism and Kim Cook, Economic Development Specialist.

2. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes for February 2023

Minutes reviewed.

Motion made by Sandra Wimberley to approve the minutes as presented.

Seconded by Delaine Richards.

Vote: Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

4. Reports of Members:

Delaine Richards: No report.

Sandra Wimberley: No report.

Daniel Hudson: No report.

Guy Booth: No report.

June Drake: Talked with NSWC- about stem and briefly about Mr. Simonoff's presentation, NSWC interested in conversations of what that would look like, will work with Mr. Minor, and get Mr. Simonoff involved.

Nick Minor: Presented to the board in February the Economic Development incentive plan that centered on technology zones and production zones, focused on Industrial Park and the second business park, the Cleydael property and the entire Dahlgren settlement area. Would like to do presentation at the next EDA meeting, this is a strategy to incentivize and provide flexibility for the board to allow industries Dahlgren adjacent to June Drake added (inaudible)

Nick Minor – County has made offer to Public Information officer. Waiting on her acceptance.

Beckey Gallamore: Asked for report on Innovations Challenge.

Mr. Minor, Ms. Wimberley and I went to new popcorn place. Was late getting to Highmark' s opening day.

5. Presentation: Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce, Regional Collaboration

Presentation given by Susan Spears, President and CEO for Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce, Tyron Logan, co-chair for this project and Wendy Zelazny, Vice President of Membership. Shared a proposal for regional trip to Lexington, Kentucky that will bring together regional stakeholders for planning district 16. Mr. Logan and Ms. Zelazny presented video on leadership visits. Networking is the number one activity of value. The Bluegrass Region of Lexington, KY is a city surrounded by 9 counties. Fredericksburg is a city with 4 counties. We need to work together to be more

competitive. There are 3 shared inter-related challenges: Education, Workforce and Tourism. Presented itinerary, goals and partnership benefits.

Requesting \$20,000 for 2 persons. Will be considered partners for the trip. Total cost of trip would be around \$250,000. Ideally it would be great to have someone from schools, supervisors, EDA, business, and Dahlgren. Will open up to anyone from small business at some point.

Discussion about who will pay for others, organizations or small business will pay for themselves.

6. Updates:

a. Innovation Challenge

Mike Hubbard gave presentation of update for Innovation Challenge. 10 Universities attending: Carnegie-Melon- first place. Second was VA Tech., third was William and Mary. This was a success. The base had hiring managers on site, and the opportunity to offer internships on site. This was a collaboration between the private sector, academia, and DoD. This was a three-day event. This year we have 25 high school teams competing. Rappahannock Community College and Germanna Community College are now providing instructors in smaller schools that did not have instructors. High school challenge will be robotic challenge. Schools will be keeping the robotic, receiving a 3D printer, will continue to develop STEM programs within those schools. Teachers supporting this have had train the trainer. University of Mary Washington was fifth.

b. Website Launch

Nick Minor displayed the new website, not active yet. Went through pages, what's included, links, and where information for commercial properties come from. Website is updatable.

Discussion about multiple topics surrounding economic development. Permit process and need for education from Community Development.

c. EDA Compensation

Nick Minor reports that Spotsylvania gets \$100, Stafford nothing, Fredericksburg nothing and we pay \$50. Discussion about planned expenses and potential. Compensation tabled indefinitely per consensus.

d. Business Appreciation Reception

Nick Minor- Discussed expenses and differences between venues. Invitations will be mailed. How will we get sponsors. Will be solicited.

Suggested that \$7500 be EDA portion.

Motion to approve up to \$7500 for the reception made by Delaine Richards.

Seconded by Sandra Wimberley.

Vote: Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Nick Minor reports- Equipment of America wants to relocate from Upper Marlboro to King George. Looking at Northern Neck Transport property. Heavy equipment sales and service. Birchwood rezoning will be back this month.

Ms. Gallamore asked about the property with option in the Industrial Park.

Mr. Minor reports lease will expire in June. Greenchip put option on option.

Discussion continued about Chamber of Commerce trip. Cost vs benefits, who would be asked to go, could small business be assisted with cost.

Daniel Hudson made a motion to approve \$20,000 with stipulation that 3 additional seats available at minimum for King George.

Seconded by Guy Booth.

Discussion continued.

Vote: Ayes: 6, Nays: 0. Motion carried.

7. Adjourn to April 13, 2023

Motion made by June Drake

Seconded by Sandra Wimberley

Vote unanimously yes.

Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Roan Grapes, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved on _____