

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

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order by chair, Beckey Gallamore.

Present: Sandra Wimberley, June Drake, and Daniel Hudson.

Also present: Nick Minor, Director of Economic Development and Tourism and Roan Grapes, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Guy Booth and Delaine Richards

2. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of minutes:

Minutes reviewed by members.

Motion to accept the minutes as presented made by June Drake.

Motion seconded by Sandra Wimberley.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

4. Reports of members:

Daniel Hudson: Introduced himself. Father of 4. Broker and real estate agent. Chair with Duck's Unlimited and will be stepping down soon.

June Drake: Nothing to report.

Sandra Wimberley: Nothing to report.

Beckey Gallamore: Nothing to report.

5. Presentation: Smart Community STEM Camp

George Hinckley, Founder, President, and CEO presented a concept briefing on the Smart Community STEM Camp. It is a non-profit. Has strategic partners in the Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic, Society of American Military Engineers, The American Legion Department of Virginia, Virginia Alliance of YMCAs, Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation. Has collaborative partners in Joint Hypersonics Transitions Office, Naval X, Rappahannock Area YMCA, The Ohio State University, "Star Lab" and VIPC Public Safety Innovation Center. He explained the program and results from the camp session held in summer of 2022. He proposes to make this an after-school program that would be available to any student, not just academically advanced. He wants to expand this into the King George School system and the YMCA. Has programs in place at Shirley C. Heim Middle School, and Drew Middle School planned for spring of 2023. Will collaborate with Virginia Smart Community Stem Camp at University of Mary Washington for Summer 2023 and 2024. He is proposing eight weeks to check proof of concept and level of interest for Spring 2023 for King George Middle School and gave overview of proposal for summer, next fall and Spring of 2024. He explained the Zephyr program and Skydio and their contributions to the program.

He spoke about the program that was held at the Rosner YMCA, had 55 kids show up. So very excited about program possibilities with the YMCA for summer.

Should King George decide to promote this program he presented a proposed budget of Labor- \$36,075 and Equipment - \$16,332 with a total of \$52,407. He explained the program hours. Expects that some equipment will be donated or purchased and currently has some equipment available. Interns who teach and mentor students are paid. King George currently has 1 student who has completed coursework and is an intern.

Questions raised:

How are students selected? At Hiem the program is in the school, and Stafford has contract with YMCA to administer afterschool programs. Not sure if King George has that.

What would business model look like for King George?

Don't know what kind of facilities the Y has for this.

Are you asking the EDA for the \$52,000? Mr. Hinckley: yes.

How does this compliment or dovetail the stem program already in place in King George.

Mr. Hinckley has not spoken with NSWC if this program is complimentary or conflicting with existing program.

How do we not wear out current staff.

Have you talked to the base about getting drones.

Suggest Mr. Hinckley speak with Dahlgren.

Mr. Hinckley talked about how many children could be potentially seen in the program.

Have you had conversations with the school? Not yet.

Nick Minor- wants consensus from the board to ask Mr. Hinckley to refine and bring back?

Consensus is yes with a little more homework.

Mr. Hinckley has submitted an application to National Science Foundation for funds to start a regional innovation engine.

6. Grant Requests:

a. Triple Ality Nail Salon:

Latonya Blakeney presented her request for \$4,900.00 to make building upgrades for electrical, plumbing, and carpentry to open her business. Discussion of location, next to Uncle Dave's and purpose of upgrades and what she already has invested personally.

Motion to approve grant in the amount of \$4900.00 made by Sandra Wimberley.

Motion seconded by June Drake.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

b. Northern Neck Popcorn:

Terri Crowder presented her request for \$12,132 for building upgrades for plumbing, flooring, painting, and lighting to open her popcorn shop. Location to be next to King's Pizza. This is the fourth location for this business. She explained how the business interacts with the community. She is required to have a triple sink; building has carpet that needs to be replaced with appropriate flooring. Painting. Needs counter lighting. Manufacturing is done in Fredericksburg and then delivered to the location. Discussion among members of the EDA with applicant about expenses. So far has about \$3,000 invested and potentially another \$10,000 for equipment.

Motion to approve grant in the amount of \$10,000 made by June Drake.

Motion seconded by Daniel Hudson.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Motion carried.

Request for change in agenda by Nick Minor to allow Adam Simonoff to give his presentation.
Approved by EDA members.

7. c.

Adam Simonoff presented a concept idea to promote coordinated joint mission of wargames test bed that would include Dahlgren, A.P. Hill and Pax River facilities which includes expansion of R & D programs. Does not have permission to speak with government facilities yet due to past employment with Dahlgren. Thinks that local community would benefit from supporting such a program. Mrs. Drake requested more information. Mr. Simonoff will provide.

7. Discussion Items:

- a. EDA Bylaws: Members were given copy of the bylaws for review. Questions raised by members were:
What is the process for raises?
Is it possible to vote by email?
Can members attend meetings virtually? Can they vote virtually?
What do other counties pay EDA boards?
Virtual meetings and voting by email will need to be run by county attorney.

Nick Minor informed board members that special meetings can be held with 5-6-day advance advertising.

b. Goals/Objectives for the Year:

Nick Minor explained breakdown of committees. Strategic Plan update is this year with EDA input.

Becky Gallamore requests grant backgrounds, financial report, make sure EDA is invited to ribbon cutting.

c. NSWC Expansion of R & D Programs: Presentation by Adam Simonoff.

d. Business Appreciation Reception:

Identified Belle Grove as location. May 11. Food will be served, Business of the year award, Non-profit of the year will be given. Explained how we have rotated venues. Explained sponsorship requests. Looking for sponsors for tent, first drink. Some discussion. We can go with same caterer or find someone different.

8. Director's Report

Nick Minor has ordered a Presentation Check

EDA grants limits can be set by EDA.

Nick Minor gave background history on grant program.

Working on website which will have all EDA information on it.

Nick Minor explained the economic development and tourism emails.

Mrs. Gallamore asks Did Mr. Pabst and Mr. Fox meet with the Service Authority about connection fee?

Mr. Minor responded they did not get that opportunity.

Working with county administrator and community development and will keep EDA informed.

Nick Minor reports that at next Board of Supervisors meeting he will give presentation on Economic Development Incentive Zones. It will give the board of Supervisors and the EDA some leniency to the regulations. There are three zones, Tech zone, the Defense Production zone, and the Tourism zone. Will look at all three and specific properties that we want to put zones over, so we are cherry-picking. There is a concern that there will be industrial sprawl in the county, so that won't happen. Let companies know that these areas are incentivized. Next EDA meeting I will give you that presentation. No update on Chik Fil A, Chipotle under construction, Highmark is open. Beckey Gallamore spoke with Ricardo at Vinny's, and they are not getting as much business as they felt like they would have with Highmark. Highmark only open 3 days a week.

June Drake asked if business seeks by right property, and it stresses resources does county have right to review. Example, if business uses more water or services.

Nick Minor –Yes and no, it depends on if they want to address it. Probably a question that only community development can answer. Infrastructure is different from traffic.

Discussion about zoning and planning.

9. Adjourn:

There being no further business.

June Drake made motion to adjourn to the next meeting on March 9, 2023.

Sandra Wimberley seconded the motion.

Ayes: 4, Nays: 0 Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Roan Grapes, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved: _____