

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
101 D Mounts Bay Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185
October 15, 2019
4:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Bledsoe called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Robin Bledsoe, Chair
Vince Campana
Lynn Meredith - arrived at 4:05
Carlton Stockton
William Turner

Absent:

Tom Tingle

Also Attending:

Sue Sadler, Board of Supervisor (BOS) Liaison
Christopher Johnson, Economic Development Authority (EDA) Secretary
Jeff Wiggins (standing in for Cheryl Cochet), EDA Fiscal Agent
Maxwell Hlavin, EDA Counsel
Jenni Tomes, James City County Treasurer
Kate Sipes, Assistant Director, Economic Development
Laura Messer, Tourism & Marketing Coordinator
Jack Jacobs, *The Virginia Gazette*

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes Adoption - September 17, 2019

A motion to Approve was made by Vince Campana; motion Passed.

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 2

Ayes: Bledsoe, Campana, Stockton, Turner

Absent: Meredith, Tingle

D. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. September 2019 Financial Reports

A motion to Approve was made by Carlton Stockton; motion Passed.

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 2

Ayes: Bledsoe, Campana, Stockton, Turner

Absent: Meredith, Tingle

Mr. Wiggins presented the revenue and expense reports.

ADOPTED
NOV 19 2019

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Edge - Regional Project

A motion to Approve the funding request in the amount of \$2,000 was made by Vince Campana; motion Passed.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1

Ayes: Bledsoe, Campana, Meredith, Stockton, Turner

Absent: Tingle

Ms. Bledsoe introduced the request for \$2,000 in support of the regional initiative to promote the food and beverage businesses in the area defined by Merrimac Trail, Page Street, and Second Street.

Mr. Campana asked if York County and the City of Williamsburg have committed funding.

Ms. Bledsoe replied that both localities had already committed funding and the locality funding is matched with private contributions by the area businesses.

Mr. Turner suggested the possibility that food trucks be allowed to participate.

Ms. Messer indicated the effort was being organized as a sort of business association and the group had discussed a tiered membership structure, so food trucks could be included if the group agreed.

A brief discussion followed to clarify project boundaries, which businesses were involved, the marketing proposal, and general opportunities of the proposed district.

2. Economic Development Survey

Mr. Johnson reminded the EDA the survey was sent in June to the EDA and BOS before summarizing responses received by question.

After a brief discussion, Ms. Bledsoe informed the EDA she had spoken to Mr. Icenhour, Chairman of the BOS, and they agreed the EDA should leave the upcoming work session with clear priorities. Ms. Bledsoe offered the following topics for discussion:

- Attract new or expanded advanced manufacturing operations;
- Support the development of a pipeline of skilled workforce;
- Retain existing business, including expanding the Business Liaison role to have EDA Directors visit existing businesses.

Mr. Turner suggested surveying the business community and including in the presentation some highlights of the work already being done.

Ms. Meredith agreed, saying that a survey could include asking about workforce needs. Ms. Meredith continued saying the presentation to the BOS can include the idea of a survey in the future, and any research on workforce programs can be focused on the areas identified in the results.

Mr. Turner suggested the development of the EDA property in James River Commerce Center (JRCC) could be a subset under the attraction component. This

would allow the work on that parcel to be included in the framework, but also put that work into context.

F. LIAISON REPORTS

1. BOS Liaison

No update at this time.

2. Business Liaison

Mr. Campana reported that he attended two ribbon cuttings and heard very positive comments.

3. Eastern Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority (EVRIFA)

No report at this time.

4. Finance

No update at this time.

5. GO Virginia

No update at this time.

6. Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance Sports Marketing Committee

Mr. Turner reported that \$35,000 had been awarded to various groups for eight events, most of which are planned for 2020.

7. Greater Williamsburg Partnership (GWP)

No update at this time.

8. JRCC Architectural Review Board

No update at this time.

9. Real Estate Holdings

No update at this time.

10. Strategic Investment Areas

No report at this time.

11. Workforce Development

No report at this time.

G. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Johnson responded to questions from Ms. Bledsoe and Mr. Turner on the following items discussed in the Director's Report: The Maine of Williamsburg Tourism Zone Application, Ambler's House, the *Southern Living* article, the College of William & Mary Homecoming event, and the Start Peninsula event.

H. ADJOURNMENT

1. Adjourn until October 22, 2019


A motion to Adjourn was made by William Turner; motion Passed.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1

Ayes: Bledsoe, Campana, Meredith, Stockton, Turner

Absent: Tingle

At approximately 5:13 p.m., Ms. Bledsoe adjourned the Authority.


Christopher Johnson, Secretary
Economic Development Authority


Robin Bledsoe, Chair
Economic Development Authority