

MINUTES
JAMES CITY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING

September 19, 2023

4:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Meredith called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Lynn Meredith, Vice Chair
Vince Campana

ADOPTED
OCT 17 2023

Absent:

Ellen Smith Gajda, Chair
Rebecca Mulvain
Brandon Nice
Joe Stanko
William Turner

Also Attending:

Christopher Johnson, Economic Development Authority (EDA) Secretary
Terry Banez, Greater Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes Adoption - August 15, 2023

Mr. Johnson noted that the absence of a quorum would prevent the ability to consider a motion to approve the August meeting minutes. He stated that the August meeting minutes would be considered at the October 17, 2023, EDA Meeting.

D. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. August Financial Reports

Mr. Johnson noted that the absence of a quorum would prevent the ability to consider a motion to approve the August Financial Reports. He stated that the August Financial Reports would be considered at the October 17, 2023, EDA Meeting.

E. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Greater Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce Shop Local Boost Program

Mr. Johnson introduced Ms. Terry Banez, CEO of the Greater Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce, who provided a summary of the Shop Local Boost Program. She stated that over 90% of the gift cards purchased in 2022 were used at a physical location in the Greater Williamsburg region. The goal for 2023 is to increase funding to \$100,000. The

Williamsburg Area Restaurant Association (WARA), the Greater Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce, *Williamsburg Yorktown Daily* and Chesapeake Bank each increased their sponsorship by \$1,250. Ms. Banez requested that the EDA approve \$10,000 in sponsorship funding to match the sponsorships of the York County EDA and the City of Williamsburg EDA.

Mr. Johnson stated that in the absence of a quorum, the EDA would not be able to consider a motion to approve the requested sponsorship. He stated that the sponsorship request would be considered at the October 17, 2023, EDA Meeting.

Mr. Campana commended Ms. Banez on the success of the Shop Local Boost Program and indicated his support for an EDA sponsorship contribution.

Ms. Meredith stated that she also would be supportive of the continued sponsorship and asked if funding had been allocated or would require a transfer.

Mr. Johnson noted that the adopted EDA Fiscal Year 2024 budget included Business Assistance funds to allow continued sponsorship of the program at the requested level.

2. Celebration of Business

Mr. Johnson summarized last year's Celebration of Business event at The Maine of Williamsburg which honored three County businesses celebrating their 50th anniversaries. He stated that staff has identified November 9, 2023, as the tentative date for this year's event as it avoids conflicts with public hearing dates, the election season, and the Thanksgiving holiday.

Ms. Meredith stated that last year's event was well received and if The Maine is available, staff should move quickly to lock in the November 9, 2023, date.

Mr. Campana asked if staff had any business in mind for consideration of the award this year and what the process would be for selecting a business or contributor for this year's award.

Mr. Johnson stated that the rebranding of the Captain John Smith Business of the Year Award to the Founders Award allows for a broader range of businesses or individuals to be considered for their contributions to the community. In all years prior to 2020, a vote was held with members of the Board of Supervisors and the EDA selecting a single business. He stated that he would work with County Administration to determine a list of potential nominees.

G. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

H. LIAISON REPORTS

There were no liaison reports.

I. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Johnson referred to the report in the Agenda Packet.

J. UPCOMING DATES OF INTEREST

There were no dates of interest.

K. ADJOURNMENT

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

AYES: 2 NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 5

Ayes: Meredith, Campana

Absent: Gajda, Mulvain, Nice, Stanko, Turner

1. Adjourn until October 17, 2023

At approximately 4:48 p.m., Ms. Meredith adjourned the Authority.



Christopher Johnson, Secretary
Economic Development Authority



Lynn Meredith, Vice Chair
Economic Development Authority