

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK
Wednesday, September 6th, 2017
Department of Development
500 E. Main Street, Suite 1500
Norfolk, VA 23510

Present

Directors

Robert E. Garris, Jr. - Presiding

Michael Lee

Jeffrey Brooke

Kim Brown

B. Wayne Coleman

Michael Cox

Jaeson Dandalides

Richard Ottinger

W. Craig Reilly

Ursula Rhodes

Antonio Sisco

Counsel

George Consolvo – Kaufman & Canoles

Advisory Committee

Christine Garczynski – Director of Finance

Staff

Chuck Rigney – Executive Director

Andrew Yancey - Secretary-Treasurer

Dawn Ryan - Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Guests

Eric Hartley – Virginian Pilot

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Garris called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m. and welcomed guests and presenters to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Garris asked Mr. Yancey to introduce the presenter for the Rock Climbing Gym. Mr. Robert Watson, is co-owner and founder of the gym and made the following presentation: It is his plan to be able in the near future to purchase property and open this rock climbing facility at the corner of Denison Avenue and Sewell's Point Road in the Central Business Park. (Ms. Rhodes and Mr. Coleman arrived at 7:37am) This property is currently owned by the EDA and if purchased will be a new home to Send It Climbing Gym. The state of the art 8,000SF facility will have parking onsite, foam flooring, boulder area 14ft tall and climbing areas. It will be family friendly, have climbing competitions, a youth climbing team and other social activities. It will employ about 20 full and part time people to assist with membership, climbing as well as birthday parties. After the presentation, few of the board directors inquired about safety precautions and gear testing. Mr. Watson assured them that all gear is inspected and very safe and will require a signed waiver for safety purposes. (Attachment #1)

CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Rhodes was asked to propose a motion to enter into a closed session regarding the disposition of publicly held real property.

"Mr. Chairman, I move that the Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk meet in closed session, as allowed by Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Virginia Code, to discuss the disposition of publicly held real property located at 7405 Sewell's Point Road, Norfolk, Virginia, to be used for a rock climbing gym, where discussion in open meeting would adversely affect the

Authority's bargaining or negotiating position or strategy." Seconded by Mr. Sisco. Vote 11-0-0. Voting by a roll call vote to enter into closed session were: Mr. Brook, Ms. Brown, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dandalides, Mr. Lee, Mr. Ottinger, Mr. Reilly, Ms. Rhodes, Mr. Sisco and Mr. Garris.

At the conclusion of the closed session, Ms. Rhodes made the following motion:

"Mr. Chairman, I move that the Directors of the Economic Development Authority of the City of Norfolk, Virginia, adopt a resolution by roll call vote certifying that the only matters discussed during the closed session just concluded were those matters both lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened." Voting by a roll call vote to certify the closed session was properly held were: Mr. Brook, Ms. Brown, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Cox, Mr. Dandalides, Mr. Lee, Mr. Ottinger, Mr. Reilly, Ms. Rhodes, Mr. Sisco and Mr. Garris. Vote 11-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Rigney was asked to present to the Board an update on the Southside area of Norfolk which includes the Berkley/Campostella section and he made the following comments: The Horace C. Downing branch Norfolk library is currently closed for renovations and plans to reopen in 2019. Other renovations include Bell Diamond Housing by WODA/Berkley/Beacon Light as well as Summer Terrace by Related Affordable. NRHA is currently building houses in Berkley for first time home buyers. The Colonna's Ship Yard expansion included its new dry dock that was delivered June 1st, 2017 with a total investment to date \$38.9 million dollars and 51 new jobs projected. Most recent opening of Banks at Berkley, which is a mixed-use four story \$6-million-dollar development. It has 50 two and three-bedroom apartment units and over 5,000 sf. of ground level retail space. The Clairemont at Campostella Station is the newest development project at \$24 million and is a gated community with

152 apartments and 25 single family homes. Rent will range from \$690 to \$995. Apartments feature Energy Star-certified appliances, in-unit washers and dryers and all tenants will have access to a pool and a clubhouse with meeting space. Last updated property is on the former Ford Plant property +/- 27-acre industrial parcel that is for sale by CBRE. (Attachment #2)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Garris asked Mr. Sisco and Ms. Rhodes to present a list of recommendations for new officers to the Board.

Upon a motion by Mr. Sisco, seconded by Ms. Rhodes, the board unanimously approved their recommendation to keep the current standing officers as listed below. The vote was 11-0-0.

Chairman – Robert Garris

Vice Chairman – Michael Lee

Executive Director – Chuck Rigney

Secretary Treasurer – Andrew Yancey

Assistant Secretary Treasurer – Dawn Ryan

Mr. Garris accepted the position of Chairman with the comment that he will serve for one more year.

MINUTES

Chairman Garris asked the Board to review the minutes in their packets for August 2nd, 2017 and hearing no questions or adjustments he asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Upon a motion by Mr. Lee and seconded by Ms. Rhodes, the minutes of the August 2nd, 2017, meeting of the Authority, were approved. (Vote 10-0-1 Ms. Brown Abstained)

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Coleman requested to have Norfolk Public Schools Courtney Doyle and other NPS representatives come to the EDA to give a presentation to the board on the update on the new schools and the conditions of the old ones as well as help answer a few questions on how the EDA Board can

better help NPS achieve its goals for better learning environments, equipment and helping to achieve higher test score ratings. Ms. Brown advised the Board that the International Longshoremen Association adopted about 50 students last year and presented an Angel tree. (Ms. Rhodes Left 8:56)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 a.m.

Approved by Robert E. Sanin, Jr.

- Attachments: 1. Send It Climbing Gym
2. Southside Norfolk Update