

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF NORFOLK
Wednesday, March 7th, 2018
Department of Development
999 Waterside Drive, Suite 2430
Norfolk, VA 23510

Present:

Directors

Robert E. Garris, Jr. - Presiding
Michael Lee
Jeffrey Brooke
B. Wayne Coleman
Michael Cox
Jaeson Dandalides
Antonio Sisco
Kim Brown

Counsel

George Consolvo – Kaufman & Canoles

Staff

Chuck Rigney – Executive Director
Sean Washington - Secretary-Treasurer
Christine Garczynski – Director of Finance

Guests

Dawn Best – Froehling & Robertson, Inc.
Patrick Lane – Froehling & Robertson, Inc.
Bob Sharak – Department of Development
Ryan Murphy – Virginia Pilot

Absent

Ursula Rhodes
W.Craig Reilly
Richard Ottinger
Dawn Ryan

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Garris called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. and welcomed guests and presenters to the meeting. Kim Brown arrived at 7:36am.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Garris yielded the floor to Director Chuck Rigney to speak about the Military Highway Corridor Map of Properties (Attachment #1). Mr. Rigney began speaking about traffic patterns and ideas for decluttering to assist with minimizing pedestrian accidents especially by side roads around “BestWay”. Mr. Rigney also discussed retail sales & tax revenue and how the area is truly not “low income” as it is presumed to be. Mr. Coleman asked about possible monorail system being extended to the Military Highway area and Mr. Rigney responded that significant research is being put into Light Rail extension to the area. Sites like the “Dump” and “Best Square” have been owned by their individual respective owners for decades and as of now there has been no discussion of selling. Mr. Rigney mentioned that the Gallery at Military Circle is controlled by the same company that purchased the Chesapeake Square Mall. Lastly, Mr. Rigney mentioned that the Double Tree hotel owner asked for \$6 million for the property which was more than the city was willing to offer. Ms. Brown asked about the “coming attractions” from the last EDA meeting and Mr. Coleman asked about the Movement Article that spoke to the laying off of employees on the east coast. Mr. Rigney responded that only majority of those layoffs were not in Norfolk but in South Carolina.

Mr. Coleman spoke on the Norfolk Public Schools sub-committee update. Mr. Coleman suggest that a taskforce be created for next meeting. He also recommends having Chuck Phillips share poverty commission report that was provided to Mr. Coleman. Mr. Garris asked that Mr. Coleman forward report to EDA staff so it can be distributed to the entire board to review. Mr. Lee spoke about his conversations

with certain principals of specialty schools in the Norfolk school district regarding how the EDA can assist with the pipeline of middle school to high school talent. Some principals recommend that a company can “adopt a school”. Mr. Lee wants to get a better understating of the resources that businesses can offer to the school system. Mr. Consolvo recommends getting input from NPS on how money can be properly donated to the schools. Mr. Sisco asked if internships would be the result of the EDA’s efforts. Mr. Garris recommend that the taskforce be led by Mr. Coleman and Mr. Lee to include community leaders. Mr. Garris will reach out to Chuck McPhillips to see if he can attend next month’s meeting. Mr. Garris asked that the board review the poverty commission report and prepare feedback for next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Garris asked Mr. Washington to give a brief summary of the fiscal year 2017 audit report prior to voting to accept the document as presented. Mr. Washington reiterated that were no findings reported in the audit and revenue from bond admin fees is the primary source of revenue for the EDA.

Upon a motion by Mr. Lee, seconded by Ms. Brown the Board accepted and approved the FY 17 Annual Audit report as presented.

Mr. Garris asked Mr. Rigney to give an update of projects and/or articles that have appeared in the paper recently. Mr. Rigney gave an update on the Simon outlets regarding the building of a Chik-fil-a in addition to the positive progression of IKEA. Mr. Rigney also emphasized activity around St. Paul’s, Monticello Village and Ingleside areas. Additional emphasis was placed on Oceanview and East Beach projects moving forward and the completion of CIRS in the Central Business Park. Mr. Rigney also mentioned that Sam’s Club closure was due to change in retail environment and that announcements were forthcoming regarding Farm Fresh and SuperValu Inc.

MINUTES

Chairman Garris asked the Board to review the minutes of February 7th, 2018. Hearing no questions or adjustments, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Upon a motion by Mr. Lee and seconded by Mr. Coleman, Mr. Brooke abstaining, the minutes of the February 7th, 2018 meeting of the Authority were approved. (Vote 7-0-1)

ADJOURNMENT

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

Approved by Robert E. Garris, Jr.

Attachments: 1. Military Highway Corridor Map of Properties Presentation