

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF STAFFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA

REGULAR BIMONTHLY MEETING MINUTES September 11, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled bimonthly meeting of The Economic Development Authority (EDA), of Stafford County, Virginia was held on September 11, 2009 in the Board Chambers of the Stafford County Government Center located at 1300 Courthouse Road Stafford, Virginia at 1:30 P.M. A quorum was present.

Members Present

Joel Griffin Vice Chairman
Jo Knight
Jack Rowley
Mark Safferstone
Wendy Surman

Members Absent

Don Newlin
David Beiler

Also Present:

Tim Baroody Secretary
Robert Carter Treasurer
Charlie Payne EDA Counsel

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the July 11, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Ms. Knight. Mr. Rowley seconded the motion. Ms. Surman abstained.

VOTE: 4-0 approved 1 abstain

3. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

None

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

- August, 2009 Balance \$275,601.24
- September, 2009 Balance \$275,443.26

A motion was made by Mr. Rowley to accept the Treasurer's reports. Ms. Knight seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0 approved

Mr. Carter informed the Board that the audit being done by Bowling & Franklin was completed on August 17th, 2009 and everything seemed to be in order.

Mr. Carter also informed the Board that the Business Appreciation Luncheon for 2010 will be held on May 20, 2010 at the Riverside Center. The cost for the luncheon will be the same as last year \$8,000.00. The Riverside Center was asking for a 25% deposit. Mr. Carter requested the Board's permission to write a check to the Riverside Center for \$2,000.00

A motion was made by Ms. Surman to allow Mr. Carter to issue a check to the Riverside Center for \$2,000.00 as a deposit for the Business Appreciation Luncheon for 2010. Mr. Rowley seconded the motion.

VOTE: 5-0 approved

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Baroody updated the Authority on the department's activities.

- Mr. Baroody informed the Board about upcoming events that will be sponsored by the Stafford Tourism Department. The first being Yankee's in Falmouth. This is the second year for this event which attracted over 700 people last year and hopes to do the same this year. The Tourism department hopes that this will turn into an annual event which will inform folks on the historical and Civil War heritage of the Falmouth area. The second major event Stafford Tourism is working on is The Trail to Freedom which will be held on September 26, and is a guided bus tour that begins at Chatham moves on to the Moncure Conway House and ends up at Aquia Landing. Once at Aquia Landing there will be a commemoration ceremony marking Aquia Landing as an official site of the Underground Railroad.
- Mr. Baroody informed the Board that Mr. Rowley had been reappointed and was sworn in.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- In the absence of Mr. Newlin Mr. Baroody gave the Board an update on Germanna Community College Stafford Campus. Mr. Baroody stated that the college is open for business with 643 students signed up for the fall semester.

7. COMMITTEE REPORT

Business Appreciation Luncheon Awards – Mr. Griffin provided documentation to everyone on business award programs that are being implemented by organizations throughout the country to honor and acknowledge local businesses. These programs will

be discussed by the Board at the October Work Session in order to come up with a business award program that will work for Stafford County.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None

9. NEW BUSINESS

- George Washington's Ferry Farm – Bill Garner
Mr. Garner a representative off the George Washington Foundation gave the Board a detailed presentation on Ferry Farm and how they were working to make the site a national historic tourist attraction with the possibility of over 120,000 people visiting per year by 2013. Ms. M.C. Moncure, Stafford County's tourism manager told the Board that the Ferry Farm site would be the anchor attraction that would draw visitors from all over the world to Stafford County. Mr. Franklin Daniels another representative of the George Washington Foundation ask the Board to consider the possibility of helping to fund the Ferry Farm project with a grant in the amount of \$44,020 to help with the costs of phase two and three of the project.

A motion was made by Mr. Rowley to provide a grant in the amount of \$44,020 to the George Washington Foundation. Dr. Safferstone seconded.

VOTE: 5 – 0 approved

Stafford Airport – Ed Wallis

- Mr. Ed Wallis gave the Board an update on the events and good things that have been happening at the Stafford Airport. The Airport Authority is planning to extend the runway by 1,000 ft to allow planes to land in all types of weather. Mr. Wallis especially wanted to thank the Board for their help in getting the airport tax reduction. Mr. Wallis stated that before the tax reduction rate was passed by the Board of Supervisors on April 21, 2009 he had twenty hangers empty, as of today's date there were just six available. Mr. Wallis believes that the airport is now on its way to becoming the economic engine for Stafford County that their Master Plan had envisioned.
- Dr. Safferstone suggested that a proclamation be prepared for the Board of Supervisors honoring the fact that Ed Wallis was named Virginia Airport Manager of the Year.
- Redevelopment Master Plan Update – Brad Johnson
Mr. Johnson gave the Board an update on the Redevelopment Master Plan.

- An October work session will be held on October 9, 2009 in the Economic Development Conference Room. Issues to be discussed will be improving Stafford's Business Climate. Ms. Knight and Ms. Surman will provide information to the Board on this topic. The Business Appreciation Awards Program will also be discussed.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the EDA, Mr. Newlin adjourned the meeting at 2:10 P.M. to the next Regular Meeting on Friday, November 13, 2009.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

Tim Baroody
EDA Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED BY:

Don Newlin
EDA Chairman