



GREENE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 15, 2016, @ 6:00 p.m., Economic Development Office Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Economic Development Authority Board of Directors was held at 8315 Seminole Trail, Ruckersville, Virginia on March 15, 2016. Discussion began at 6:00 pm. Call to order at 6:16 p.m., with Ms. Julia Morris, Chairman, presiding.

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Members in Attendance: Julia Morris, Don Pamerter, Karen Willard, Michael Payne, Amy Hollis

Members not in Attendance: Deanna Wills

Non-Members in Attendance: Alan Yost, Diana Gamma, Jay Willer

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Don Pamerter moved to accept the January minutes. **Karen Willard** seconded. **Motion carried.**

FINANCIALS

P & L and Balance sheets were distributed via email to all board members and hard copies were available at the meeting. A correction is needed to reflect zero balance in the closed Capital One account. A request for Tourism to share audit expenses in the future was posed; **Mr. Yost** will discuss this at the next Tourism council meeting.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES

Mr. Pamerter and **Mrs. Willard** will work in conjunction with **Mr. Yost** on a bonding presentation for the Board of Supervisors (BoS) meeting, April 12, 2016. This presentation will also include the EDA Mission Statement as well a request to approve the revised EDA bylaws. **Ms. Morris** suggested meeting on March 29 to review the presentation and to compile a packet for the BoS in advance of the April 12 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws: The revised bylaws will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval on April 12, 2016.

Mission Statement/Initiatives: An updated mission statement was sent to all members on January 20 and is ready to be presented to the BoS.

War Museum: No new progress

Business Park Lot Update: Closing on the EDA property in the Business Park is set for March 29.

Small Business Investment Grant: **Mr. Yost** has spoken to the buyer of the EDA lot and two other potential small businesses about the Small Business Investment Grant. Performance Signs has already been reimbursed for the first two years. **Mr. Pamenter** asked if there was any interest in an EDA loan. **Ms. Morris** indicated that she has spoken with a businessman preparing to open a small business in Greene; as soon as he has his funding plan, he will know what his needs might be regarding an EDA loan.

Town of Stanardsville Update: **Mr. Pamenter** shared 3 updates regarding the Stanardsville revitalization project:

1. The CDBG grant application will be submitted on March 23. It is close to \$1,000,000 and will include funding for apartment upgrades, façade upgrades (1:1 match by owners) and a public space for a Farmer's Market/Entertainment Pavilion/Town Market to be behind the County Administration Building.
2. Planning for the restoration of the William Mills house is moving forward. It is hoped to be financed with \$35,000 from the grant as well as possible contributions from the current owner, the EDA and the Town of Stanardsville. There is already a prospective business for the main floor to open a coffee shop/bakery and plans for potential vacation rentals on the top floor.
3. The Town of Stanardsville is lobbying for a 3 way stop sign at the corner of Ford & Main to slow down through traffic.

Website: **Mrs. Willard** asked about the County website progress. The website is ready to be launched but is waiting on the .gov URL registration. The Tourism website is up and running.

Business Park Mowing: **Mrs. Gamma** has terminated Meriweather Mowing services. The new owner of the EDA lot has agreed to maintain the corner at the entrance to the park adjacent to his property.

4th of July Celebration Update: **Mr. Payne** is pleased with the presence on the Face Book page (Amy Hollis) and the website (Chad Denby). The event is on track to have more than 2 dozen charities participating. The Lafayette will be sponsoring Three Notch'd Brewing Company for a beer garden benefiting the Free Clinic. A 20-25 minute firework presentation will be at the school complex with viewing from the Football stadium/field. Funding is still needed.

Haney-Ripley Loan Update: Haney-Ripley renewed EDA loan per the contract for the next 12 months.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pamerter was concerned that the old EDA website is not updated. All EDA information on the new County website is updated and will be available for viewing once the website is launched. **Mr. Pamerter** also inquired about the vacancy on the board. Two applicants will be interviewed March 23.

Ms. Morris proposed that the EDA write a resolution for the Stanardsville grant. **Mr. Pamerter** made the motion: we authorize the chairman to sign a resolution on behalf of the EDA supporting the Town of Stanardsville CDBG grant application. **Mr. Payne** seconded. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Yost shared the following:

1. Tourism related business - a local project is applying for the Tourism Growth Fund grant for the next fiscal year which offers a grant for 15% of the cost of the project with a matching 15% from the locality (\$150,000). Mr. Yost is asking the EDA to begin thinking about the possibility of loaning to tourism with a 5 year payback plan.
2. Mr. Yost is working on designating a Defense Production Zone in Greene Co which could offer a tax incentive.
3. Mr. Yost met with Rappahannock Electric to discuss future plans for development regarding the industrial poles on route 29. He proposed that the comprehensive plan include a statement regarding how close to route 29 these poles can be placed. With this statement in place, Rappahannock would do everything possible to respect that statement.
4. Mr. Yost shared the new County website prototype.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at the Economic Development Office Conference Room.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Frank Morris was interested in how the 4th of July Face Book page is doing; **Mr. Payne and Ms. Hollis** responded positively with above average viewing. **Mr. Morris** also offered the use of his flatbed instead of renting a stage for the 4th of July celebration. He indicated that 2, 50 ft. trailers would be needed. If a second flatbed can be located, **Mr. Morris** is willing to tow both and set them up for free.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Morris adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.