

**TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 28, 2021
5:30 P.M.**

The Economic Development Authority (EDA) of the Town of Rocky Mount, Virginia met at the Rocky Mount Municipal Building on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., with Chairman Adam Lynch, presiding.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Board Members Present: Chairman Adam Lynch, Vice Chair Doug Guilliams; Economic Development Authority Board Members Tyler Lee, Tara Holley, Chase Mitchell, Mark Redden and Ann Dillon (Ann came in at 5:36pm)

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Economic Development Director Daniel Pinard, EDA Clerk Cherie Compton

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions or Corrections: None

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented

Motion By: Member Tyler Lee

Second: Vice Chair Doug Guilliams

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Let the record show that prior to the meeting, Economic Development Authority received the following draft minutes for review and consideration of approval:

July 27, 2021 - Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve minutes as presented

Motion By: Member Tyler Lee

Second: Member Tara Holley

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

SECRETARY REPORT

Economic Development Clerk Cherie Compton provided balance from statement ending August 31, 2021 with a balance of \$99,322.18.

STAFF UPDATES

Economic Development Director Daniel Pinard provided the following updates:

- Corrected terms for members of the EDA
- Harvester received the SVOG Grant (Shutter Venue Operators Grant) which also makes them eligible for other grants
- Discussed CoWork feasibility study- feedback from the members was they would like to see the space used for something other than office space
- Sidewalk Sale was a success; all vendors and downtown businesses said it was a great event for them.
- New funeral home considering opening on Maple Street
- Unique Memories moving to bigger space in the same strip they are in
- Center Stage is expanding
- 325 Franklin Street LLC is still moving forward
- Blooming Deals/ Junk from our Trunk is opening in the former J&J Fashions building

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None at this time

OLD BUSINESS

The branding event that was held at the Harvester was successful; lots of good feedback from the commercial, videos, pictures etc. and everything is moving forward with the branding process. The provider for the new Town website has been selected and planning is underway. Chairman Adam Lynch asked about applying for Virginia Tourism grants. Daniel stated he has been checking into when they open but the Virginia is for Lovers logo was added to billboards and the digital ads to meet requirements for the grants.

NEW BUSINESS

Daniel advised members that Member Ann Dillon will be stepping back and thanked her for her years of service; he also informed members that Amy Worley has been appointed to the Economic Development Authority. He also said that Town Council appointed Member Lynch and Member Lee for another term.

Daniel requested approval for check to be written for Phase 2 in the amount of \$12,500 to Access.

Motion: To approve check for \$12,500 to Access

Motion By: Member Tara Holley

Second: Member Chas Mitchell

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

Daniel requested approval for the quarterly accounting check to be written in the amount of \$116,047.82 to the Harvester Performance Center LLC

Motion: To approve check for \$116,047.82 to Harvester Performance Center LLC

Motion By: Member Tyler Lee

Second: Member Chas Mitchell

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

Daniel requested approval for the rent to check to be written in the amount of \$21,300.00 to the Economic Development Authority

Motion: To approve check for \$21,300.00 to the EDA

Motion By: Member Tyler Lee

Second: Member Tara Holley

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

AUTHORITY BOARD CONCERNS

Member Tyler Lee suggested reaching out to Ferrum College and Franklin County High Schools' Political Science team to research having a Junior Council and Junior EDA from the High School level. He also mentioned exploring more restaurants, using an incubator for learning the trade to help bring in more restaurants. Member Lee and Redden also mentioned creating a Food Truck Village to help draw in more restaurant business.

UPCOMING NETWORKING EVENTS & EDA MEETINGS

Franklin County Connects is the 2nd Wednesday of every month.
EDA meeting- Tuesday, November 23, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn By: Member Tyler Lee

Second: Member Tara Holley

Action: Adjourned by a unanimous vote of members present

Time of Adjournment: 6:14 p.m.

Adam Lynch, Chairman

ATTEST:

Cherie Compton, Clerk