

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

February 10, 2021

The Richmond Economic Development Commission's monthly meeting convened at 11:30 AM on February 10, 2021, via Zoom webinar.

Call to Order 11:33 PM by Chair, Ayoka Nurse

1. **Roll Call:**

A quorum was present with commission members A. Nurse, A. Perroy, A. Anderson, A. Shields, D. Wear, G. Sewell-Murphy, J. Lee, O. Willis, R. Yazdi, and T. Brown

2. **Absent:**

A. Delgado, and Q. Riley,

3. **Staff:**

Gabino Arredondo, and Thomas Omolo,

4. **Council Liaison:**

Demnlus Johnson III

5. **Guest:**

Sarah Kirk, and Judith Taylor

6. **Minutes:**

1st – T. Brown, 2nd – O. Willis, and Unanimous Approval
Update the Minutes to reflect HR&A Economic Development Action Plan

7. **Presentation:**

Sarah Kirk and Judith Taylor provided a brief update on the business recovery plan. HR&A shared baseline findings following initial data analysis, a few interviews, and stakeholder meetings with Richmond businesses. Arts & Culture and the Hospitality sector in Richmond have seen the largest negative impacts due to COVID-19. A discussion and a question-answer session occurred after the presentation from HR&A. Finally, HR&A provided the next steps and will engage with the Community Engagement Subcommittee.

8. **Committee Reports:**

- Cannabis Subcommittee – Submitted an application for a GO-BIZ grant. Expected to hear back in early March, will come back with updates.
- Community Engagement – Have met online and discussed the work being done by HR&A. Provided responses to HR&A's list of questions and reviewed the firm's past work.
- Taste of Richmond – No new updates
- Policy – Ayoka recommended Orrian as the Chair of the subcommittee.

9. **Report from City Council:**

10. **Staff Reports:**

Mayor's Office – The Economic Development Commission will be receiving two new members.

City Manager's Office – Provided information on COVID-19 Vaccine center providing services Tuesday – Saturday from 8 AM to 5 PM.

Provided an update on the Power Plant Project

11. **Public Comments/Announcements/Handouts Presentation:**

- Economic Development Chair Elections – Commissioners voted whether to elect Ayoka Nurse as Chair; Seven (7) voted YES for Ayoka to be Chair, one (1) voted NO, and one (1) ABSTAINED from voting

12. **Next meeting:** 3/10/2021

13. **Adjournment:** 12:46 PM