

ARLINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Minutes Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 8, 2022

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Bates, Kate	X	
Blenkle, Andy	X	
Brewer, Janetta	X	
Cooper, Steve	X	
Denning, Tim	X	
Dunn, Bill	X	
Lynch, Catherine	X	
Mansur, Sid	X	
Mason, Brad	X	
Masresha, Daniel	X	
Ninassi, Carlo		X
Pedowitz, Scott	X	
Sampaio, Flavia	X	
Schoenfeld, Mary Margaret	X	
Singh, JJ	X	
Sisk, Avril Ussery	X	
Smith, Larry	X	
Virasingh, Vicky	X	
Yam, Kevin	X	
Yeatts, Todd	X	

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Arlington Economic Development Commission was called to order by Chair Sisk at 8:01 AM. Chair Sisk introduced County Manager, Mark Schwartz.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Virasingh to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

- Chair Sisk reported that Commissioner Bill Dunn will serve as EDC Vice Chair and Brad Mason and Catherine Lynch will serve on the Executive Committee.
- Sisk asked Michael Stiefvater, Assistant Director of AED's Business Investment Group to opportunities for EDC participation in a new business retention program. He requested that EDC members interested in serving as business ambassadors sign up to join AED staff for business visits during May -- which is Virginia's traditional Business Appreciation Month.

- Sisk reminded EDC members to hold Friday, May 13, 2022, from 9am to 1pm for the bus tour of Arlington's business corridors.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- AED Director Telly Tucker reiterated that having EDC members participate in business visits in May is a wonderful way to show support for our businesses and thank them for their investment in the community.
- He reported that in the FY 2023 County Budget, AED is proposed to receive additional funding for a position in BizLaunch and a full-time sales position on the ACVS team. Additional program funds BizLaunch and Cultural Affairs were also included in the proposed budget.
- Finally, Tucker reminded EDC members to interact with AED new website that was launched March 1.

5. WORKING GROUP UPDATES:

Small Business Working Group: At the March meeting members discussed how unique BizLaunch is as a public catalyst to drive diverse private small business success. The next meeting of the Working Group will be April 5, 2022.

6. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Conversation with County Manager Mark Schwartz: EDC Chair Avril Sisk hosted Mark Schwartz in a conversation that included topics such as the FY 2023 Proposed Budget, challenges brought on by the pandemic including commercial real estate, changes in work patterns and thinking differently about smart growth principles in Arlington's future.

AED 101 (Continued): -- EDC member JJ Singh continued hosting Telly Tucker, Director of AED, and other senior members of AED in a presentation and discussion about the inner workings of AED and its three of its eight divisions: Real Estate Development Group, Communications, and Operations.

7. OLD BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 AM.

The next meeting of the Economic Development Commission will be held 8:00 AM, April 12, 2022.