

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
ARLINGTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

December 9, 2025

The Economic Development Commission convened its meeting at 8:02 AM on December 9, 2025.

PRESENT (IN-PERSON) Kevin Yam
 Nick Gregorios
 Sara Barker
 Kate Bates
 Stephen Fedorchak
 Betsy Frantz
 Ben Garthwaite
 Timothy Jones
 Charles Kachadoorian
 Brad Mason
 Kaly McKenna
 Praveen Meyyan
 Evan Pritchard
 Paula Sorrell
 William Walsh

PRESENT (VIRTUALLY) Steve Cooper
 Meredith Sumpter

ABSENT Tommy Amal
 Janetta Brewer
 Ben Joseph
 Catherine Lynch
 Joseph Oyler
 Brian Stout
 Andy VanHorn
 Matthew Weinstein

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS

AED Director’s Report – Acting Director Kate Ange

Acting Director Kate Ange thanked the Commission for their service and noted 2025’s economic challenges, including federal shifts, AI pressures, and local resource constraints. She highlighted key successes: supporting federal worker career transitions, tourism and placemaking initiatives, office conversions, and growth in Arlington’s innovation and tech sector through programs like Tech Launchpad. She encouraged continued engagement to strengthen Arlington’s economic resiliency in the year ahead.

Innovations in Tech Panel Discussion: Moderated by Commissioner Kaly McKenna, Vice President, Beacon Global Strategies with special guests Ashley Pilipiszyn (Founder and CEO, Besxar), Brendan Karp

(CoFounder and CEO, Obviant), Sean Blackman (Co-Founder and CEO, Nooks), and Jonathan Clifford (Vice President, General Catalyst)

The panel discussed Arlington's growing role in the technology sector, driven by proximity to federal agencies, strong talent, and increasing venture interest. Panelists emphasized opportunities in AI, cybersecurity, and secure collaboration tools, along with challenges such as federal procurement timelines and scaling space needs. They encouraged Arlington to continue supporting the tech ecosystem and flexible workspace options.

Closing Remarks

Vice Chair Gregorios thanked Chair Yam for his years of Commission service, praising his leadership, knowledge, mentorship, and dedication to Arlington's economic and community development. County Board Member Julius D. "JD" Spain Sr. thanked Kevin for holding the Commission together during challenging times, recognizing his innovative ideas, leadership, and empathy. He presented Chair Yam with a County Board certificate of appreciation. Chair Yam thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve, praised Arlington staff for their professionalism and commitment, and reflected on the "Arlington Way".

MOTIONS & ACTIONS/VOTES

Commissioner Frantz moved that the Commission approve the minutes from the October EDC meeting. The motion was seconded, and the Commission unanimously supported the motion.

Commissioner Pritchard moved that the Commission approve the minutes from the November EDC meeting. The motion was seconded, and the Commission unanimously supported the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.