

## Meeting Minutes for June 26, 2023

### I. **Call to Order and Determination of Quorum**

The business meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Whitehill at 9:03 a.m. The following board members were present and represented a quorum:

Mike Whitehill, Chairman  
Tom Glen  
Patrick Perry  
Todd Mohn

Staff Present:

Heather Tinelli, Director of Economic & Tourism Development  
Rebecca Clark, Economic Development Coordinator

### II. **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved by all members present.

### III. **Department Update**

Mrs. Tinelli gave an overview of department highlights from the last month:

- Mrs. Tinelli recently provided a department update to the Commissioners in which she included a \$1M ask for EDIF funds, which will be a blend of existing funds and a request for new funds to reach that amount. The request was voted on and approved by the Commissioners during the budget session. The Commission will need to schedule a planning session to determine a funding structure
- Mrs. Tinelli gave an update on the Ferry feasibility study, which is underway. The next stakeholder meeting will be held in August.
- Ms. Clark recently completed the RFP for the Strategic Asset & Industry Analysis that will be disseminated. Letters of Intent will be due July 14. The Analysis will give us more insight about our core industries and where to focus future economic goals for the future.
- Talks with potential partners for the Sudlersville Middle School project are ongoing; Cross Street Partners came and visited the site, and there has been a conversation with MEDCO as well. The department is likely going to apply for a next phase of funding through Rural Maryland Council.

IV. **Ten Eyck Application – Initial Review**

The commission reviewed an application from Ten Eyck, who has a current agreement that is set to expire in 2025. They are looking to purchase additional equipment to keep up with demand in distribution of their beer, and furniture for their location.

Committee discussion: Members discussed the implications of additional capacity on the facility based on previous issues with the septic system, but were supportive of the project. With more information on implications that may pose a challenge, the Commission agreed to invite Ten Eyck to come and pitch their project at July's meeting.

V. **Save the Day Escape Rooms – Initial Review**

The Commission reviewed an application from Sandra Horne of Save the Day Escape Rooms. She has located a space and has a comprehensive business plan; she is seeking funds for supplies and equipment for startup.

Committee discussion: Members discussed the need for additional amenities in QAC related to entertainment and agreed to invite Save the Day Escape Rooms to pitch their project at July's meeting.

VI. **Cult Classic**

Ms. Clark shared correspondence from Brooks stating that the Neighborhood BusinessWorks application will take longer than originally anticipated, so they are looking at conventional loans and other possibilities. Request has been paused for the time being.

VII. **Adjournment:** On a motion made by Mr. Perry and seconded by Mr. Glen, all members present unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 a.m.