

**Business Meeting Minutes for August 28, 2019**

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

The business meeting executive session was called to order by Chairman Jesse Parks at 9:04 a.m. at the Chesapeake Heritage and Visitor Center, 425 Piney Narrows Road, Chester, MD 21619. The following Board Members were present and represented a quorum:

Jesse Parks, Chairman  
Kathy Deoudes, Vice Chairman  
Helen Bennett, Secretary  
Royce Herman, Treasurer  
Don Gross  
Rob Marsh  
William Tumulty  
Ed Beres  
Jeremy Reynolds  
Bill Stoops  
Jim Brown  
Steve Donovan

Not Present:  
Mike Rosendale  
John Anderes  
Brian DeMoss

Staff Present:  
Jean Fabi, Economic Development Manager  
Danielle Dutra, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:  
Jack Wilson, Commissioner, Queen Anne's County  
Todd Mohn, County Administrator, Queen Anne's County  
Mike Arentz, Community Liaison, Congressman Andy Harris  
Stan Kosick, Senior Planner, Queen Anne's County Department of Planning & Zoning  
Amy Moredock, Principal Planner, Queen Anne's County Department of Planning & Zoning  
Tom Rider, Business Service Supervisor, Department of Labor Licensing and Regulation  
Linda Friday, President, Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce  
Dave Harper, VP of Programs, Chesapeake College  
Marth Herman, Resident, Queen Anne's County

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**II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes :**

On a motion made by Mrs. Bennett, and seconded by Mr. Beres, August meeting agenda and minutes from the June meeting were approved by a unanimous vote of the members present.

**III. Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Herman reported that the balance of the account managed by Chesapeake Charities is currently \$4,660.21 as of July 30, 2019.

**IV. Commissioner's Report:** Commissioner Jack Wilson updated the EDC. Choptank Electric presented on the current status of broadband at last night's Commissioner meeting. Choptank has asked the Commissioners for a letter of support for further legislation. Commissioner Wilson would like to see a letter of support from the EDC on this legislation as well. Other action items for the EDC suggested by Commissioner Wilson include working with our real estate partners to publish information on the decreasing property values in Queen Anne's County, weighing in on the recent decision from MDTA on the 3 proposed crossing areas for the new bridge span.

**V. Department Report:** The monthly department report was sent to the EDC prior to the meeting. Jean Fabi reviewed the August department report with Economic Development Commission. Landon Marine, LLC is relocating from Kent County and redeveloping a former florist shop just south of Kingstown. Currently the project is under development review. The proposed Fisherman's Village Hotel and Banquet facility planned for Grasonville is currently under STAC review. TechOps will be hosting a Success in 60 networking event in conjunction with the QAC Chamber on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Senator Cardin recently toured the Zodiac MilPro facility. Dogwood Acres Pet Resort has received approval for the Commercial Real Property Tax Credit. The department has published an ad in Business Facilities Magazine's September/October edition. The ad was paid for by the Upper Shore Regional Council Opportunity Zone grant funding. In Ashley Chenault's absence the Tourism update has been deferred until September's meeting.

**VI. Old Business:**

**A. QAC Ag Tour:** There was an Ag Tour with Jenny Rhodes from the University of Maryland Extension Program on August 20, 2019, transportation and lunch from Barclay Depot was provided for all those in attendance. Broadband was the biggest issue expressed by the famers/businesses visited on the tour. The EDC has been invited to do a second tour in the spring around the Kent Island area. Chairman Jesse Parks would like to work with Jenny Rhodes to find board member representation from the agriculture community for next year's vacancies. Jean Fabi will send out the tour itinerary to the EDC.

**B. Review and Discussion on Proposed Text Amendments TA/CO 19-14 & TA/CO 19-15:** Stan Kosick, Senior Planner and Amy Moredock, Principal Planner from Queen Anne's County Planning and Zoning gave a presentation to the board on Text Amendment TA/CO 19-14 regarding Food Trucks, and Text Amendment TA/CO 19-15 Shipping Containers Defined. A subcommittee is being formed for Text Amendment TA/CO 19-14 by Stan Kosick, the EDC would like a member appointed to this committee. Royce Herman expressed interest in being appointed.

**C. Economic & Tourism Development Director Update (not on agenda):** Jesse Parks updated the EDC on the status of the Economic & Tourism Development Director search. There were 41 applicants that applied for the position, of the 41 applicants it has been narrowed down to 8 who will be interviewed. The interviews will be held on September 13<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup>. The interview panel will consist of Commissioner Jack

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Wilson, Commissioner Chris Corchiarino, County Administrator Todd Mohn, Human Resource Director Beverly Churchill, and EDC Chairman Jesse Parks.

**VII. New Business:**

- A. Project Bright Future-EDC Workforce Development Committee:** Don Gross, Chairman, updated the board on behalf of the Workforce Development Committee. The Project Bright Future event will be held at Chesapeake College on September 25<sup>th</sup> from 5pm-8pm. All 5 counties will be participating in this event. Advertising is being done through Comcast, Maryland Public Television and QACTV. Digital Curve Marketing will be creating 4 promotional videos to be published on various social media platforms.

**VIII. Liaison Reports:**

- A. Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce:** Linda Friday updated the board on behalf of the Queen Anne's County Chamber of Commerce. TechOps will be hosting a Success in 60 networking event on September 4<sup>th</sup>. QAC Goes Purple Kickoff will be held at Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department on September 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:30pm-9pm. The first 100 people will receive a free QAC Goes Purple t-shirt. Teacher of the year recognition will be on September 18<sup>th</sup> at the chamber mixer. This year QAC has 48 new teachers. In conjunction with Queen Anne's County Economic Development the Chamber will be sending out a traffic survey to all chamber members. They will be starting work on the new chamber directory in the next couple of weeks.
- B. Business Queen Anne's:** Steve Donovan updated the board on behalf of Business Queen Anne's. Met with Queen Anne's County Planning and Zoning over the summer to make suggestions on simplifying the Comprehensive Plan so that all county residents are able to read and understand it. BQA is meeting tonight at Mears Marina.
- C. July 2019 Real Estate Stats:** Ed Beres updated the board with the July 2019 local market insight. The statistics were passed out to the members present. Median sold price for July was up 3.8% from July 2018. The average number of days a house was on the market was 91. On sold properties there were 10 cash sales, 34 conventional sales and 11 VA sales.
- D. Chesapeake College:** Dave Harper submitted his update on Chesapeake College in writing. Internal resources have been repurposed to create a Workforce Dean position to support program development and administration. Marine Trades facilities and curriculum continue to expand. The Welding program is now updated and accelerated to better meet industry needs. The CDL curriculum has been updated in response to program advisory suggestions. The Workplace Excellence Series remains available for soft skill training. There are now 5 trainers in various fields. The college is adding Program Advisory Committees, partnering with WIB to make sure local business needs are met.

- IX. Adjournment:** On a motion made by Mr. Donovan, and seconded by Mr. Gross, the Board unanimously approved the adjournment of the meeting at 11:05 a.m.