

Meeting Minutes of the Richmond Economic Development Authority

June 17, 2021

Item #1: Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance: EDA President Mathiasen called the meeting of the Richmond EDA to order at 5:00 p.m.

EDA Commissioner noted as being present: Mike Mathiasen, Terry Meemken, Dale Maus, Emily Monnens, and Kate Lemke

Also, present were: Tesa Tomaschett, City Administrator; Traci Ryan, Ryan Development Consulting, LLC.

Item #2: Approval of Agenda

EDA President Mathiasen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda.

Add: Item #5 c: Merry Moose Childcare and Preschool.

Motion made by Maus to approve the agenda, seconded by Lemke. Motion passed.

Item #3: Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2021

EDA President Mathiasen asked if there were any additions or corrections.

Motion made by Lemke to approve the minutes of May 18, 2021, seconded by Maus. Motion passed.

Item #4: Financial Report-May, 2021

Tomaschett presented the May report. Professional, legal and engineering services are high at this time. May add a new fund/code for Richmond Business Park due upcoming costs.

Item #5: Ryan Development Consulting Items

- a. **Branding/Marketing-** The EDA agree that having a committee dedicated to seeing the Branding process through and reporting back to the EDA with recommendations for action. A survey will be sent out to EDA members as well as City Council, business owners, residents, resort owners' tourists and others for them to complete in regards to branding ideas.

In addition, there have been a lot of complaints regarding the new bike lane. It is supposed to be a "shared lane" for both vehicles and bikes. This will be addressed at the next televised City Council meeting on July 7th.

- b. **Downtown Building-** Not a lot of progress at this time. Tomaschett would like to look at the budget and finances. Ryan talked to Inventure wondering if there was something they could do regarding investments and management. This concept will be talked in more detail at the next meeting.
- c. **Merry Moose Childcare and Preschool-** Adding a significant expansion of 6,000 square feet and 80 children. Mande, the owner, came to council and stated that SAC/WAC fees that businesses have to pay for this area are too high and that businesses are having to go to City Council to get fees lowered. Hoping that if EDA approves lower fees, then City Council will agree. Pay as you go TIF assistance is being proposed by Ryan. She also states that the idea of proposing a change in ordinance would be needed to lower SAC/WAC fees in order to keep businesses from leaving due to expenses. Mande is looking for 25% help with the SAC/WAC fees with the city paying for 1 EDU and she would pay for 1 EDU. So, with a total of \$43,999, the city would cover \$14,387, which turns out to be 1/3 of cost and Mandy would pay \$28,712 to keep her business local.

Motion made by Maus to recommend that EDA move forward with what was presented by Traci Ryan, seconded by Lemke. Motion passed

Item #6: Other Matters of Concern and Related Matters

An update on Richmond Business Park was given. It is still moving forward.

Item #7: Next Meeting Date: July 20, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Item #8: Adjournment

EDA President Mathiasen asked if there were any additional issues to be discussed. Hearing no further comments, he declared the meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tesa Tomaschett
City Administrator