

The Economic Development Authority of the County of Accomack, Virginia

April 10, 2012

The Economic Development Authority met in the Conference Room of the Accomack County Airport Terminal Building, on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: John LeCato, Chair
Shirley Zamora
Ira Ashby-Hope
Irene Davis
Robert Marshall
Robert Bloxom

Members Absent: Mary Jester

Call to Order

The EDA meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman John LeCato and he welcomed Robert Bloxom to the EDA Meeting and thanked him for serving.

Roll Call

The following members were present John LeCato, Robert Bloxom, Iravon Ashby-Hope, Shirley Zamora, Irene Davis, and Robert Marshall.

Public Comment

No one was present from the public

Approval of March 13, 2012 Minutes

Robert Marshall made a motion to accept the March 13, 2012 minutes and Shirley Zamora seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

Robert Marshall gave the Treasurer's Report and said the balance at PNC Bank was \$21,861.92 and stated he had not been notified of any accounts payable. Ira Ashby-Hope made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Shirley Zamora seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Website Discussion

Irene Davis stated after reviewing the website she felt it looked more like a tourism website rather than an Economic Development website. Mrs. Davis stated she had been talking to the people who designed her website and it would cost \$990 per year to redesign the site, maintain it, add pictures, and etc. which would be a turn key operation. A discussion ensued concerning the website. Mrs. Zamora stated linking was free most of the time and the website would have to have a track record before they would link with a site. Mrs. Zamora stated when the website was designed it was designed to sale the land in the park. A discussion ensued.

Informational Report from Chairman and Members

Chairman LeCato stated he had signed the document for Sam Segar and Associates for one year as the Agent to represent the EDA and Sam Segar and Associates agreed on it.

Robert Bloxom commented on business development and stated the government needs to support the businesses that are located on the Shore. He continued and stated that in order to attract new businesses the businesses that are already located here the businesses that are operating her now has to be strong. A discussion ensued. Mrs. Zamora gave Mr. Bloxom a brief update on selling the Park. She stated that when Mr. LeCato became the Chair of the EDA, the County funded the EDA several hundred thousand dollars and Mr. LeCato took the EDA off the County money and the EDA no longer receives any money from the County. She continued and said the only income the EDA has is by selling land in the Park. Mr. LeCato stated the EDA has enough money to only last approximately two years and then they would not have any money.

Chairman LeCato stated he has asked the County to take over the lights in the Park because the EDA does not have the funds to maintain them. Mr. LeCato stated he

had contacted ANEC and was told they were not aware of any cuts in the line. He said he had talked with Verizon concerning the cuts in the line and was told they had not received a letter from ANEC and unless they would receive a letter they would not go out on the property and look. He continued and stated he had called the electrician that had done the wire box for the County when they converted and separated the meters and was told there was a break between the building and the first pole and that was the reason there was no lights in the part. A discussion ensued. Mrs. Zamora stated Mark Taylor, County Attorney needs to write a letter to Verizon so they could come and look at it. Chairman LeCato stated he would contact Mark Taylor and get his opinion on the wiring. A discussion ensued concerning the closing of businesses in Accomack County and Northampton County.

Mr. LeCato told the EDA that the BaySys building in the park was up for sale and if anyone was interested in coming in the Park immediately. He continued and stated the sign that was put up by Caldwell Banker has been removed from the entrance of the Park and put on the BaySys property that was for sale.

Rich Morrison, Director of Planning/Community Development gave an update on the activities going on in the County. He said the hospital still needs to get a conditional use permit from the County. He told the EDA Medical Office Building that would be built shortly after the hospital and there were future plans for a Medical Complex that would be phased in over a number of years. He also told the EDA of other businesses that were interested within locating in the County.

Chairman LeCato stated he had received a notice of a hearing for a tax exempt bond from Virginia Small Business Financing Authority. He said the notice was given out on behalf of the Young Christian Business Association of South Hampton Roads and they were applying for \$11 million dollars tax exempt revenue bond.

Mr. LeCato stated he also had received a letter that was addressed to the Economic Development Authority members from Mary Jester stating she had resigned from the Economic Development Authority Board effective immediately.

Nominations for Vice Chair

Chairman LeCato opened the floor for nominations of a Vice Chair. Mr. Marshall nominated Iravon Ashby-Hope. Mrs. Hope declined the nomination. Mrs. Hope nominated Robert Marshall. Mr. Marshall declined the nomination. Shirley Zamora made a motion to nominate Irene Davis as Vice Chair. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

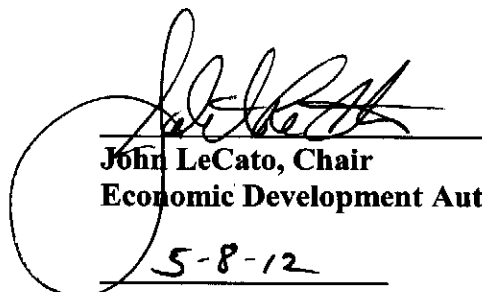
Ayes: (5) Abstention (1)

Covenants

Mr. Marshall stated Article 17 concerning Repurchase has to be clarified and reworded because of the issue with the Chamber. He said he felt the members should review Article 17 and bring it back for decision at the May EDA meeting. Chairman asked Mr. Morrison if he would speak with Mr. Taylor and ask him to attend next months EDA Meeting.

Adjournment

Robert Marshall made a motion to adjourn the EDA meeting and Irene Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.



John LeCato, Chair
Economic Development Authority
5-8-12

Date