

# CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VIRGINIA

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## **Minutes Economic Development Authority Meeting Thursday, May 18, 2023 Colonial Heights Council Chambers Conference Room 8:30 AM**

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Comstock at 8:32 AM.

Present: Mrs. Pam Comstock  
Mr. James Kester  
Mrs. Nancy Halbert  
Mr. Roger Hedrick

Absent: Mr. Johnny Mazza  
Mr. Marlon Dance  
Mr. Louis Blaha

Others Present: Mrs. Karen Epps, Economic Development Director  
Mr. Hugh P. Fisher, III, City Attorney  
Ms. Amber Wallace, Economic Development Specialist

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Mrs. Halbert, seconded by Mr. Hedrick, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

### 3. Correction/Approval of Minutes from January 26, 2023 meeting

A motion was made by Mrs. Halbert, seconded by Mr. Kester to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

### 4. Meeting Dates for 2023

Meeting dates for 2023 of September 28, and November 30 were unanimously approved.

It was decided that the July 27, 2023 meeting would be rescheduled to August 3<sup>rd</sup> due to Mrs. Epps and Mrs. Comstock not being able to attend.

### 5. Old Business

Mrs. Epps reported on the following:

- a. Shamin Hotels Holiday Inn – The Holiday Inn will be rebranding to a Delta hotel by Marriott. They have renovated two rooms that are available for viewing. Marriott has approved these rooms. They will become a full-service hotel with a restaurant upon reopening, featuring conference and banquet space. They will be closed during the renovation process and look to reopen in mid-2024.

A draft of the requested tax incentive has been sent to the City Attorney. This will be voted on during the August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 EDA meeting.

## 6. New Business

### -Current Projects

Mrs. Epps reported on the following:

- a. Richmond Region Tourism – First in the state to create a tax and investment district. Colonial Heights will be a part of this initiative as we are members of RRT. Each hotel will have two percent added to each stay. This money will immediately be pulled from the city and sent to RRT to promote advertising and promotion of the region.
- b. PART is going through a restructure. The only way they are being supported is by the locality's contributions. There are no full-time employees, one part-time employee and a board consisting of the Economic Development and Tourism directors from each locality. It was noted PART is not able to receive grants from The Cameron Foundation due to tourism categorization.
- c. Panera Bread – Engineers met on-site with developers determining construction will begin soon.

## 7. Adjourn

There being no further business, Mrs. Comstock adjourned the meeting at 9:14 AM.