

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 1, 2016

PRESENT

Dr. Mary Bolt (Cecil College), Walter Buck (Citizen), Denise Davis (CCPL), Danny DeMarinis (URP), Bruce England (SWN), Norman Gaither (NorArk Executive Group), Paula Gilley (Citizen), Woody Jackson (Citizen), Michael Lara (Orbital ATK), Sandy Maruchi-Turner (Tourism), Grove Miller (Citizen), Susan O'Neill (Economic Development Manager), Michael Ratchford (W.L. Gore & Associates), Joanne Richart-Young (Ag Coordinator), Dr. Carl Roberts (Chamber Government Relations), Dan Schneckenburger (County Council), Mike Travers (Cecil Dance Center), Lisa Webb (Director of Economic Development), Jason Zang (Economic Development)

ABSENT

Linda Burris (Delmarva Power), JoAnn Dawson (Fairwinds), Dr. D'Ette Devine (CCPS), Scott Holland (i-Lighting), Doris Mason (USRC), Robert Palsgrove (WSFS), Rupert Rossetti (Citizen)

GUESTS

Joseph DiNunzio (Artesian Water), Scott Flanigan (DPW), Vince Fiorelli (Chesapeake Utilities), Cheryl Mattix (Cecil Whig), Dr. Alan McCarthy (County Council), Stephanie Palko (Cecil Guardian), Sharon Pelham (APGFCU), Alan Sexton (SWN), Mie Mie Joe Strickler (Asian Pacific American Commissioner) David Strouss (McCrone)

Call to Order & Welcome

- Mike Ratchford called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
- Introductions were made by all in attendance.

Chairman's Report – Mike Ratchford

- Minutes from EDC Meeting on May 4, 2016 were approved.
- Attended Dr. Bolt's Investiture in May. Appreciate the important of the College and it being a driver of economic development.
- Summer Schedule: July will be our annual EDC Meeting at the Cecil County Fair, Tuesday, July 26th, 5:00 pm. Will be sending out details to Members.
- Won't meet in August; next meeting in September.

You may wonder why we are having the Sheriff speak on Economic Development. It speaks to the importance of the Sheriff's Office to the County, what a contributor they are to the quality of life in our County. Sheriff Adams has been in law enforcement for 24 years, he has risen in the ranks through those years, named Deputy of Year in DARE program, elected Sheriff in 2014, and an Alumni of Cecil College.

A Presentation on the Cecil County Sheriff's Office was given by Scott Adams, Sheriff.

Busy time in Law Enforcement because of graduations, warm weather, etc. but as temperatures go up so does crime. We try to look at how Law Enforcement and Corrections blend in with Economic Development.

Changes made during this administration:

- Crime Reduction Changes
 - Patrol Schedule -- provides more flexibility, allows for better health and welfare of deputies, and better recruitment
- Community Resource Unit
 - Had problems with policing – needed a deep connection with community not only for crime issues but for prevention and social interactions
- Street Level Crimes Unit (SLCU) / K9
 - Addition of SLCU to address trending crime and be responsive to quality of life complaints
- Drug Task Force
 - Added additional deputy to task force
- SunGard CAD System
 - Allows better dispatching of nearest patrol vehicles
- Training
 - Law Enforcement is dynamic. Have tripled training in last 12-18 months to maintain certifications; i.e., firearms, domestic violence, autism, command level, etc.
- Detention & Community Corrections Programs (Vivitrol / EM)
 - Programs for non-violent offenders; help to find job so as to not return to Community Corrections.
 - Numbers have greatly improved.
 - Vivitrol / EM is time-released Nar cam – allows inmate to detoxify while under medical care.
- Social Media:
 - Facebook Connections, Twitter, Nextdoor (partnership between neighborhoods and Sheriff's Office to keep both informed), Virtual Townhalls

Cecil is facing a major drug addiction problem, but it is no different than what other counties/places are dealing with. CCSO is working to find better ways to eliminate smuggling drugs into Detention Center and working with the community to stop addiction-related crimes.

Carl Roberts commended Sheriff Adams for his focus on training in the face of tight, difficult budgets. Lisa Webb commented that drug-related issues are not just here but everywhere and we appreciate what the Sheriff's Office is doing to help with this problem.

A copy of this presentation is available on our website.

Director's Report – Lisa Webb

- BAW 2016 (great success)

- Had very busy week of business visits during our Business Appreciation Week. Discovered we have a lot of family-based businesses. Very encouraging to see how committed they are to their businesses and to Cecil County.
- Appreciate the support at the Ribbon Cutting for Lee's Landing Boardwalk.
- Incubator development meetings
- Medical Cannabis briefings
- Several site tours (Bainbridge, Principio, Elkton)
- CLI class/banquet
- BDC Directors meeting
- NMTC strategic planning
- Army Alliance - Military Appreciation
- Garrett Island/John Smith Trail development

Economic Development Manager – Susan O'Neill

- Attended ICSC conference
- Coordinated Business Appreciation Week workshop
- Participated in Business Appreciation Week business visits
- Attended Cecil County Chamber Business Spotlight event
- Meet with marketing business to discuss marketing options for the VLT fund
- Attended a planning meeting regarding a future transportation hub for Cecil County
- Met with start up business looking for funding
- Met with Elkton Alliance economic competitiveness committee
- Attended Cecil Leadership Graduation dinner

Agriculture Coordinator – Joanne Richart-Young

- Cecil County Farmers' Market in North East had Opening day on Friday, May 20th.
- Visit/tour of Warwick Mushroom with Administrative Director, Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs; Director of Public Affairs, Universal Peace Federation International, and Commissioner, Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs
- Follow up meetings with local farmers for MDA/SHA Ag Sign Program participation
- Coordinated Cecil Leadership Institute visit to Warwick Mushroom Farm and did brief Welcome
- Assisted with scheduling and participating in business visits for Business Appreciation Week
- Attended Cecil County Chamber Business Awards luncheon
- Attended annual BEPAC Partnership Breakfast at new School of Technology
- Attended BEPAC Preakness event
- Attended Cecil Leadership Institute Graduation dinner
- Attended Fair Hill Races
- Attended Chateau Bu-De Opening Day
- Visit to Dove Valley Winery and Rumbleway Farm

Tourism Coordinator – Sandy Maruchi-Turner

- Tourism Month Proclamations – Towns and County
- Developed new May promotion – Cecil's Choice Awards

- Fair Hill International committee and meetings
- Operated a booth at the “Maryland Bloggers Bash”
- Developing joint marketing project with Visit Harford
- Hosted “BFL Regional” fishing tournament
- Conducted multiple business visits during Business Appreciation Week
- Staffed a table at Fair Hill Races
- Continue work on spring/summer advertising

Economic Development Coordinator – Jason Zang

- Assisted in Business Appreciation Week promotion, development, and execution
- Provided site tour to manufacturing company looking to expand into Cecil
- Met with medicinal marijuana organization to discuss status of operation and licensure
- Coordinated conference call with AAEDC and small business looking to purchase land to expand entertainment business
- Met with industrial prospect in the process of purchasing site in Elkton and passed along EZ, other incentive information
- Volunteered at Cecil County Job Fair
- Secured advertising space in and delivered advertisements to industry publications
- Began work on Business Appreciation Week wrap-up/OED Newsletter

Subcommittee Reports:

Education/Workforce – Denise Davis

- Gilpin Project will provide additional parking. Scheduled to go out to bid. Hope to make facility easier to use in future.

Technology – Norman Gaither

- Met on 5/24; Neil Davis / TEDCO attended
- Studying priorities & time lines
- Dr. Bolt offered co-working space at College
- To get funding from TEDCO, have to be in before July 2017; looking at other ways to fund as well

Land Use –

- Committee has not met

Finance – Susan O’Neill

- Have not met – on hold – waiting for answer to Video Lottery Terminal Manager RFP
- Staying positive; Looking at ways to use money if/when we receive award

Communications – Jason Zang

- County’s website should be unveiled mid June; OED will preview.
- Working with DCI Communications to move forward with a branding campaign.

Council Report - Dan Schneckenburger

- Last work session Chesapeake Utilities gave presentation on franchise agreement with North East (natural gas)
 - Won't get to Route 40 growth corridor fast enough
- In final budget deliberations - actively looking at areas to save money in County budget; new budget must pass on June 7th
- Money for new Tourism location should stay in budget
- RFP on Re-development of Donaldson Brown Center
- Governor Hogan visiting Cecil County July 7-10 time frame

2016 Important Upcoming Events

Every Friday through October 28 th	Cecil County Farmers' Market 2 pm to 6 pm, NE United Methodist Church Parking Lot, 308 S. Main Street, North East
June 6th -	Army Alliance Annual Dinner
June 9th -	CSSC Quarterly Meeting June 9th
June 17th -	SWN - WIB Annual Meeting

Summary

We will see everyone in July at the County Fair.

This report will be made available via OED website.

Adjournment

Mike Ratchford adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

Our next EDC meeting will be on September 7, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at Cecil College, Room TC208.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Springel
Administrative Assistant