



Document #2:

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 8, 2023

Zoom Meeting: June 8, 2023 – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attended: Brian Anderson, Theodore L. Chandler, Jr., Wilson Flohr, Moses Foster, Thomas R. Frantz, Nancy Grden, Greg Gilligan, Ross Grogg, Mitch Haddon, Sarah Jane Kirkland, Christopher Lloyd, John W. Martin, John F. Reinhart, Laura Robidoux

Absent: Cliff Fleet, Bob Holsworth, Aubrey L. Layne, Peggy Layne, James Spore, Bryan Stephens

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Minutes Approval
2. Discussion on Improving Attendance: EC and Board/MIC Meetings
3. Government Relations Update
4. Governance and Nominations Update
5. Development Update
6. MIC Update
7. Chamber Intercity Trips 2023 – Recap
8. RVA757 Connects Priorities Updates
9. June 29th EC Meeting 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Williamsburg
10. Convergence 2023 Planning Direction
11. Old Business / New Business

Welcome and Minutes Approval

The Executive Committee (EC) unanimously approved the March 8, April 12, and May 10 EC meeting minutes as well as the April 26 Board/MIC meeting minutes.

Discussion on Improving Attendance: EC and Board/MIC Meetings

There is a general attendance malaise throughout all organizations. It was suggested that maybe EC meetings next year either be scheduled earlier in the morning (7 a.m. or 7:30 a.m.) or later in the evening (5 p.m. or 6 p.m.). May through September are more challenging months for scheduling meetings. However, it isn't clear what other factors may affect attendance, such as time of the day, day of the week, or frequency of meetings throughout the year. Scheduling preferences will be included in the end-of-year survey, which will be sent out earlier in the year to give stakeholders more time to provide input.



Meeting frequency may lesson with the maturing of the organization. This means fewer EC meetings, such as once per quarter prior to each board meeting with written updates in between. RVA757 Connects' staff will review the cadence of the remaining 2023 EC meetings and make adjustments to suit the EC's schedule.

Government Relations Update

Ross Grogg and Christopher Lloyd provided a general update on the General Assembly. The current focus is on Virginia's primary elections on June 20. The FY2024 budget is mostly done. Changes are expected by late June/early July.

The first budget proposal for the current administration is expected in December.

Governance and Nominations Update

Sarah Jane Kirkland and Moses Foster reviewed the items within the Government and Nominations Committee Report. Topics included:

- Term Limits – The head of an organization or company is the seat holder on the board/MIC. Term limits do not apply until a leader steps down and appoints a new head of an organization or company. The Executive Committee has the ability to change term limits based on engagement.
- Global Internet Hub Council – This council will be created as a subsidiary of RVA757 Connects. A resolution to the board will be created with no change to the by-laws. A grant to the Hampton Roads Community Foundation is being sought and that grant would be used to help start up this council.
- New Subcommittees: Entrepreneurial Community and Leadership I-64 Innovation Corridor – This topic will be tabled until the MIC gets organized and engaged.
- Recruitment – Aubrey Layne will remain on the Executive Committee and Dennis Matheis, the current President/CEO of Sentara, | ~~10/10/23~~ approached to discuss joining our organization. Nneka Chiazor, Market Vice President of Cox, will be contacted to join the board to fill J.D. Myers' seat. Currently, 72 board seats have been filled. New candidates will be tabled until outstanding invitations are accepted or rejected.

Development Update

- All 2023 invoices have been sent out. Laura Robidoux will send a tracking sheet to monitor collection progress.
- A draft copy of the letter for the Thank You Initiative is under review.
- Three-year renewal forms have been sent out for anyone whose funding is ending in 2023-2024. This will be monitored on the tracking sheet.
- The Development Committee is scheduling the next meeting to occur before June 29.



- Robert M. Blue, Chairman, President and CEO of Dominion Energy, has committed for 2024-2026.

MIC Update

The MIC is getting organized. The Hampton Roads Presidents Council contains many MIC leaders. Richmond is bringing in new members.

Next step: The chambers will continue to update the EC on evolution of the MIC.

Chamber Intercity Trips 2023

John Martin provided a recap of the Chamber trips to Kansas City and Charleston, S.C. RVA757 Connects will look into providing sponsorships for future trips. RVA757 Connects' involvement on both Chambers trips is positive for branding.

RVA757 Connects Priorities Updates

- Global Internet Hub Update – The Strategic Plan report will be submitted to GO Virginia next week, completing the deliverable obligation of the grant. An Executive Summary map will contain an extra visual that will be ready for Convergence 2023. Virginia Beach is ready to pitch to subsea cable investors. TeleGeography has requested to share information from this study with other investors. RVA757 Connects' staff will set up a meeting to include Virginia Beach and subsea cable investors.
- Rail Update – A meeting is scheduled with the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) and Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA). The Planning District Commissions of Hampton Roads, Richmond, and the Crater districts also plan to attend. This meeting is an opportunity to discuss the next 5-year plan. Staff will report back to the EC.
- Trail Update – John Martin provided a recap of the meeting with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). There is an ongoing discussion whether legislation can be changed to enable funding for Fall Line Trail and BoAT trail. John Martin and Greg Gilligan have a meeting scheduled with the officials from Richmond Sports Backers, which is spearheading efforts for the Fall Line Trail.

June 29th EC Meeting 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Williamsburg

This upcoming in-person EC meeting will have guest attendees from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), Greater Richmond Partnership (GRP), the Hampton Roads Alliance, and InterGlobix. John Martin shared a draft agenda of this meeting.

The first hour of the meeting will just involve just the EC. Once the invited guests arrive around noon, the discussion will focus on priority alignment, the Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan, site certification (multiple types – data center, manufacturing, logistics, etc.), and funding opportunities.



Fellow Executive Committee member Cliff Fleet is contributing the meeting space and the food and beverage at the Williamsburg Lodge (Thank you, Cliff!).

Convergence 2023 Planning Direction

The date of Convergence 2023 has been set for Thursday Sept. 28 in Williamsburg, and a draft agenda has been created. The Governor and two to three cabinet secretaries will be invited. Convergence will be an opportunity to announce the Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan release, share the VEDP study about data center taxes (if the Administration approves), profile innovations in both markets, and provide initiative updates.

Next step: RVA757 Connects staff will continue to meet with the two chambers on a weekly basis to plan out the details of this event.

Old Business / New Business

The Association for Corporate Growth has a strong Richmond chapter and Hampton Roads is starting a chapter in collaboration with it. John M. Paris, Jr. is taking charge and shared this update with the EC. This is another example of Richmond and Hampton Roads “coming together.”