



April 7, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting: April 7, 2021 – 8:00 am – 9:00 am

Attended: Ted Chandler, Cliff Fleet, Moses Foster, Tom Frantz, Bob Holsworth, John Martin, Jim Spore, Laura Robidoux

Absent: Sarahjane Kirkland, Peggy Layne, John Reinhart

Agenda Items:

- Approve March 31st EC Minutes
- I-64 Gap Funding Update
- Fundraising Approach Recap – Draft 2
- Website Update
- Future Board Meeting Dates
- Old Business/New Business

Approve March 31st EC Minutes

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the March 31st EC Meeting Minutes.

I-64 Gap Funding Update

John Martin reported that the I-64 Gap project letter has been sent to Secretary of Transportation Valentine and outlined the most immediate next steps.

One next step is encouraging New Kent County to share their data on safety issues related to the 29-mile stretch as a case for supporting the I-64 Gap project.

Next Steps:

- John Martin will send a copy of the I-64 Gap project letter to RVA757 Connects' directors and members and include the recent article about additional trains added from Richmond to Hampton Roads.
- John Martin will reach out to the Chambers / Stephen Moret / Bob Crum to share the I-64 Gap project letter.

Fundraising Approach Recap – Draft 2

The Executive Committee reviewed the latest additions to the Development Plan. There was a general discussion about information sharing on gift amounts. It was agreed the Development Committee will have full access to all gift amounts.

Ted and Tom volunteered to lead Corporate asks as the co-chairs to RVA757 Connects.

The Executive Committee approved the recruitment of Jim Kibler to the Board. He is excited to get involved with our organization and would be a great fit for the Development Committee.

Ted and Tom will get together to finalize Development Committee structural matters.

Next Steps:

- Ted and Tom will report back next week with feedback on committee structural matters.
- Invite Jim Kibler to be a part of the Development Committee.

Website Update

The Executive Committee agreed to share the beta version of the website with board directors and MIC members, requesting their feedback. In addition, we will request input on innovation stories from directors and MIC members to include on the website map, newsletter, and social media. Once the site is ready for full launch, we'll begin pushing out and sharing the link. The next stage will bring this website to life with the interactive homepage map feature, videos, and newsletters.

It was agreed we needed to further up-play the presence of the MIC and their important role.

As the Virginia Hispanic Chamber has now joined the MIC, they will be added to the website.

Next Steps:

- John Martin will send a link to the new website, as well as the innovation story request, to directors and MIC members (after the I-64 Gap project letter is shared).
- Laura will begin transferring PPT slides to the new template.

Future Board Meeting Dates

Laura shared the future board meeting dates – all Executive Committee members now have the following dates/times on hold in their calendars:

- June 9: 2-4pm
- Sept 15: 2-4pm
- December 9: 12-2pm

Please note that Convergence 2021 meeting date is still TBD: It might be on the week of Oct 25th.

The only other 2021 meeting date is the upcoming Digital (offshore cables) Briefing that CIVIC is working on for RVA757 Connects.

Update on Key Priorities:

Virginia Capital Trail – John Martin and Cliff Fleet gave a general update on the Capital Trail Extension developments. Cliff and John are going to put together a deck listing the “Tenets of Success” to share with trail stakeholders.

Passenger Rail – We will approach Robbyn Gayer to lead a new RVA757 Connects’ Committee on Increasing Passenger Rail.

Research & Development Advancing Innovation – John pointed out that driving R&D is a priority area that needs some strategic thinking from the Executive Committee – *the how*.

Next Steps:

- John and Cliff will create a PPT deck for Virginia Capital Trail.
- Laura will schedule a meeting with Robbyn Gayer to start passenger rail planning.
- Continue to reach out to VEDP / Stephen Moret to build a collaborative relationship.
- Brainstorm the R&D priority at future meetings.

Old Business/New Business

It was suggested we create a way to show on the website our step-by-step progress in accomplishing goals.

It was recommended to add Wilson Flohr to the Executive Committee in order to involve GO Virginia more directly with our priorities. The Executive Committee unanimously agreed to add Wilson to the EC.

It was pointed out that we want to always keep VEDP aware of what we are doing and supportive of our actions and programs. This includes sharing content and data, as well as including VEDP’s leadership in meetings, etc. John reminded everyone that VEDP has encouraged us to follow the Greater Washington-Baltimore Partnership megaregion operational model.

Bob Holsworth invited the Executive Committee to the Frank Gupton presentation about Advanced Pharma Manufacturing on Monday, April 12 at 3pm.

Next Step:

- John will invite Wilson Flohr to join the Executive Committee.
- John will continue to reach out to Stephen Moret.

Upcoming EC Meeting Topics:

- Next meeting, April 14 – Board member recruitment recommendations
- Following meeting – GOVirginia I-64 Innovation Corridor Talent Pipeline Study Research Council
- Update – Review Top Line Findings
- R&D Innovations – Brainstorm approach