Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Zoom Meeting: August 24, 2022 – 8:00 am – 9:00 am

Attended: Wilson Flohr, Greg Gilligan, Nancy Grden, Sarah Jane Kirkland, Peggy Layne, John W. Martin, John F. Reinhart, James Spore, and Laura Robidoux

Special Guest: Mitch Haddon

Absent: Theodore L. Chandler, Jr., Cliff Fleet, Moses Foster, Thomas R. Frantz, Aubrey L. Layne, Bob Holsworth

Agenda Items:

July 13, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – Approval

Flash Report – Financial Update

Nominations Committee – Corporate Governance Discussion

Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan Initiative Update

Virginia Capital Trail Initiative Discussion

Convergence 2021

Old Business/New Business

July 13, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Executive Committee (EC) unanimously approved the July 13th EC meeting minutes.

Flash Report – Financial Update

There was a general review of the flash report. A second round of invoices has been sent out for those who have pledged $2,500 or more.

It is time to regroup to discuss new board directors, such as:

- Dr. Sharon Morrissey – Interim Chancellor, Virginia Community College System
- Jeffrey D. Wassmer – Spectrum Comm Inc. (already approved, but awaiting corporate governance finalization)

Next Step:

- Monthly financial updates will continue.

Nominations Committee – Corporate Governance Discussion

Sarah Jane Kirkland provided an overview of the Corporate Governance recommendations:

1) Terms: Term limits are 3 years, with a maximum of 3 terms served. Directors' terms will be staggered over time to prevent a mass exodus at once. A spreadsheet containing a list of terms will be created for all current directors.

2) Director Requirements: The directors are expected to attend meetings and events and advocate for priorities of their choosing.

3) Financial Commitments – Directors: Different levels of suggested pledges have been created for individual and corporate donors. Those who choose the highest pledge level (for either individuals and corporations) could be showcased at an event or given a speaking opportunity at a meeting. This has already started through Virtual Innovation Spotlight sponsorships (no added money), speaking opportunities at Board/MIC meetings (Dominion Energy), and Convergence features.

   Some donors prefer anonymity, while others can be listed on the website. This preference can be clarified as new donors make their pledges. Temporary level names have been established for the donation levels until there has been further discussion.

   Most donors currently have 3-year commitments. The community foundations will be approached for continuing commitments.

4) Financial Commitments – MIC: The MIC has been charged to determine the financial requirement for MIC members. Co-chairs of the MIC, Brian Anderson and Bryan Stephens, will report back to the EC once a consensus has been made.

5) Committees: Director commitments do not include mandatory committee participation – this is voluntary.

6) Board Representatives: Major donors may choose their replacements when transitioning off the board.

7) MIC Representatives: Heads of organizations will be the representatives on RVA757 Connects.

8) Onboarding: More formal onboarding materials will be created, including a hard copy notebook and director/MIC member profiles on the website.

9) Conflict of Interest: Legal council will be sought to determine if Conflict of Interest forms should be signed by only the Executive Committee or by the full board of directors.

10) Governance Committee: The need to establish a separate committee is being explored. This Governance Committee would work in tandem with the Nominations Committee.

Next Step:

- This conversation will continue at the next EC meeting.

Global Internet Hub Strategic Plan Initiative Update

The Global Internet Hub's project website (https://www.globalinternethub.org/) is up and running. This website features background information on Global Internet Hubs, a list of Steering Committee members, and document folders for all six meetings, which will be updated as meeting documents are completed. This website also features the GO Virginia legacy component – housing secondary research reports.

The second deliverable for the GO Virginia grant is the Situation Review PowerPoint Deck – https://www.globalinternethub.org/august-25-2022, the report details findings from the secondary research that was conducted.

The second Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 25 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. It is expected for about half of the committee to attend this in-person meeting. The meeting will focus around the ten characteristics of Global Internet Hubs, questions to explore for the megaregion, and possible missing elements. This discussion will inform the committee of the potential consultant selection and bring depth and clarity to the planning

process. For instance, TeleGeography is a consultant candidate. It would also be helpful to study the top 10 Global Internet Hubs and their major characteristics. Corporate sponsorships can go toward recruiting these consultants.

Next Step:

- The EC will remain informed as meetings continue. Ideas and suggestions are encouraged.

Virginia Capital Trail Initiative Discussion

The Virginia Capital Trail initiative will be the primary topic for the September 20 Board/MIC meeting. Robert Crum and Cat Anthony have been invited to speak on this topic. It was suggested to also include Mary Bunting, City Manager of Hampton, Virginia.

It will be important to clarify to the business community why this topic should be considered a priority, starting with the "why" over the "what." Generational values differ and should be considered as this priority is explored further. The Virginia Capital Trail is part of the whole system of trails that exist in the state – all trails are important as connectors for biking and walking. Trail use can include commuting to and from local businesses as an employee or consumer.

The report deck will be shared with board materials for the next Board/MIC meeting's breakout session discussion. An executive summary report will be created and linked to the full report.

This kind of discussion will be replicated for the passenger rail initiative.

Next Step:

- An executive summary report will be written and shared with the EC.

Convergence 2021

RVA757 Connects' staff members are having regular meetings with the Chambers. An event-specific logo has been created. Discussions are continuing with the Governor's staff to determine his speaking schedule. Sponsorship materials are being completed for funding solicitation. Two buses (38 people per bus) and hotel room reservations have been booked.

Tour stops are being organized. Both chambers have been active in including industry clusters cited in the I-64 Innovation Corridor Opportunity Study.

Marketing and participant outreach will begin next.

The EC was encouraged to make a strong showing to participate in this event.

Next Step:

- Tour stops will be finalized for both regions.
- Finalized sponsorship materials will be shared with the EC.

Old Business/New Business

RVA757 Connects' staff met with Jason El Koubi from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP). Mr. Koubi's feedback was supportive of what RVA757 Connects is doing. The VEDP has an open invitation to attend any Board/MIC meeting or EC meeting.

Christopher Lloyd and Ross Grogg are formalizing a legislative agenda for next year (2023). This will be included at the September Board/MIC meeting.

James Spore provided an update on Jefferson Lab. Reinvent Hampton Roads and Old Dominion University (ODU) are collaborating on a project emphasizing the importance of data science in the future. RVA757 Connects is standing by to support Jefferson Lab's RFP application.

The Board/MIC agenda will include an update for this topic. This is bigger than the lab – it's part of the ecosystem.