Document #2:
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Zoom Meeting: February 23, 2022 – 8:00 am – 9:00 am

Attended: Theodore L. Chandler, Jr., Wilson Flohr, Thomas R. Frantz, Bob Holsworth, Sarah Jane Kirkland, Peggy Layne, John W. Martin, John F. Reinhart, James Spore, and Laura Robidoux

Mitch Haddon (special guest) will attend the EC meeting.

Absent: Cliff Fleet, Moses Foster, Aubrey L. Layne, Jr.

Agenda Items:

- Approve February 9th Executive Committee Minutes (See attached – Document #2)
- Financial Update
- Nominations Committee Update
- I-64 Gap Project Update (See Document #3)
- Global Internet Hub Grant Proposal (Document #4)
- Development Committee Update – Mitch Haddon will provide update
    - Thank You Letter (Document #5)
    - Supporting GIH Grant
    - Co-Chair Discussion
- Communications Director – Recommendation
- Board and MIC Engagement (Document #6)
- GO Virginia Executive Summary Report Update
- EC 2022 Conflict of Interest Form (Document #7)
- Governor Youngkin
- MIC Kickoff Meeting – March 10, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
- Old Business / New Business

Approve February 9th Executive Committee Minutes

The Executive Committee (EC) unanimously approved the February 9th EC meeting minutes.

Financial Update

Laura Robidoux provided a financial update. There are no substantive changes to report.

Nominations Committee Update

Moses Foster and John Martin are working on RVA Board recruits for the Board.

(Subsequent related call: Ted Chandler offered his assistance).

Next Step:

Progress will be reported to the EC.

I-64 Gap Project Update

John Martin reported that we are gaining momentum on the I-64 Gap Project. Specifically:

- Governor Northam's 2022-2024 budget included $20M for permitting and design work on the I-64 Gap Project.
- The House Appropriations Committee (HAC) budget amendments related to transportation included $50M for the I-64 Gap Project.
- The Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee transportation funding amendments for FY22-24 included $190M for the I-64 Gap Project.

We (RVA757 Connects) are now working directly with VDOT on Federal grant applications, using our data from the 2021 I-64 Innovation Corridor Opportunity Study (GO Virginia grant-funded) to make a compelling case for this important project.

Next Step:

- Updates will be reported in two weeks.

Global Internet Hub Business Plan Grant Proposal

John Martin briefed the EC on the Global Internet Hub (GIH) draft grant proposal and walked through the thinking of the GIH Committee. The grant proposal current draft was included as a part of the meeting materials. The EC was asked to read this over the next two weeks.

A general discussion on this topic reinforced that:

- RVA757 Connects will be the convener, not leader, with this project.
- The future role of RVA757 Connects will be to bring resources and talent together to create action.
- The GIH business plan will be a model for action in future priorities.
- We need to build ROI into the grant application to include future jobs related to digital access.

Dr. Holsworth recommended that the GIH Committee read through the JLARC study that references data center tax incentives. Locality tax incentive rates differ greatly county to county. The JLARC work will be noted in the next draft of the proposal.

There was a general discussion about whether the GIH Committee should join a future EC meeting.

It was agreed that the GIH grant application should be the topic of a breakout session topic for March 22 Board – MIC meeting. It was recommended to create a briefing document on GIH opportunity to inform the Board/MIC as a precursor to this Board / MIC meeting's breakout session. This could be in the form of a PPT, video interview, or white paper which will break down GIH details. Henrico's video could be another briefing source.

Next Steps:

- Schedule a meeting with leaders of GO Virginia 4 & 5 – and create proposal for matching dollars.
- Review the JLARC study.

- The EC will read through the grant application and send suggestions directly to John Martin and Laura Robidoux.
- John Martin will work with Jim Spore and Wilson Flohr to determine what's missing, how to package the application, and which GOVA grant would work best.
- Laura Robidoux will schedule the next GIH Committee meeting.

Development Committee Update

Mitch Haddon provided general updates from the February 22nd Development Committee meeting.

Three topics that were discussed with the EC:

1. The Development Committee's potential assistance in lining up support for the GIH Business Plan project: Two potential funding sources were referenced – foundations and municipalities. The EC approved this direction.
2. The Thank You Letter for 2021 and 2022 funders: An early draft letter was shared. This letter will include a 2022 invoice. The EC approved this direction.
3. The optimal future co-chair of the Development Committee: Out of eight members, three are located in RVA and five located in the 757. The EC agreed we should consider a current Development member to step up into the co-Chair position. Tom Frantz will weigh in on this direction.

In addition, a discussion was held on combining the Development and Nominations Committees to create a new Engagement Committee, which would focus on board recruitment, fundraising, and engagement. This move, combined with the efforts of the new Communications Director, may help better explain and showcase the "why" behind RVA757 Connects.

Next Steps:

- Laura Robidoux and Mitch Haddon will create a short list of loose ends for 2022 and prepare the 2022 fundraising packages – thank you letters and invoices.
- Additional discussion will be held on the Engagement Committee concept.

Communications Director – Recommendation

Greg Gilligan was recommended for the Communications Director position. Greg will greatly enhance the communications efforts of RVA757 Connects.

Staff's recommendation of this candidate was received with full support. No vote was needed.

Next Step:

- Greg Gilligan will be on-boarded and brought up to speed on RVA757 Connects' priorities. His start date is March 21. Greg will be introduced to the Board/MIC on March 22, 2022.

Board and MIC Engagement

There is still a desire to increase Board and MIC engagement. Potential engagement opportunities were shared with the EC – as a handout.

Next Step:

- More time will be dedicated to this topic in the March 9, 2022 EC meeting.

Virtual Innovation Spotlight:

Stuart Henderson will present at the second Virtual Innovation Spotlight on Jefferson Lab's pursuit of supercomputing capabilities.

The EC was encouraged to suggest future content speakers – innovation stories – for this series.

Next Steps:

- Laura Robidoux will push out reminder emails to build attendance for Innovation Spotlight #2.

- EC members will provide suggestions for future content.

- Laura Robidoux will compile the suggestions and suggest the remaining content lineup for the 2022-2023 Innovation Spotlight season.

GO Virginia I-64 Innovation Corridor Opportunity Study – Executive Summary Report Update

RVA757 Connects is working closely with West Cary Group on the Executive Summary report of the I-64 Innovation Corridor Opportunity Study.

A digital copy will be part of the March 22 meeting.

Next Step:

- A draft will be shared with the EC.

Governor Youngkin – March 22 Board/MIC Event

Governor Youngkin has been invited to speak at the March 22nd Board/MIC meeting. We are still awaiting confirmation from the Governor's scheduling staff.

Next Step:

- Laura Robidoux will continue to coordinate with the Governor's scheduling staff.

MIC Kickoff Meeting – March 10, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

The MIC Kickoff Meeting is scheduled for March 10. It will be led by Brian Anderson and Bryan Stephens.

The agenda for this separate MIC meeting includes:

- Overall: Assess how MIC members feel about the MIC as part of RVA757 Connects – what's working / not working / identify how we can improve the MIC's role, contribution, and relationship within RVA757 Connects.

- Current Priorities: Comment on RVA757 Connects' current priorities – our 2022 scope (see attached documents - RVA757 Connects' 2022 plan and the outcome of two 2021 surveys on priorities)

- Missing Topics and Priorities Related to the Future: Identify additional topics, priorities, and/or initiatives (currently not in the 2022 plan) that we should consider showcasing and/or actively working on to advance the I-64 Innovation Corridor in 2022 and beyond.

- Voice in the RVA757 Connects: Identify ways the MIC can have a bigger presence and voice in RVA757 Connects in advancing the I-64 Innovation Corridor. (One idea is having report-outs during Board/MIC meetings, like we have done with Development Committee. Another idea is creating a role for MIC members in the Convergence 2022 tour.)

- The "MIC's" Name: Discuss the name of the Megaregion Institutional Council – "the MIC". Does this name work? Should we consider other names? Suggestions?

- Future Meetings: Discuss how often the MIC should meet as a separate body – 1X, 2X, 3X times a year? In person or Zoom?

Brian Anderson and Bryan Stephens will report back to the EC on the sentiment and suggestions from the MIC. Given that the EC is not scheduled to meet before the March 22 Board / MIC meeting, we may have to provide an update on the MIC meeting to the EC via email. Ideally, Brian Anderson and Bryan Stephens will report on the MIC at the March 22 meeting.

Old Business / New Business

BDO Event:

As an FYI – John Martin will be the keynote speaker for an upcoming BDO event scheduled for late May. It will be a joint session of 50 leaders, half from Richmond and half from Hampton Roads, focused on developing interconnectivity between the two regions.

It was suggested to include a BDO leader on our Board.

EC 2022 Conflict of Interest Form

It is time to complete the 2022 Conflict of Interest forms.

Next Step:

- Completed forms should be sent to Laura Robidoux.