



March 10, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting: March 10, 2021 – 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Attended: Ted Chandler, Tom Frantz, Bob Holsworth, Sarah Jane Kirkland, Peggy Layne, John Martin, John Reinhart, Jim Spore, Laura Robidoux

Absent: Cliff Fleet, Moses Foster

Agenda Items:

- Approve March 3rd EC Minutes
- Review and Approve Contracts
- Biden Infrastructure Package Support Discussion
- Board Recruitment
- I-64 Update
- Fundraising Update
- Old Business/New Businesses

Approve March 3rd EC Minutes

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the March 3rd Meeting Minutes.

Review and Approve Contracts

Tom Frantz reviewed the general details of each contract with the Executive Committee.

- President CEO Agreement – John recused himself from the vote. The Executive Committee unanimously approved this contract.
- SIR Contractor Agreement – The Executive Committee unanimously approved this contract.
- WCG Contractor Agreement – The Executive Committee unanimously approved this contract.

John Martin shared that the payment plan in SIR's contract is purposefully flexible to allow for cash flow, as we are a fledgling organization.

The entire Executive Committee took a moment to thank Tom Frantz and Williams Mullen for their dedicated volunteer work with RVA757 Connects.

John Martin shared with the Executive Committee that we intend to finalize and share a Conflict of Interest form with the Executive Committee. SIR plans to sign this contract.

Next Steps:

- Contracts will be signed by the necessary individuals.
- The Conflict of Interest form will be finalized and shared with the Executive Committee.

Biden Infrastructure Package Support Discussion

Jim Spore shared an overview of how Hampton Roads is pursuing infrastructure funding from several sources. The Executive Committee agreed that it would be ideal if both regions would support one another going after federal dollars. This is especially important on mutual priorities such as I-64 Gap Funding and Improvement to the Port of Virginia and Richmond Marine Terminal.

The Executive Committee also discussed potential areas of interest that should be considered for federal support. This includes attracting pharmaceutical manufacturers. In addition, logistics connectivity would benefit from more support.

Next Steps:

- Peggy will contact Shannon Valentine, Secretary of Transportation, and Nick Donohue, Deputy Secretary of Transportation, to gather more information.

Board Recruitment – Sarah Jane Kirkland

Sarah Jane Kirkland updated the Executive Committee with a general timeline for the recruitment process:

- 1) March 24th – preliminary list ready to share with the Executive Committee
 - The goal is to present 15-20 nominations in the first round, focusing on the organization's existing projects, while leaving room to grow for future projects.
- 2) April 23rd – formal invitations will be extended by this date to the first round of potential trustees.
- 3) April (TBD) – some Executive Committee members will host an orientation meeting with breakout sessions (similar to the first Board meeting).
- 4) May 19th – next Board meeting date. All members should have a general understanding of the organization to participate in this meeting.

Harvey Johnson (Allen Witt's successor) was recommended by multiple members of the Executive Committee to be appointed to the Board of Trustees. His invitation will be extended when we introduce our organization to him and request his accounting services for our organization.

Next Steps:

- Sarah Jane will send an introduction email to Harvey Johnson to connect him with John Martin.
- Laura Robidoux will help schedule a time to meet.
- John Martin will report back next week.

I-64 Gap Funding Update – John Martin

John Martin gave a general overview of progress on the I-64 improvement project.

It was enthusiastically agreed by the Executive Committee to endorse the idea of working in tandem with Bob Crum to write letters of recommendation for the widening of the I-64 Corridor (29-mile gap).

Schedule on the Corridor Improvement Plan – stated to end this spring.

Ted Chandler emphasized that this is a great example of our use of collaboration to improve the entire region.

Since the Board approved of this priority in the Breakout Session groups and the post-meeting survey, the Executive Committee may take action on this matter prior to the next Board meeting. Sarah Jane Kirkland recommended sending the Board a video update to include them once the letter was prepared.

Next Steps:

- John Martin will draft a letter in tandem with Bob Crum.
- The Executive Committee will continue this discussion next week on preparing a letter than formally endorses making the I-64 Gap Funding a priority for the Commonwealth.

Fundraising Update

It was agreed that a system would be put together to support fundraising development efforts. This would include the following:

- 1) The larger companies and organizations would be approached by the Executive Committee.
- 2) We will establish a tiered funding request with three different levels of support.
- 3) All requests will ask for 3-year commitments.
- 4) A development committee will be created with 6-8 people this will be focused on trustees outside of the major targets.

The fundraising plan should be given top priority.

Old Business/New Businesses

The Executive Committee decided to forego next week's meeting and move subsequent meetings to Wednesdays at 12pm, starting March 24th.

Next Steps:

- John Martin will confirm with Cliff and Moses before solidifying.
- Laura Robidoux will send new Zoom meeting invitations.