

Economic Development Authority of the City of Portsmouth

May 17, 2022

9:00 AM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Ray A. Smith, Sr. – Chairman
Malcom Mitchell -Vice Chairman
Barbara Smith - arrived 9:10 a.m.
Neal J. Barber
Anthony Brown

ALSO PRESENT:

Brian Donahue - Secretary
Pam Croom – Assistant Secretary
Kelsey Swieringa - Assistant City Attorney
Patti Phillips - Finance
Kyera Pope - Finance
Paul Battle – Councilman
Alisa Winston – PRHA

ABSENT:

Bette "Cathy" Drewry
Theresa J. Saunders-Smith

GUEST:

Doug Smith – HR Alliance
Toi Hunter – HR Alliance
Guy Ross – Cradock Committee Development Corp.

Welcome & Call to Order

- The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Roll Call

- Mr. Donahue called the roll. There was a quorum.

Minutes

- The minutes from the April 19, 2022, Regular Meeting and April 26, 2022 EDA-City Council Joint Meeting were reviewed.
- **ACTION:** On a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Brown, the Commissioners approved the minutes from the April 19, 2022, Regular Meeting and April 26, 2022 EDA-City Council Joint Meeting as presented. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry - absent; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - absent; Ms. Smith – arrived late; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

Financials

- Patti Phillips reviewed the April 2022 financial statements. It was agreed that April 2022 statements would be filed for audit.

Old Business

New Business

- Mr. Smith deferred the vote on the FY23 Budget to the June Meeting.
- Mr. Donahue gave an update on the 2022 Business Incentive Grant Program.
- Mr. Donahue presented the Real Property Investment Grant for 615 High St., Beyond Vegan Cell Food, to the commissioners.
 - **ACTION:** On a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Brown, the Commissioners approved the Real Property Investment Grant Application for Beyond Vegan Cell Food at 615 High St. for \$25,000.00 as presented. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry - absent; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - absent; Ms. Smith - yes; Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Brown - yes.
- Mr. Donahue presented the Real Property Investment Grant for 6205-A Portsmouth Blvd., Yoolks On Us 2 to the commissioners.
 - **ACTION:** On a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Ms. Smith, the Commissioners approved the Real Property Investment Grant Application for Yoolks On Us 2 at 6205 Portsmouth Blvd. for \$25,000.00 as presented. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry - absent; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - absent; Ms. Smith - yes; Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Brown - yes.
 - Mr. Battle asked about the innovation district. Mr. Donahue provided an update on the process.
 - The Chair recognized Mr. Doug Smith who spoke briefly about the Hampton Roads alliance and introduced his colleague, Ms. Toi Hunter.

Closed Meeting

ACTION: At 9:50 a.m. Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Brown, move to go into a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code Subsection 2.2-3711 A.3 for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically regarding specifically regarding properties conveyed by VDOT to the City along Turnpike Road and 53 Afton Parkway. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry - absent; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - absent; Ms. Smith - yes; Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

ACTION: At 11:01 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Barber, the Authority I hereby move that each Commissioner certify that, to the best of his or her knowledge: (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting just concluded. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry - absent; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - absent; Ms. Smith - yes; Mr. Smith - yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

Open Meeting

Items submitted by Commissioners:

- Mr. Barber request that reading of Resolution for 53 Afton Parkway be added to the agenda. **ACTION:** On a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Brown, the Commissioners approve to add 53 Afton Parkway to the agenda. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry absent; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - absent; Ms. Smith – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Brown - yes.
Chairman Smith presented and read the resolution to the commission.
- **ACTION:** On a motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Ms. Smith, the Commissioners approved 53 Afton Parkway Resolution as presented. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry absent; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - absent; Ms. Smith – yes; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

**RESOLUTION
(53 Afton Parkway)**

WHEREAS, Cradock Community Development Corporation (“CCDC”) has entered into a contract with R.B. Dutton, LLC (the “Purchase Contract”) to acquire 53 Afton Parkway (Tax Parcel 0411-0210) (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the purchase price under the Purchase Contract is Seventy-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$75,000) (the “Purchase Price”); and

WHEREAS, CCDC has offered to assign the Purchase Contract to EDA; and

WHEREAS, EDA desires to accept assignment of the Purchase Contract and acquire the Property for the Purchase Price;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED that:

1. The Board hereby authorizes acceptance of assignment of the Purchase Contract and closing on acquisition of the Property.
2. The Chair and Vice Chair are each authorized to execute any documents required to give effect to the assignment and to close on acquisition of the Property.

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3. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Assistant Secretary, and their designees, are each authorized to take such further actions as are necessary or desirable in their sole discretion in furtherance of the purposes of this Resolution.
4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.
 - Mr. Mitchell presented a short clip to the board of a Food Park he saw in San Diego, CA. He suggested it may be a way to make use of EDA lots that are not in use. Mr. Donahue said he would get with Planning and Zoning to get the rules and regulations on that type of venture.
 - Mr. Barber asked for an update on the suggested retreat with City Council. Chairman Smith will investigate that issue.

Report Backs:

- Mr. Donahue stated that the RFP for the EDA Commercial Real Estate Broker will be taking applications and that Mr. Barber will be on the selection panel.
- The Chair appointed Mr. Barber as the EDA's liaison for the Cradock Committee Development Corp.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Donahue, Secretary

Ray Smith, Chair