

MILITARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
26 SEPTEMBER 2011 ✧ 1500-1630
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

Present: LCDR Adalberto M. Diaz, RADM Dick Dunleavy, RADM Mark Gemmill, RADM Rick Ruehe, Roger Whiteway, Ph. D, RADM Phillip R. Olson, MCPO Paul Pierce, RADM Fenton Priest

Staff: Robert Matthias, Jerry Stewart, Cynthia Whitbred-Spanoulis

Visitors: Brian Ballard (JEBLC), RADM Craig Quigley (HRMFFA), Bre Kingsbury (Congressman Scott Rigell)

Absent: VADM Ed Clexton, RADM Jack Dantone, VADM Joseph S. Donnell, Don Jellig, Joseph Gianascoli, Vice-Mayor Louis Jones, Jerry Miller, Mayor Will Sessoms, RADM Bud Jewitt, CAPT Daniel R. Walters, CAPT Robert Rieve, Councilman John Uhrin, Warren D. Harris, Scott Hall

APPROVAL OF 22 AUGUST NOTES

The notes were approved as written.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

RADM Dunleavy welcomed all visitors

HRMFFA UPDATES (*RADM Craig Quigley*)

- We are still optimistic that Fort Monroe will be admitted as a unit of the National Park System. The President may use the Antiquities Act to declare it a historical monument. The National Parks Department is very interested in Fort Monroe becoming a national park.
- HRMFFA is hosting a reception (1630-1800) for the senior leadership team of Joint Staff South (remnants of JFCOM) on November 1 at VMASC. Major General Rudesheim is now the senior officer, and Lt. General Flynn (his boss from D.C.) will be present as well.
- Attended the change of office for the new Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Jon Greenert.
- Progress continues on creating an Atlantic UAS Test Range connecting Pax River, NASA Langley, NASA Wallops, and NIA. Meeting on October 5 to determine concept of operations. Supported by both the Virginia and Maryland congressional delegations. Hampton Roads wants to be one of the six FAA test range sites noted in current FAA and DoD FY2012 authorization bills.

CITY UPDATE *(Steve Herbert)*

- Reported the NAS Oceana Air show was a success even with the bad weather, the numbers are coming in for the attendance, and will be reported at the next meeting.
- The Navy SEAL's Memorial event occurred at the Convention Center. The City received positive feedback.
- Light Rail in Norfolk ridership numbers are coming into the city. The City of Virginia Beach is working on contingency plans to see if Virginia Beach can move the Light Rail to Town Center. The Federal Transportation Agency will review the Norfolk numbers for nine months. According to the newspaper, the ridership numbers are coming in above the originally estimated numbers from Hampton Roads Transit (HRT). The City of Virginia Beach is working with HRT on improving bus ridership to the Newtown Road station.
- The City of Virginia Beach is still in the running for the NEXCOM distribution facility. The former Lillian Vernon site and another build-to-suit site in the city are still considered viable. The award may come as soon as the end of October.
- The City started the next Strategic Growth Area; Lynnhaven. This area includes the Navy Exchange Command. The City is working with contacts at NEXCOM, and this is an opportunity to determine how the command grows in this area.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Company profile- Atlas North America – Will be rescheduled for a future date.

Opportunity Inc. “Employer’s Guide to Hiring Exiting Military” *(Lisa Peterson)*

Lisa shared with the group an Opportunity Inc. draft document created to help guide employers in Hampton Roads on recruiting exiting military personnel. Opportunity Inc. is asking MEDAC for guidance on the contents of the document. The intent of the document is to connect employers with the exiting military. The first goal is to connect with the Fleet and Family Service Center. The document shows employers how to post jobs with the Fleet and Family Services job site. This document contains phone numbers and contacts for employers. The document also contains ways for an employer to post a job to the Virginia Employment Commission. The first 48 hours of a job posting on the VEC must be shown first to veterans. The group discussed the listing of resources, current list of Military job fairs, online services for job seekers, etc. Opportunity Inc. is considering a “companion” document for a job seeker. This would focus on the exiting military person leaving the military looking for a job. Opportunity Inc. is looking for feedback on this new resource. After finalized, the document will be placed on VBMILCOM.com. If you have feedback on the document, please email Jerry Stewart, and he will compile and send it to Opportunity Inc. Additionally, Opportunity Inc. is considering a program for exiting military personnel that may want to start their own business.

OTHER REPORTS/DISCUSSION

NEXCOM—*(Steve Herbert)*

The Navy is still working to determine the next commander of the organization. Suggested the city stay engaged with NEXCOM due to the headquarters being located in Virginia Beach, and hopefully the new distribution center.

New Commands *(RADM Dunleavy)*

Suggested that the City formalize a program to update new commanding officers to the area to update them on The City of Virginia Beach. The purpose of the briefing, (“Welcome Aboard”) program is to share the role of MEDAC, and the City’s assets. Steve Herbert will follow-up with a listing, and work-up a briefing package.

Burton Station *(Steve Herbert)*

City staff met with the Norfolk Airport Authority, and discussed the cross access runway alignment. The Airport Authority is now considering a realignment of the cross access runway with the FAA, and this may change some alignments for the city's planned pump station and intended road placement.

FEMA *(Craig Quigley)*

FEMA recently remapped Hampton Roads, which will change flood zone maps throughout the area.

Board Membership *(RADM Dunleavy)*

Reminder that names for nominees for the MEDAC board should be sent to RADM Dunleavy. After a lengthy discussion regarding new members, the group decided it would recommend adding both a Marine and possibly a Submariner to the group.

Next meeting 24 October

1600 – Adjournment