

Virginia Beach Military Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting
25 October 2021
1500

Members Present:

RADM Fenton Priest, RADM Richard Dunleavy, RADM Mark Gemmill, RADM Gregory Nosal, RADM Craig Quigley, CAPT Robert Rieve, CAPT Louis Schager, CAPT Charles Stuppard, CAPT Richard Trowbridge, LtGen Frances Wilson,

Members Present via Phone:

CAPT Stephen Brennan, Elizabeth Dietzmann, CDR Kathleen Owens

Guests/Advisors/Staff Present:

Richard Dwyer, John Uhrin, Brian Solis, Ray White, Christina Kwon, Vicki Kelley

Advisors/Staff Present via Phone:

Letitia Langaster via phone

I. Welcome and introductions

- a. Chair Fenton Priest welcomed everyone to the meeting.

II. Approval of 30 August 2021 notes

- a. Notes approved unanimously

HRMFA Update

- RADM Quigley shared there were no updates. Many important items in play but no decisions or resolutions at this point.

III. Consideration of MEDAC Remote Participation Policy

- a. Brian Solis introduced himself as it was his first in person MEDAC Meeting.
- b. Explained when the Executive Order was in place it gave more opportunity and flexibility with virtual meetings.
- c. When the Order expired the State's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Attorney Generals and the City Attorney's interpretation that City Council and the appointed Boards, Committees and Commissions cannot meet virtually without having a quorum present in person.
- d. Our City Attorney Rod Ingram, who oversees all FOIA matters with the City of Virginia Beach, developed a policy according to these state laws as advice to us.
- e. Brian agrees the policy is restrictive but allows the Committee to meet virtually if a majority is present in person.
 - i. Having the majority present in person other members can request to join virtually under certain circumstances.
 - ii. It is hoped that the General Assembly will revisit the constraining circumstances as these are challenging.

- f. Rod suggested we consider adopting the policy to be in line and in good standing with FOIA.
- g. Discussion of examples from other Committees and Organizations.
- h. Most still need a quorum present in person.
- i. Should we question why someone can't be at the meeting in person.
- j. Consensus of the group that the Chair should be able to approve member meeting via virtual.
- k. Quorum is important, but MEDAC doesn't vote on items and has no budget.
- l. Brian shared we could defer this and have Rod Ingram be able to attend meeting to answer questions.
- m. Committee agreed to defer until a future meeting to have Rod join us for discussion and possible reword some of the policy he has provided.

IV. NAS Oceana Visit

- a. Tour and visit at Oceana leadership went well.
- b. Having a CO on the MEDAC is tremendous.
 - i. Objectives aligned with MEDAC's mission
 - 1. Strengthening our relationships through Economic Development
 - 2. Quality of Life at the Base was a big discussion, and they are very appreciative of our efforts to assist.
 - 3. Being a liaison for communication and information.
 - ii. Commended Elizabeth on the Skill Bridge for hiring.
 - 1. Would like to see DOD skill bridge jobs for the City
 - iii. Think of ways to connect the City and Sailors with the two new movies coming out next year. (Possibly investigate premier in the City)
- c. Funding coming available for upgraded Naval housing.
- d. Golf courses and Horse stables a part of future planning.

City of Virginia Beach Future Base Design Non-Binding Agreement

- Letter of endorsement discussion among members.
 - Documents were provided in the past for review
 - Kathy Owens shared thoughts and objections to the letter
 - Concerns of the absence of a strategic plan.
 - Rushing into agreement would leave us stuck with a plan for the next 30 years.
 - Study other installation pilot programs across the US.
 - Concerns seem to be of how it will be done.
 - The letter of endorsement will just be stating that MEDAC is in favor of this being done, not agreement in the how.
 - The agreement states there will be a Master Plan developed as the process moves forward.
 - Brian Solis shared master planning the parcels of land will be limited as per the uses that are allowed in APZ-1 land.
 - Chair Priest made a motion that our letter of endorsement be approved which would not exclude us in follow up with Master Planning.

- Craig Quigley made a motion to move forward with signing Letter of Endorsement and Richard Dunleavy 2nd the Motion.
 - Steve Brennon - Yes
 - E. Dietzman – No
 - Richard Dunleavy– Yes
 - Mark Gemmil – Yes
 - Gregory Nosal – Yes
 - Kathy Owens – No
 - Fenton Priest – Yes
 - Craig Quigley – Yes
 - Robert Reive – Yes
 - Lou Schagar – Yes
 - Charles Stuppard – Yes
 - Richard Trowbridge - Yes
 - Fran Wilson – Yes

Motion passed with 11 yes votes and 2 no votes.

Joint meeting hosted by Norfolk will be November 15, 2021 3-4pm at Slover Library.

December MEDAC - there will be no meeting.

Next VB MEDAC meeting will be January 24, 2022 at 3pm.

Brian Solis announced he would be leaving the City of Virginia Beach, as he will be Deputy City Manager with City of Chesapeake as of November 18, 2021.

Chair Priest shared his appreciation to Brian for his service to the City and support with MEDAC.

Discussion of the Committee becoming involved in the process of the Agreement of FBD plans.

Meeting adjourned at 1637.