

**Minutes
Advisory Committee on International Trade
Virginia Economic Development Partnership
July 26, 2019
Board Room, VEDP Offices - 901 East Cary Street
Richmond, VA 23219**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mike Ligon, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on International Trade.

Members Present: Bob Feeser, Mike Ligon, Stuart Malawer, John Milliken, Ned Masee, Secretary Bettina Ring, James Xu

Members Absent: Tag Greason, Nick Jiannas, David White

VEDP Staff Present: Sean Brazier, Tyler Chandler, Jason El Koubi, Carolyn Elliott, Jennifer Garrett, Paul Grossman, Sandi McNinch, Mary Wood

Guests Present: Stephanie Agee, Russ Held, Skip Maupai, Laura Smith

Pledge of Allegiance

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

Chairman Ligon solicited for public comments. There were none.

Review and Approval of June 7, 2019 Minutes

After review of the minutes, a motion was made by John Milliken to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Stuart Malawer and was unanimously adopted by the Committee.

Closed Meeting – VEDP International Trade Plan Discussion

Chairman Ligon suggested that the Committee move into a closed meeting for discussion about the International Trade Plan. Sandi McNinch, General Counsel, voiced the following motion for adoption by the Committee to enter into a closed meeting. The following motion was made by Ned Masee, seconded by Bob Feeser, and unanimously adopted by the Committee:

I MOVE THAT THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY CONVENE A CLOSED MEETING PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE §2.2-3711(A)(50) TO ENGAGE IN A DISCUSSION OR CONSIDERATION OF THOSE PORTIONS

OF VEDP's STRATEGIC PLAN, MARKETING PLAN OR OPERATIONAL PLAN, THAT MAY RELATE TO TARGET COMPANIES, SPECIFIC ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES AND STAFF FOR MARKETING ACTIVITIES, AND SPECIFIC MARKETING ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD REVEAL TO THE COMMONWEALTH'S COMPETITORS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THE STRATEGIES INTENDED TO BE DEPLOYED BY THE COMMONWEALTH, THEREBY ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE FINANCIAL INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

Back in Open Meeting, Certification of Closed Meeting followed by Roll Call Vote

Following the closed session, Sandi McNinch voiced the following resolution for adoption by the Committee:

WHEREAS, THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY HAS CONVENED A CLOSED MEETING ON THIS DATE PURSUANT TO AN AFFIRMATIVE RECORDED VOTE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE VIRGINIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT; AND

WHEREAS, THE ACT REQUIRES A CERTIFICATION BY THIS COMMITTEE THAT SUCH CLOSED MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE ACT;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE COMMITTEE CERTIFIES THAT, TO THE BEST OF EACH MEMBER'S KNOWLEDGE, (I) ONLY PUBLIC BUSINESS MATTERS LAWFULLY EXEMPTED FROM OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE ACT WERE DISCUSSED IN THE CLOSED MEETING TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION APPLIES, 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 BY THE COMMITTEE.

The Committee approved the foregoing resolution unanimously by roll call vote, bringing the Committee out of the closed meeting.

Yeas: Bob Feeser, Mike Ligon, Stuart Malawer, John Milliken, Ned Masee, Secretary Bettina Ring and James Xu

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Discussion of ACIT Role/Future Meetings

Chairman Ligon discussed the future of the Committee after finalization of the International Trade Plan. The Committee discussed ideas, such as supporting the execution and evolution of the International Trade Plan; developing an annual work plan; suggesting improvements to Virginia's involvement in trade; assisting the VEDP Board with recommendations for prioritizing suggestions and initiatives. The Committee members also discussed having a larger role in advocacy at the Federal level and in promoting awareness of international trade to the public and the General Assembly.

The Committee members discussed participating in the roll-out of the International Trade Plan, perhaps at the Virginia Conference on World Trade, which is tentatively scheduled for November 12-13, 2019.

Chairman Ligon encouraged the Committee members to share additional thoughts via email.

Jason El Koubi reminded the Committee that the next meetings are scheduled for September 12 and November 15. He said that the final ITP will be brought to the next meeting. The next step for the ITP will be the public release. There will be more time on the agenda at future meetings to discuss the Committee's role and purpose.

Adjournment

Chairman Ligon asked for any other comments. There were none. John Milliken made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Feeser seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.