



FRONT ROYAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (FREDA) MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 17, 2022, at 12:00pm in the Town Hall Upstairs Conference Room

PRESENT: Directors: Issac Rushing, David Gedney, Richard Novak, Mark Tapsak, Frank Stankiewicz, Jim Crowell, Nick Bass, Town Staff: Steven Hicks, Tina Presley, George Sonnett, BJ Wilson, Lauren Kopishke, Kathy Leidich, and members of the press.

Town Manager/FREDA Executive Director Steven Hicks opened the meeting with introduction of Warren County Director of Economic Development Joe Petty. Mr. Petty and the FREDA Directors both looked forward to working with each other and suggested that a representative from FREDA and WCEDA respectively attend each other's meetings and give a report/update on their entity. Assistant Town Manager Kathleen Leidich also introduced herself to the group.

Rick Novak moved, seconded by Mark Tapsak to approve the minutes of January 20, 2022, as presented.
Vote: Unanimous

There was discussion regarding the by-laws, and it was agreed to send Tina any changes to be compiled and discussed further at the next meeting.

Planning Director Lauren Kopishke gave an overview and update of the Town's Comprehensive Plan rewrite and showed where it could be found on the Town's website along with the survey and timeline. It was suggested for the directors to receive success stories from other localities on what works and what doesn't. Steven suggested that in their travels if they see themes in Towns that are appealing, to bring those back to share. Some directors agreed to get the word out about the Comprehensive Plan. It was suggested to coordinate site visits for potential land available in Town along with incentives that could be used.

It was agreed to have the FREDA Retreat March 16 at 8:00am at a location TBD. The proposed agenda would include Budget 101; Comprehensive Plan Land Use Process; Presentation from Virginia Economic Development Authority; Public Works Project Overview; Energy Overview Rates, etc.; American Municipal Power's role in economic development for public power; and Brainstorming.

The next FREDA monthly meeting will be March 17 @ 12:00pm with no lunch.

Mr. Hicks noted the economic target areas: retail, industrial, commercial, and mixed-use and. He also anticipated a joint meeting with Town Council sometime after their retreat to get their thoughts.

Adjourn: 1:18pm

Approved by the Front Royal Economic Development Authority Directors

Date: 3/17/22