

**Economic Development Authority of the City of Portsmouth**

**August 17, 2021**

**9:00 AM**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Ray A. Smith, Sr. – Chairman  
Malcom Mitchell -Vice Chairman  
Neal J. Barber  
Theresa J. Saunders-Smith  
Bette "Cathy" Drewry  
Anthony Brown

**ALSO PRESENT:** Robert D. Moore - Secretary  
Brian Donahue - Assistant Secretary  
Kelsey Swieringa - Assistant City Attorney  
Mimi Terry – Chief Financial Officer  
Patti Phillips- Finance Consultant  
Angel Jones – City Manager

**ABSENT:** Barbara B. Smith

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**Welcome & Call to Order**

- The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

**Roll Call**

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

**Minutes**

- The minutes from the June 15, 2021, meeting were reviewed.

**ACTION:** On a motion by Ms. Saunders-Smith and seconded by Mr. Barber, the Commissioners approved the minutes from the July 20, 2021, meeting as presented. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry - yes; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - yes; Ms. Smith - absent; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

**Financials**

- Ms. Phillips reviewed the July 2021 financial statements. It was agreed that July 2021 statements would be filed for audit.

**Old Business**

- Financial Services Ad Hoc Update- Ms. Drewry and Mr. Brown will meet with staff to discuss banking options.
- Mr. Moore gave an update on the EDA Retreat on September 21, 2021. Members should submit discussion ideas to Mr. Mitchell.
- Mr. Moore reminded Members of the joint meeting with PPIC on September 28, 2021. Members can submit discussion items for the joint meeting to Mr. Mitchell.
- Mr. Moore provided project updates on the Hampton Roads Community Health Center, 3335-3345 Victory Blvd., 1200 Court St., and the Casino project.
- Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Barber gave an update on the Business Investment Program. There was a consensus by the board to move forward.

**New Business**

- Mr. Moore described the potential need for an Economic Development Incentive Program. Chairman Smith named Ms. Barbara Smith and Malcolm Mitchell to an Ad Hoc committee to further explore the idea.

**Closed Meeting**

**ACTION:** At 10:19 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Mitchell and second by Mr. Barber, the Authority entered a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code subsection 2.2-3711 A.3 for the purpose of discussing the disposition of real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically regarding 3315 High Street and 1117/1121 High Street; and (2) pursuant to Virginia Code Subsection 2.2-3711 A.3 for the purpose of discussing the acquisition or disposition of real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, specifically regarding EDA's property acquisition strategy and the Victory Entertainment District property. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber - yes; Ms. Drewry – yes; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - yes; Ms. Smith -absent; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

**ACTION:** At 11:40 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Mitchell- and seconded by Mr. Barber, the Authority entered an open meeting whereby only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and 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 – yes; Mr. Mitchell - yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith - yes; Ms. Smith - absent; Mr. Smith – yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

**Open Meeting**

**ACTION:** On motion by Mr. Barber and seconded by Mr. Brown, the Board approved the following Resolution, and approved the extension of the Developer's existing investment program grants for another 90 days. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Barber- yes; Ms. Drewry yes; Mr. Mitchell yes; Ms. Saunders-Smith-yes; Ms. Smith - absent; Mr. Smith –yes; Mr. Brown - yes.

**RESOLUTION  
(3315 High Street)  
(Development Grant)**

WHEREAS, Helping Hands for Heroes Adult Day Center (the “Developer”) is engaged in the substantial rehabilitation (the “Rehabilitation”) of property having an address of 3315 High Street (Tax Parcel 0300-0010) (the “Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Developer has requested assistance from the EDA in the form of a development grant in the amount of \$30,000 in order to complete the Rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, Developer has diligently complied with the City’s permitting and review process in performing the Rehabilitation, and the completion of the Rehabilitation will benefit the City by: (1) increasing the value of the Property and therefore increasing the City’s tax base; (2) improving the High Street corridor; and (3) creating employment opportunities for Portsmouth residents; and

WHEREAS, the provision of a development grant to Developer to complete the Rehabilitation will therefore serve a public purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED that:

1. The Board hereby approves a development grant to Developer in the amount of \$30,000.
2. The grant shall be made in accordance with a grant agreement to be prepared by staff.
3. The Chair and Vice Chair are each authorized to execute the grant agreement.
4. The Chair, Vice Chair, and 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.
5. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

EDA Meeting  
August 17, 2021

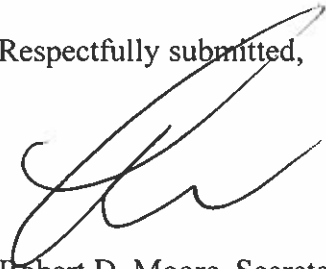
**Report Backs:**

- Mr. Moore stated that a list of speakers will be sent to the board prior to the retreat.
- Mr. Moore said that staff sent all EDA Members the requested links to the maps of the opportunity zones, comprehensive plan, etc.

**Adjourn:**

- The meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Moore', written over the text 'Respectfully submitted,'.

Robert D. Moore, Secretary