

Virginia Beach Military Economic Advisory Committee Meeting
4525 Main Street, Suite 700, Virginia Beach, VA 23462
1500, Monday, 25 March 2024

Members Present:

Chair RADM Phil Olson, City Council Liaison Dr. Amelia Ross-Hammond, MCPO Lawrence Barbrey, CAPT Christopher (Kit) Chope, CAPT Loren Heckelman, CAPT Robert (Steve) Herbert, CAPT Robert Holmes, VBDA Rep Eric Keplinger, RADM Gregory Nosal, CDR Kathleen Owens, CAPT Louis Schager

Members Present Virtually: CAPT Bill Curtis Business travel in Virginia, Vice-Chair RADM Robert Katz from business travel in Korea, CAPT Robert Smith from Florida

Members Absent:

CAPT J.J. Cummings, RADM Mark Gemmill, RADM Charles Kubic, RADM Fenton Priest, CAPT Charles Stuppard, Councilman Chris Taylor (City Council Liaison)

Guests/Advisors/Staff Present:

Charles Bauman, Sultan Camp, Justin Churma, Andrew Damon, Kayla Dotson, Gene Garland, Vicki Kelley, John Lauterbach, Edmund Libby, Todd Nichols, John Uhrin III, John Uhrin IV, Vice Mayor Rosemary Wilson

Opening Remarks:

- I. Chair Olson welcomed everyone to the meeting and greeted our new members CAPT Robert (Bob) Holmes, VBDA Representative Eric Keplinger, and City Council representative Dr. Amelia Ross-Hammond, all present members introduced themselves.
- II. Minutes:
 - a. 26 February 2024 Minutes were unanimously approved.
- III. There were no City Updates
- IV. Command Updates
 - a. NAS Oceana – John Lauterbach
- V. HRMFFA Update – Todd Nichols
 - a. [Full presentation attached to these minutes.](#)
- VI. Economic Development Update – ED Liaison Charlie Bauman
 - a. [Full presentation attached to these minutes.](#)
 - b. VBED in partnership with the Hampton Roads Alliance and the Virginia Port Authority will host the upcoming Area Development Consultants Forum at the Marriott Oceanfront Virginia Beach over the dates of June 10-12, 2024. The event attracts top site consultants to the area for in-depth discussions on the benefits of investing and locating businesses in Virginia Beach. (Pls see attached visual)
 - c. VBED is the Presenting Sponsor for the upcoming 2024 State of the Port & Taste of Virginia events occurring over the dates of May 8 & 9, 2024 at the Marriott Oceanfront Virginia Beach and the historic Cavalier Hotel. The event attracts

decision-makers in the maritime and logistics industry along the U.S. East Coast and provides an opportunity to showcase the city and the region as a business investment and operating location for the industry.

- d. *VBED, in partnership with HRMFFA, met recently with senior representatives of the Secretary of the Navy's office to discuss future base design opportunities at Oceana Naval Air Station. We will be meeting again on April 2, 2024, to advance a higher level of exchange to secure development possibilities on the property known as the "Horse Stables" property at NAS Oceana. The intent is to keep the future base design initiative moving forward to the benefit of the community and the Navy.
- VII. Military Workforce Development Update – Sultan Camp
- a. [Full presentation attached to these minutes.](#)
 - b. Hampton Roads Veterans Employment Center (HRVEC) February 2024 updates
 - c. Key upcoming events
 - d. Continue Networking
- VIII. Command Visit Program Updates
- a. No current updates to discuss.
- IX. Virginia Department of Veterans Services Update – Kathy Owens
- a. No current updates to discuss.
- X. Special Presentations and Discussions
- a. Emergency Management Operations and Technology – Justin Churma
 - i. [Full presentation attached to these minutes.](#)
 - b. Review of Updated Attendance Policy – Per the update Chair Olson notes it now seems that for MEDAC meeting frequency there can be no more than two unexcused absences annually.
 - c. Vice Mayor Rosemary Wilson joined the MEDAC to request a letter of endorsement from MEDAC regarding Future Aircraft basing at Oceana Naval Base, members unanimously support a letter of recommendation to be drafted by MEDAC Members.
 - d. Chair Olson asked for a motion to approve endorsement letters for the expansion of ASYMCA, members requested to review the letter. In the event there are no objections the letter would be sent.
- XI. Announcements
- a. No Announcements

Meeting adjourned at 1629.