

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NEW KENT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WAS HELD ON THE 25th DAY OF JUNE IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND NINE OF OUR LORD AT QUINTON COMMUNITY CENTER, QUINTON, VIRGINIA, AT 3:15 P.M.

IN RE: CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Sparks called the meeting to order.

IN RE: ROLL CALL

Thomas W. Evelyn	Present
David M. Sparks	Present
James H. Burrell	Absent
Stran L. Trout	Present
W. R. Davis, Jr.	Absent

It was explained that both Mr. Davis and Mr. Burrell had previous commitments and could not be in attendance.

IN RE: WELCOME

County Administrator John Budesky welcomed representatives from County businesses, and introduced elected officials, County staff and members of the Economic Development Authority.

Vice Chairman Sparks thanked everyone for coming and spoke about some of the recent actions and efforts by the Board to support the business community.

Economic Development Authority (EDA) Chairman Paul Robinson spoke about the role of the EDA and commended the Board of Supervisors for its commitment to businesses including the initiatives and incentives that it had adopted and approved. He also commended County staff for devoting "time, effort, energy and intelligence to try to do things right to benefit businesses and create employment opportunities".

It was emphasized that feedback from businesses was needed and was being actively solicited.

IN RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development and Tourism Director Rodney Hathaway, by PowerPoint presentation, reviewed the activities of the EDA and the Economic Development Department which included marketing, website, brochures, targeted industry marketing, and managing the Incentive Program.

He reviewed the information that was available on both the economic development and tourism websites.

He explained the County's recently adopted economic development initiatives which included waiver of County environmental, planning and zoning fees for commercial and industrial products until December 2009; the refunding of all permit and inspective fees collected for commercial projects that had a Certificate of Occupancy issued by June 30, 2011; a permanent 15% reduction in the Business License Tax (BPOL) starting January 1, 2010; the establishment of a Business Liaison program to assist businesses in navigating

County processes; the use of 16% impervious ground cover default for commercial and business related projects relating to stormwater management; a seven business day review goal for all business-related plans and permits; and a review of existing regulations as they pertained to the development of a "business friendly" environment.

He reviewed the EDA's Incentive Programs, which included grants to help home-based businesses move into commercial space; a façade improvement program; marketing sign program; employment center; and the development of a business directory. He briefly explained the criteria and process for each of the programs and encouraged those interested to contact him or visit the Visitors and Commerce Center.

There were questions regarding the method of obtaining material for the business directory, and concerns expressed regarding how a business would know that the information being solicited was for this purpose and not part of a scam. Mr. Evelyn suggested that the County should publish an article in the local newspapers asking interested businesses to contact the Economic Development department.

Mr. Hathaway reported that the County did work with federal and state grants and had contacts with the Small Business Administration and other agencies that provided opportunities for in-house training opportunities and certifications.

There were some questions regarding the role of the Chamber of Commerce, and the possibility of organizing a business fair.

Those in attendance were reminded that the EDA held an annual business appreciation dinner and invited everyone to leave their contact information with Economic Development Department staff so that they could be included.

The Question and Answer segment was concluded and everyone was invited to stay for refreshments and take advantage of the opportunity to network.

IN RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.