

Chairman Nelson called the Executive Board meeting of the Mid Shore Regional Council to order at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Krystal Q Conference Center in Easton. Members in attendance included: Delegate Jeannie Haddaway, Gale Nashold, Jeff Ghrist and Mayor Rippons. MSRC Staff present were: Scott Warner, Wen-Fei Uva and Terry Deighan.

Action Items

The first order of business was approval of May 31, 2007 minutes. Chairman Nelson asked for a motion to approve which was given by Mayor Rippons and seconded by Gale Nashold and approved by all.

The second order of business was whether to endorse Talbot County Public Schools "Profile of a Graduate" statement. Talbot County Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Dr. Carroll Visintainer asked if the MSRC would support the Profile document. The document states that a graduate of Talbot County Public Schools will have the academic skills, social disposition and personal confidence to (1) continue to learn, (2) contribute productively to the workforce, (3) communicate effectively, (4) participate in society, (5) assume responsibility, (6) solve problems and (7) appreciate the arts. Dr. Visintainer thinks that the "Statement of Work Ethic" drafted by the MSRC Workforce Survey subcommittee Foundations to Enter the Workforce" parallels nicely (particularly #2).

The Board as a whole supported this document therefore Mayor Rippons made a motion to support which was seconded by Delegate Haddaway and approved by all.

Mr. Warner noted that the Talbot County Board of Education has been asked by the Superintendent to endorse the "Statement of Work Ethic" document.

Next order of business was Support for Chesapeake College's Community Based Jobs Training Grant; Request For Proposal (RFP) from the U.S. Department of Labor, this competitive grant is available only to community colleges for workforce training and must focus on a high growth economic development priority for the region. It also must demonstrate a regional approach to economic development and have specific partners. Such as Workforce Investment Board (WIB), K-12, employers and industry related organizations and Community colleges. Whose purpose is to build the capacity of Chesapeake College to provide training and to train workers to develop the skills required to succeed in regional geo/heritage tourism occupations and those businesses that support geo/heritage tourism. Geo/heritage tourism is a high-growth industry for the Chesapeake Bay region and the demand for qualified workers is outstripping the supply. Executive Board decided in discussion it would like more information as to the meaning of Geo, would like to see the Scope of Work if possible, would like to know if the MSRC would have any input, i.e. classes – before they make a decision to support or not.

Information will be collected and e-mailed to Executive Board members to review and this request will be revisited in the future.

Old Business

MSRC Economic Development District Package

Mr. Warner informed the Board the EDD package has been completed and was mailed to the EDA Philadelphia office on August 13.

City of Cambridge/Dorchester County Business & Technology Park

Dorchester County Economic Development Office mailed the signed pre-application to the EDA Philadelphia office on August 21. The grant includes the first 50 acres of the tech park and the building of a 35,000 square foot incubator.

Mid-Shore Business & Technology Incubator

TEDCO (Maryland Technology Development Corporation) Senior Program Manager Heidi Shepperd requested the grant for the \$1 million be submitted by Monday, August 27. John General (CBRTCE) and Scott Warner (MSRC) aided Dorchester County with the submission of this grant. It was not e-mailed to Ms. Shepperd until Thursday, August 29. It was even updated several times including Tuesday, September 4 – the day the Technical Advisory Committee was to review the application. The application was a rough draft that Dorchester County had not signed off on. TEDCO was made aware of this.

TEDCO wanted to lock up the \$1 million for an incubator on the Eastern Shore. Previously planned at UMCES Horn Point. Ms. Shepperd sent an e-mail to Brad Broadwell, John General, and Scott Warner on Friday, September 7 stating: TEDCO will assist the Mid-Shore Regional Council and Dorchester County in hiring a consultant to craft a revised proposal for a request for funding, TEDCO will contribute one-half of the cost of the consultant, to be hired with TEDCO's approval and TEDCO will hold \$1M for this project until March 31, 2008.

Mr. Warner also informed the Executive Board that he spoke with Ms. Shepperd this morning to thank her for the good news that the \$1M has been held until March, she said that the TEDCO Board is meeting tomorrow and she hopes that they will adopt the Technical Advisory Committees recommendation. She will then contact us.

New Business

Agricultural Economic Development subcommittee

The Agricultural Economic Development Specialist job description states "this position will receive its work focus by an Advisory Board". The Chairman and MSRC staff is seeking input from the Board on possible members for this committee. Possible members suggested included: Bill Brooks, Lin Spicer, Charles Cawley, Vicki Sump, Bradley Powers and Robert Hutchison. It was determined to contact possible members to determine their interest and to compile a list to present to the Executive Board at a later date.

MSRC office space

Mr. Warner explained to the Board that originally MSRC was to sublease the front office to the CBRTCE for \$475 per month (\$5,700 for the year). As that did not occur MSRC would like to keep the space to share between the Agricultural Economic Marketing Specialist (Wen-Fei Uva) and the Eastern Shore Entrepreneurship Center. The rent can be paid for it out of the grant funds already received. Lastly MSRC is asking permission to have an ADT security system installed. It will cost approximately \$700 install and \$34.99 a month monitoring fee. Mr. Warner assured the Board there was money in the budget to cover these costs. Mr. Ghrist made a motion to authorize Wen-Fei Uva retaining the office space at MSRC new office location and to install the security system. Mr. Nashold seconded the motions and they were passed unanimously.

Shore Health System presentation to the MSRC

Mr. Warner explained that Shore Health System (SHS) had contacted the MSRC to have Joe Ross present the relocation process of the hospital to the Council. Mr. Ross would like to be put on an upcoming agenda or SHS would host a meeting and invite the MSRC Council members to attend. A brief discussion ensued where it was decided the Council would not sponsor a meeting and the Council would not vote to support or not support the relocation of the hospital. However, it would be perfectly acceptable if SHS wanted to invite MSRC members to attend an at will meeting.

MSRC acceptance of a reimbursement payment by the Maryland Broadband Cooperative, Inc.

Mr. Warner explained that the Regional Councils' Executive Directors and staff have spent such great deal of time in forming the MdBC and when the Executive Directors sit on the MdBC Board they are sitting on a private company's Board. To compensate for this time commitment away from other Regional Council programs the MdBC Board of Directors may issue a onetime payment to each Council for the past year's effort. Mr. Warner wants the MSRC Executive Board's input to whether or not the MSRC would accept such a payment. A discussion ensued that on one hand thought the payment could be accepted but on the other hand felt that it may not be publicly understood. The overall sentiment was that the idea of repaying the Regional Councils for their time was appreciated. The discussion was tabled with no conclusion at this time.

Other matters

None

Member comments/requests

None

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. was accepted by Mayor Rippons, and seconded by Delegate Haddaway and accepted by all.