

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE February 28, 2022 MEETING OF THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION**

Location: Electronic: conference call and zoom to provide video options

Attending: **SBC Members**

Joseph Underwood (Braddock), Daren Shumate (Mason), Melvin Murphy (Providence), Chris Vernon (Springfield), Marvin Powell (Sully), Gigi Thompson Jarvis (Dranesville), Shawnequa Alleyne (At-Large), Tracey Wood (At-Large), John D. Pellegrin (At-Large), Kelly Hebron (Lee), Melody Thorson (Mt. Vernon)

Staff

Lee Ann Pender, Ron Shoram

Guests:

Absent: **SBC Members** Tracey Wood (At-Large), Kelly Hebron (Lee), Gwyn Whittaker (Hunter Mill), Melody Thorson (Mt. Vernon)

The Small Business Commission conducted a wholly electronic meeting (using a conference call option as well as a video conference option) because the COVID-19 pandemic made it unsafe to physically assemble a quorum in one location or to have the public present. The public was encouraged to participate with notices providing call-in info and contact information for alternative accommodations. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. and was facilitated by Chairman Powell.

Minutes from the 1/24/21 meeting was approved without amendment.

- **Chairman Powell conducted the following actions relevant to electronic meetings:**
 - A sound and video check was conducted to ensure that each member of the BAC may be adequately heard and that all members could hear each other.
 - Chairman Powell stated that the usual FOIA procedures, requiring in person assembly, cannot be implemented safely or practically due to the Covid-19 emergency.

- **Staff updates**

Lee Ann Pender addressed the Thrive grant that the Department of Economic initiatives presented to the Board of Supervisors. The presentation materials can be found here:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/economic-initiatives/sites/economic-initiatives/files/assets/eic_materials/feb_1_2022/2022-02-1.eic-meeting.thrive-pres.final_.pdf

The Department of Economic Initiatives presentation of Fairfax Thrive to the Economic Initiatives Committee can be found here: http://video.fairfaxcounty.gov/player/clip/2325?view_id=9&redirect=true

- **Committee Updates: None.**

Commissioner Murphy spoke with Meghan Kiefer regarding the Thrive grant. The target timeframe for approval is the middle of April. Commissioner Powell: Any volunteers to assist with education or to attend Coffee, Tea, You and Me. Commissioner Murphy recommended a course in marketing for Coffee, Tea, You and Me.

- **Old Business**

- Bea Malone application process link was shared (<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/procurement/small-business-commissions-bea-malone-award>). Applications can be received starting March 15th. Please promote, and utilize #FairfaxSmallBiz.

- **New Business**

- A brief discussion regarding the return to in person meetings occurred, without vote. The commissioners agreed to continue remote meetings.

Adjournment – Chairman Powell adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.