

Minutes from 16 December 2016

HRMFFA Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting

1. HRMFFA's quarterly Board of Directors meeting was held at the Regional Building in Chesapeake on 16 December 2016. Public Board members present were: Mayors Krasnoff, Sessoms, Tuck and Wright; Supervisors McCarty and Shepperd; Poquoson City Councilman Southall attended for Mayor Hunt; Military Affairs Liaison Baker attended as a non-voting member for Mayor Alexander. Private Board members present were: Brickell, Curtis, Faulkner, Hoogstraten, Klett, Paveglio and Watkins. Marty Erdosy attended as a non-voting member representing Dale Baugh; Leslie Osborn attended as a non-voting member for Laurie Grabow; Kevin Joyce attended as a non-voting member for Mike Kuhns. Executive Director Quigley, Deputy Executive Director Dwyer and Treasurer Collins were also present. A quorum was achieved.
2. Board Chair Alan Krasnoff called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
3. Captain Doug Beaver, Commanding Officer of Naval Station Norfolk, gave a presentation concerning activities planned in 2017 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Naval Station Norfolk. Keystone events include a Jamestown Exposition Event 26 January, Commemorative Baseball game 30 June, 100 Years of Airpower air show at Chambers Field 15 July and culminating with Fleet Fest on 21 October. There will also be a birthday gala on 28 June, the official birthday of the base. The brief was well received and there were no questions from the Board.
4. End-of-November financials were presented by Executive Director Quigley; no issues.
5. Executive Director Quigley presented the proposed changes to the bylaws to bring them in line with how HRMFFA is currently operating. Supervisor Shepperd made a motion to approve as written. Councilman Southall seconded the motion, but amended it to add the Deputy Executive Director to the list of HRMFFA officers in the bylaws. The motion, as amended, was unanimously approved by the Board, and the **signed revision is attached**.
6. John Simmons from The Roosevelt Group provided a legislative update (**slides attached**) including the FY2017 Defense Appropriations and Authorization bills, 2016 Federal election results, Presidential transition, first 100 days of the new administration including current cabinet selections and other advocacy highlights. There was robust discussion concerning the new William & Mary Whole of Government Center of Excellence and the need to fund a full time executive director for the new program. Since funding for the position was not included in the FY2017 Commonwealth of Virginia budget, the Board members

discussed whether HRMFFA should provide money to help fund the position to get the program started in time to accept students in the Fall of 2017. Mayor Sessoms made a motion, with Mayor Wright seconding, to provide up to \$50,000 to help fund the position and that we should advocate for the General Assembly to provide funds for the position. Mayor Tuck suggested up to \$85,000 be used. Supervisor McCarty suggested approving up to \$100,000 if needed, but we should advocate for the Commonwealth to provide most, if not all, funds first before using that amount. The motion was amended to \$100,000 and unanimously approved by the Board.

7. A regional proclamation, originally drafted by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, requesting assistance from the Commonwealth and Federal governments to secure funding for the completion of critical infrastructure was discussed. The City of Norfolk suggested two edits, both of which were accepted. Supervisor Shepperd made a motion and Councilman Southall seconded, to support the proclamation as amended. It was approved unanimously, and **is attached**.
8. Executive Director Quigley presented the proposed HRMFFA 2017 Legislative Priorities. Director Quigley stated that the Cities of Norfolk and Hampton suggested adding support for funding of the VA South Hampton Roads Health Care Center. Mayor Wright made a motion to approve the list of priorities, including the language to support the VA medical facility. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Shepperd and approved unanimously by the Board, and **a copy is attached**.
9. Executive Director Quigley informed the Board that HRMFFA had submitted an application to the Association of Defense Communities for the Hampton Roads region to be recognized as a 2017 Great American Defense Community. Package was submitted 14 December and results should be announced by the end of January. If selected, the region would hold several events next year in different locations to celebrate the award.
10. Executive Director Quigley informed the Board that he and Deputy Executive Director Dwyer held an introductory meeting with Congressman-elect McEachin of the 4th District on 13 December. HRMFFA's mission, structure and ongoing activities were explained, along with an overview of the Federal presence in the 4th District and the region, and how important that is to the regional economy. A similar meeting is being arranged for Congressman-elect Taylor of the 2nd District, but won't take place until after the first of the year.
11. Mayor Krasnoff asked Mayor Wright to come forward so he could be recognized for his service on the HRMFFA Board, as this is his last Board meeting. Mayor Krasnoff thanked Mayor Wright for his service and presented him a certificate of appreciation.

12. Mayor Krasnoff asked that John Simmons and Kevin Felix leave the room so the topic of renewing HRMFFA's lobbying contract could be discussed. Executive Director Quigley stated he checked with HRMFFA's legal counsel on whether HRMFFA was required to re-compete its lobbying contract at the five-year point. Counsel stated that while it is normal practice for non-profits to re-compete contracts after five years, there is no legal requirement to do so. Since HRMFFA's contract with The Roosevelt Group will hit the five-year point in the summer of 2017, Director Quigley asked the Board whether they wanted to re-compete the contract or stay with The Roosevelt Group for now. The question was asked what the cost would be. Director Quigley stated that if we stayed with The Roosevelt Group, there would be no change in their fee as the current contract does not have a sunset date. However, if the contract were re-competed, the cost could go up or down depending on the quotes received. There was good discussion on the subject with several Board members stating they were very happy with the service The Roosevelt Group was currently providing. Mr. Faulkner and Ms. Curtis both stated they didn't think it would be a good idea to switch lobbying firms in the midst of a Presidential transition year, especially with the Administration switching from one party to the other. It was the consensus of the Board that we should stay with The Roosevelt Group for now and re-visit the subject in a year.

13. Mayor Krasnoff adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.