



BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON ADDRESSING PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY'S STRUCTURAL DEFICIT

FEBRUARY 22, 2016
MINUTES

The following Blue Ribbon Commission members were present at 11:01 a.m.

Blue Ribbon Commission Members:

Earl Adams, Jr.
Amber Hendricks
Turkessa Green
Desiree Callender
Council Member Derrick Leon Davis
Ron Watson
Mark E. Tomassoni
Henry W. Mosley

Jamal Miller
John Rogard Tabori
David Van Dyke
Sherman Ragland, II
James R. Estepp

Council Members and Staff:

Council Member Patterson
William M. Hunt
Colette R. Gresham
Maurice Simpson, Jr.
Edwin H. Brown, Jr.
Sasha Desrouleaux
Davion Percy

Council Member Taveras
Howard W. Stone
Sylvia King

Other Attendees:

Amy Millar, UFCW Local 1994

OPENING REMARKS/REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Chair Earl Adams, Jr., called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. The Commission reviewed the minutes from the January meeting. The Chair asked that the language "approved the minutes from the December meeting" be deleted from the minutes. The December meeting minutes were not approved for lack of a quorum. Staff will revise the January meeting minutes and bring the minutes before the Commission at the March meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PRESENTATION:

Jim Coleman, President and CEO, Economic Development Corporation ("EDC"), gave a presentation to the Commission on the labor outlook for the County. The new projects in the pipeline include MGM

County Administration Building – Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Casino and Resort, Regional Medical Center, and potentially the FBI as the County is one of the finalists to be the future headquarters. Mr. Coleman discussed jump starting Transit Oriented Development with high priority stations including Largo Town Center, New Carrollton, Suitland, Branch Avenue, and Prince George's Plaza, as well as giving an overview of the Purple Line Project. The EDC's economic development priorities were discussed and they included retaining and growing our existing 16,000 employers and executing a tailored acquisition strategy targeting four industry clusters. The Commission asked questions on how we are maintaining our white collar jobs, how do we offer incentives and what do those incentives look like, and how are we strengthening our financial sector and giving them better access to capital. The Chair invited Mr. Coleman to come back to continue the discussion.

INTERIM REPORT AND DISCUSSION:

The Chair discussed where the Commission is after 5 months of meetings. There is a briefing scheduled on Tuesday, February 23rd to give an overview of the Interim Report to the County Council. The Commissioners reviewed the draft Interim Report and discussed needed revisions. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Estepp to approve the draft Interim Report with noted revisions, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Mosley. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the amended Interim Report.

There was a request to have a presentation from the School Board as it relates to Maintenance of Effort. It was also recommended that the Commission should look at the Enterprise Fund and other similar funds to analyze their movement.

Meeting adjourned - 1:15 p.m.

Next Meeting – March 24th at 5 p.m. at Harmony Hall Regional Center; public hearing will begin at 7 p.m.