

Economic Development Authority of Fluvanna County
April 14, 2025

Attendance:

Joshua Bower (p)
Brittany Grey (p)
Jeffrey Potter (p)

Valerie Palamountain (p)
Rudy Garcia (p)

Charlotte Gregory (a)
Raghvendra Singh (p)

County Staff:
Jennifer Schmack (p)

Guest: Todd Fortune

P - Present A - Absent

I. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

Grey could not attend in person due to being required to be at work at Coves in Palmyra. She requested to participate online. Motion to approve was made by Potter, seconded by Singh, and was approved 5-0 by Bower, Garcia, Palamountain, Potter and Singh.

II. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Potter. Seconded by Bower. Unanimously approved 6-0 by Bower, Garcia, Grey, Palamountain, Potter, Singh.

III. Presentation

Todd Fortune gave a presentation on the Fluvanna County Comprehensive Plan. The Plan is required under the Code of Virginia Section 15.2-2223 and 15.2-2230. The update will include all sections plus a new one on solar, plus an update to the maps. Public meetings were used to develop the Citizen Survey. Survey will be open until May 30, 2025. Garcia made the point that Economic Development informs the other three advisory groups: Rural Preservation, Historic Preservation and Housing. Palamountain offered to serve on the Historic Preservation advisory group. Fortune will present her name to the advisory group.

IV. Reports

A. Schmack gave the County report for March:

1. Visits to existing business - 8
2. Partner Agencies, Networking Events, Conferences Attended - 10
3. Other - 39
4. Prospects/Real Estate inquiries - 1
5. Commercial Kitchen inquiries - 0
6. Commercial Kitchen Rentals - 0
7. Small Business Referrals - 1
8. Ribbon Cuttings - 0

Three ribbon cuttings are scheduled for April. Grass and Grain Beefhouse, 3417 Thomas Jefferson Pkwy, is April 18 at 3:00. Fluvanna Family Chiropractic is April 26 at 11:00 am at 68 Heritage Drive.

Wedding Expo and Bridal Fashion Show will be on April 27 at Hardware Hills Winery.

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Groovin' and the Grove starts on second Saturdays starting May 10th. Art in the Park will be June 14 and September 13.

B. Chair's Report:

Chair Garcia went to Smithfield on April 19 for their Wine and Brew fest. Smithfield VA Events is a nonprofit that does events. Garcia raised the possibility of Fluvanna creating a similar organization.

V. Unfinished Business

- A. Potter is looking for feedback on the proposed mission statement. EDA members were asked to respond.

VI. New Business

- A. Bower asked if there was a possibility of a new business incubator. Palamountain asked if the SBDC could assist with starting an incubator.
- B. Garcia and Schmack have discussed creating an inventory of business properties in Fluvanna.

VII. Public Comments

No public comments.

VIII. Closed Session

No closed session.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion made by Bower. Seconded by Potter. Approved 6-0 by Bower, Garcia, Grey, Palamountain, Potter, Singh. The meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm. The next meeting is May 12, 2025. The June meeting is on June 9, 2025 The reorganization meeting will be July 14.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Palamountain

Valerie Palamountain, Secretary