

# **Economic Development Authority of Fluvanna County**

## **May 12, 2025**

### **Attendance:**

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

Valerie Palamountain (p)  
Rudy Garcia (p)

Charlotte Gregory (p)  
Raghvendra Singh (p)

County Staff:  
Jennifer Schmack (p)

Guests: Steve Horwitz, Chair of the Economic Development Advisory Committee for the Strategic Plan  
Liz Povar, Founder of the RiverLink Group

**P - Present    A - Absent**

### **I. Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm.**

Grey could not attend in person due to being required to be at work at 88 Oldfield Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22902a. She requested to participate online. Motion to approve was made by Potter, seconded by Singh, and was approved 5-0 by Bower, Garcia, Gregory, Palamountain and Singh.

### **II. Approval of Consent Agenda**

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

### **III. Presentation**

Liz Povar gave a presentation on the Fluvanna County economic development in a rural county to include the current definition of economic development, rural characteristics, trends, and partnerships, roles and responsibilities. The focus was on adaptive economic development, focusing on investor perspective, focus on sustained economic growth and improving the economic base, and away from the traditional approach.

### **IV. Reports**

A. Schmack gave the County report for March:

1. Visits to existing business - 31
2. Partner Agencies, Networking Events, Conferences Attended - 22
3. Other - 24
4. Prospects/Real Estate inquiries - 2
5. Commercial Kitchen inquiries - 1
6. Commercial Kitchen Rentals - 0
7. Small Business Referrals - 1
8. Ribbon Cuttings - 5

Starting Your Food Business class on May 15 in conjunction with the SBDC. Cost is \$30. Registration is low. Class may be rescheduled with no registration fee.

AI for Beginners is almost sold out. Date is May 27 at the Fluvanna Library.

Fluvanna is still leading in the number of counseling hours with the SBDC.

**Economic Development Authority of Fluvanna County**  
**May 12, 2025**

Groovin' and the Grove is increasing in attendance.

**B. Chair's Report:**

Chair Garcia reported that we need to describe what the EDA does before meeting with the Board of Supervisors.

**V. Unfinished Business**

- A. Palamountain sent feedback on the proposed mission statement to the members. The proposed mission statement will be "tweaked" by Schmack and to be approved at the June 9, 2025 meeting.

**VI. New Business**

- A. Schmack will create an inventory of available business properties in Fluvanna, by site readiness level. The next step is to discuss highest and best use with the property owners.

**VII. Public Comments**

Guest Steve Horwitz thanked the Board for allowing him to sit in on the meeting, and gain an understanding of how the advisory group fits in.

**VIII. Closed Session**

No closed session.

**VIII. Adjourn**

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Valerie Palamountain*

Valerie Palamountain, Secretary