



**Board of Directors Meeting
September 23, 2020 8:00 a.m.
VIA Zoom**

Board attendees: Ahmed Ali, Richard Alvarez, Becky Briggs, Dale Cyr, Rob DiSpirito, Marji Graf, Jennifer Hester, Kimberly Kelley, Bei Ma, Carla Merritt, Bridget Donnell Newton, Jose Ochoa, Suzanne Osborn, Todd Pearson, Susan Prince, Nancy Regelin, Morgan Sullivan Bill Tompkins.

Absent: Scot Browning, Angela Chaney.

Other attendees: Cindy Stewart, Ryan Gandy, Morgan Wortham, Alexis Castillo, David Levy (City of Rockville), Mark Pierzchala (City Council) Judy Rudolph (resident), and Staffan Sandberg (resident)

1. Call to Order and Welcome – Susan Prince

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 am by Susan Prince.

2. Operational Items

- a. Approval of July Minutes – Susan Prince

Dale Cyr moved to accept the minutes as revised, and Marji Graf seconded. The minutes as revised were approved unanimously.

- b. Treasurer’s Report – Scot Browning was not present. Ms. Stewart noted that financials were only showing July, the first month of the new fiscal year. Grant funds do not come in immediately, so there is not a concern about the income coming in, even though the financials show funding not yet received. Per the approval of the Finance Committee, \$50,000 was moved from the REDI operating account at Capital Bank to the Money Market account for reserves.

3. Executive Director’s Report – Cindy Stewart

- a. Incentive Programs – we have moved to having a twice a year deadline. The first is September 30, 2020, which is being advertised. Once applications are received, we will schedule review by the Incentive Review Committee. The next deadline will be April 30.
- b. Audit– Snyder Cohn will present the FY2020 audit results to the Board at the October meeting. The FY2019 SBA audit is underway, and we have been providing requested materials.
- c. Sponsorships and Events – REDI is the sponsor for the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences/Obilvy SBIR/STTR Application Guidance seminar on October 1, as well as for the Post Doc Conference which is part of the Maryland Life Sciences Bio Innovation Conference on October 5 and 6. Cindy Rivarde will be on a Rockville Chamber panel discussion with Ben Wu and Carla Merritt to discuss Economic Development on October 9th. MWBC is a sponsor of the Rockville Chamber’s Leadercast series that starts in October.

4. Presentations

- a. REDI FY2020 Annual Report - Cindy Rivarde presented an overview of achievements for FY2020 as well as the Strategic Plan for FY2021 that will be presented on October 5 to Mayor and Council. It was noted that Microsoft just announced purchase of ZeniMax Media, and it was appreciated that the agreement between Altimmune and Vigene was mentioned in the presentation. Ms. Rivarde also mentioned the Richard Florida article that Dale Cyr provided that was sent to the Board that comments on the changing nature of our office environment.

5. Strategic Items

- a. Mayor and Council – Susan Prince
REDI is scheduled to have a workshop with Mayor & Council on **October 5, 2020** to discuss entering into a new Memorandum of Understanding.
- b. Marketing Committee – Susan Prince
GKA is finalizing the editing on the REDI website. They have been creating templates for the MWBC website and social media.
- c. Workforce/Education Committee – Dr. Kim Kelley
The next roundtable is scheduled for September 30 from 12-2 and features Leonard Howey and Mark Drury of Workforce Montgomery and will be moderated by Ernesto Chanona from Commerce. Jose Ochoa from Altimmune, Ed Harrington from John Marshall Bank, and Leslie Torbett from TISTA are also providing input from industry sectors.

6. Brief Partner Updates

- a. City of Rockville – Bridget Newton/Rob DiSpirito
The Mayor highlighted several of the items described in the City’s written report to the Board. The City is going purple once again to highlight the impact of opioids on our community. In addition to the MOU with REDI, on October 5th, the Council will also discuss an analysis of East Middle Lane and North Washington Street. On October 19th, the City is planning to discuss the WMATA Rockville Station study as well as economic development financing tools. The Mayor noted that she testified at an MDOT hearing to express concerns with the project to widen 270 and 495. The Planning Commission continues to proceed with the neighborhood specific plans for the Comprehensive Plan update.
- b. Montgomery County EDC – Bill Tompkins
MCEDC has also been discussing the Rockville Station with WMATA looking at possible development options for adjacent areas. MCEDC is working on the Montgomery County Growth Plan, as well as on the County task forces addressing economic development issues related to COVID.
- c. Maryland Department of Commerce – Carla Merritt
Carla Merritt was not able to share audio. She sent around information later regarding the State’s schedule for trade missions.

- d. Rockville Chamber of Commerce – Marji Graf reminded everyone about the Leadercast programming that will start in October. She also mentioned that Ben Wu, Carla Merrett and Cindy Rivarde will be discussing Economic Development for a Chamber panel on October 9th. The Chamber’s Public Safety Awards are scheduled for November 4, and the Rockstar awards for December 3rd. A full schedule of events is on the Chamber website.

Ms. Prince adjourned the meeting at 9:15 am.

Upcoming Important Dates:

- Workforce/Education Workshop – **Wednesday, September 30, 12:00 p.m.** VIA Zoom
- Mayor & Council – MOU Discussion/REDI Annual Report – **Monday, October 5, 6:00 p.m.** Via WebEx
- Rockville Chamber Economic Development Panel – **Friday, October 9, 11:30 a.m.** VIA Zoom
- REDI Executive Committee Meeting – **Tuesday, October 13, 4:30 p.m.,** VIA Zoom
- REDI Finance Committee Meeting - **Tuesday, October 13, 5:30 p.m.,** VIA Zoom
- REDI Board Meeting – **Wednesday October 28, 8:00 am,** VIA Zoom