



# UPPER SHORE Regional Council

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 17, 2021  
Hybrid Virtual “Go to Meeting”

Council Members in Attendance: Ron Fithian (Secretary) Kent County Commissioner

Council Members Virtual Attendance: Jack Wilson (3rd Vice Chair), Q.A. County Commissioner  
Jackie Gregory (2nd Vice Chair), Cecil County Councilwoman  
Bob Meffley (Treasurer), Cecil County Councilman  
Chris Corchiarino (Chairman), Q.A.’s County Commissioner  
Tom Mason (1st Vice Chair) Kent County Commissioner

Guests: Jamie Williams – Economic Development Kent County  
Heather Tinelli – Economic Development Queen Anne’s County  
Gordon Wallace – Pick 6 Digital  
Jeff Newman – President & CEO, Maryland 5 Star  
Katelyn McNerney - Director of Partnerships & Hospitality, Maryland 5\*

Staff: Susan O’Neill, USRC Executive Director  
Janice Palmer, USRC Executive Assistant

### I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Susan O’Neill welcomed everyone and explained a modified Agenda, due to a last-minute change to board member attendance. Susan introduced Gordon Wallace of Pick 6 Digital who is helping USRC with tech services for holding virtual meetings. Susan also introduced Jeff Newman and Katelyn McNerney of the Maryland 5 Star Event scheduled for October 14-17, 2021 in Fair Hill Maryland. Board members introduced themselves to Jeff and Katelyn. Both Jeff and Katelyn thanked the board for allowing them to present their Partnership Opportunity to the board.

## **II. MD 5 STAR AT FAIR HILL**

Mr. Newman and Ms. McNerney presented a Power Point on the plans and expectations of the Maryland 5\* event. They explained that USRC could be a Community Sponsor for the event, a sponsorship that could be customized to align with community events planned for local attendees, volunteers and children. The community events would include a concert, children's programs, and food festivals. The 5\* planning committee has chosen the Maryland Food Bank as a beneficiary of the event. Questions and suggestions regarding regional impact were discussed.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Minutes**

Chairman Corchiarino called the meeting to order. Prior to the start of the meeting board members were provided with a packet of information. The packet included the following: Agenda, December 9, 2020 Executive Board Minutes, Financial Report, Staff Report and a copy of the MD 5\* Power Point. Chairman Corchiarino motioned for acceptance of the December 9, 2020 Executive Board minutes. Jack Wilson motioned; Bob Meffley seconded. All were in favor.

### **B. Financial Report**

Director O'Neill reminded everyone of the change in finance reporting. The new report reflects budget expenditures rather than bank statements. Chair Corchiarino motioned for the acceptance of the Finance Report. Bob Meffley seconded. All voted in favor of acceptance.

### **C. FY22 Funding**

Susan reported that work had begun on the FY22 budget, and that she is keeping current on budget cuts reflected in the Governor's proposed FY22 budget. We are hoping for the same allotment of funds from Commerce, and that RMPIF had been cut \$1 million. The regional councils could be cut anywhere from \$30-90,000. Worst case scenario, USRC could be cut \$100,000.

## **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Change of date for May Meeting**

Chair Corchiarino has a conflict on May 19<sup>th</sup> and requests that the meeting be changed to Monday, May 17, 2021. All agreed that this change could be accommodated.

### **B. BOD Documents on the Website**

Janice Palmer reviewed the process to access Board documents on the USRC website. The documents are password protected.

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

The Staff report was included in the board documents provided earlier to board members via email. They can also be accessed on the USRC web page.

**VI. DISCUSSION/COMMENTS**

Ron Fithian requested a time at the next meeting to discuss the Maryland 5\* sponsorship.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, Chris Corchiarion requested a motion for adjournment. Jack Wilson motioned, and Bob Meffley seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice Palmer  
USRC Executive Assistant

