

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
of the
CITY OF HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

Minutes – Innovation & Technology Committee Meeting

March 17, 2022 – 8:30 a.m.

EDA Conference Room

CALL
TO ORDER

Mr. Bagley called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

DIRECTORS
PRESENT

Richard M. Bagley, Jr. and Dianne B. Suber

STAFF PRESENT

Charles Rigney, Michael Yaskowsky and Teresa Hudgins

GUESTS
PRESENT

Richard Antcliff - REaKTOR
Aazia Mikens-Dessaso - REaKTOR
Douglas Stanley - NIA

MINUTES

Mr. Bagley stated the Minutes of the May 3, 2021 meeting were distributed. A motion was made by Dr. Suber and seconded by Mr. Bagley to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried.

REaKTOR
ASSESSMENT

Dr. Stanley provided a brief overview of the NIA and REaKTOR and invited Dr Suber to visit the center for a tour. He also introduced Dr. Richard Antcliff who was hired as the Interim Director from July 2021 to January 2022 and Aazia Mikens-Dessaso who was hired as the new Director of REaKTOR in February 2022.

Dr. Antcliff provided an assessment of REaKTOR for the period of mid-July to mid-October, 2021. The assessment outlined the purpose, process, findings, clients, interventions, future options and recommendations.

Mr. Rigney said this assessment was very beneficial and will assist us moving forward by identifying areas which can be more effective. Everyone wants to continue with the REaKTOR and we value our relationship with the NIA.

Ms. Mikens-Dessaso provided a brief overview of her entrepreneurial experience and how she plans to advance the mission of REaKTOR.

Mr. Bagley commented that we should create a “high tech zone” on the Peninsula to bring technology (i.e. NASA, Jefferson Lab and Universities) and entrepreneurs together to create synergy and increase our chances for federal funding.

Dr. Suber referenced the Research Triangle and Silicon Valley and asked why is this not happening here? There should be a professional marketing campaign to brand the community and create a "tech center" imagine. She also said there was no matrix with goals and objectives tied to the City Council's Strategic Priorities.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teresa B. Hudgins". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Teresa B. Hudgins
Recording Secretary