

MEDA 2017 Winter Conference
Business Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2017
Governor Calvert House – Annapolis, MD

The meeting was called to order by MEDA Board President Keasha Haythe at 9:19am.

Minutes:

Keasha invited MEDA Secretary Heather Gramm to present the minutes of the September 2016 business meeting. Heather presented the minutes and asked for approval from the members. Motion by Bob Brennan, 2nd by Sean Looney, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Membership:

Membership co-chair Danny Thompson submitted 30 names of new members for consideration for membership in MEDA. Danny asked for approval from the members - motion was made by Bob Brennan, 2nd by Brian Darmody, and all nominations for membership were approved unanimously. With those new members, MEDA is now at 451 members.

Public Policy Awareness Committee Report:

Rhonda Ray presented information about the MEDA Public Policy Awareness Committee. This is a new committee formed by the Board of Directors in July 2016, with a mission to make MEDA members aware of Public Policy that may have an impact in Maryland at both the state and local levels. It will also work to inform elected and appointed officials about economic development.

As a 501(c)3, MEDA cannot lobby or take a formal position on any legislation. Instead, the focus of the committee is to inform and educate its members.

Rhonda provided a few highlights of the committee's work including an educational session about *How to Effectively Communicate with Elected Officials*, held this past December for MEDA members; the upcoming Economic Development Day in Annapolis (January 24th); and a new page on the MEDA website that will provide information on legislation relevant to members during Maryland's Legislative Session.

Other Business:

Keasha recognized and congratulated MEDA members Alex McCoy and Darla Garrett for earning their Development Finance Certified Professional (DFCP) certification through the Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA).

The meeting adjourned at 9:28am.