

## THE HISTORIC TRIANGLE COLLABORATIVE

### Meeting Results

8:00 to 9:00 a.m. December 19, 2016

York County Administration Conference Room, 224 Ballard St.

#### **Members present:**

Marvin Collins, David Cromwell, Phil Emerson, Paul Freiling, Bryan Hill, Ruth Larson, Neil Morgan, Taylor Reveley, Jeff Wassmer. Sandy Wanner and Susan Dickerson also attended.

#### **Members not present:**

Mitchell Reiss and Karen Riordan

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### DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### **Member Updates (All)**

York: The Board of Supervisors set Board priorities and metrics for those priorities and held a retreat with its School Board. The County's challenge continues to be budgetary concerns as the 65+ population has doubled during the last 10 years. There also are three senior citizen retirement living facilities under construction within the County.

Williamsburg: The City is working on its plans for the former Super 8 Motel property and City representatives met with Legislative representatives and covered the City's legislative agenda items. The joint WJCC School Board also is searching for a new Superintendent.

JCC: The Board of Supervisors adopted its strategic plan and operational initiatives and met with its Legislative representatives. The County also held a meeting with its Constitutional officers.

William & Mary: The College is on track to meet its \$1B Campaign goal after having raised \$655 million by Dec. 31 and is preparing for major construction – a large utilities facility for West Campus, the 4<sup>th</sup> phase of a science center and two major arts facilities. It also looks like the State will cut higher education funding by 5% rather than the expected 7.5%.

Jamestown: Yorktown Foundation: The Yorktown Museum looks to be completed at the end of March to the beginning of April and the organization is in its final stages of transition. Expect to see signage and new logos. Also JYF reported WADMC voted to eliminate the booking engine, a revenue generating product for JYF that paid for advertising. The elimination of the booking engine is deeply problematic for JYF.

Busch Gardens: Christmas Town continues to gain popularity and the organization is now managing its high population days with dynamic pricing and is encouraging people to attend less populated days with a lower priced ticket. The Park's new wooden rollercoaster, Invader, is scheduled to open in early spring. The coaster, a steel structure but wood track, is located in the France Village and includes a 70-foot drop with a retro

look. The Park also announced restructuring in December across the entire company, which affected a small number of jobs locally.

### **Legislative Program**

Sandy suggested that upon Karen's return and receipt of the Alliance's Legislative Agenda, that the HTC support key initiatives from the Alliance.

### **Organizational Options & Budget**

Sandy presented options to the membership under the assumptions that the HTC would continue to exist with its current mission, that it would meet every two months beginning in 2017, that the Alliance would continue to serve at the HTC's Fiscal Agent, that public funds not be requested for operational expenses but may be requested for specific HTC approved projects, and that the overall membership wants to reduce expenses.

Both Phil and Taylor said the HTC requires staff support. Ruth suggested that the issue be put off until Karen returns and that she didn't know the pros and cons to staff vs. no staff. Paul said it has been his experience that if a locality takes on the staff responsibilities, then no one wants to take on the extra work. Paul said he thought it would be a mistake to reduce staff if the group wanted to continue.

The group asked staff to step out of the room to further discuss. Upon returning, the group stated that it would put off any organizational decision until its February meeting.

### **Next Meetings:**

February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting – Busch Gardens

April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting – TBA