



June 25, 2024
60 West Street, Suite 100, Annapolis
9:00 -1:00am
Minutes

Members in Attendance:

Will Castleberry, Chair	Netflix
Matthew Bjonerud	Cerebro Capital – Virtual
Reza Jafari	e-Development International – Virtual
Mary Kane	Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Ambassador Karen Kornbluh	German Marshall Fund of the U.S.
Jerrold Moton	Goldman Edwards – Virtual
Brian Pieninck	CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield
Herman Singh	Virtual
Dana Stebbins	The Cornelius Group
Vernon Thompson	Strategic Path Forward
Christy Wyskiel	Johns Hopkins University

Ex-Officio Members:

Secretary Kevin Anderson	Department of Commerce
Secretary Helene Grady	Department of Budget and Management
Secretary Portia Wu	Department of Labor

Guests:

Andrew Estrain	Vision Planning and Consulting
Ashley Samonisky	Vision Planning and Consulting
Andy Schaufele	Office of the Comptroller
Dani DiPietro	Office of the Comptroller
Signe Pringle	Department of Commerce – Virtual
Heather Gramm	Department of Commerce – Virtual
Jennifer LaHatte	Department of Commerce – Virtual
Julie Woepke	Department of Commerce
Jerel Registre	Department of Commerce

I. Meeting called to Order

Secretary Anderson called the meeting to order on behalf of Chair Will Castleberry at 9:17 am and welcomed members and attendees. He expressed appreciate for all the thoughtful work and discussions to advise the Governor. Secretary Anderson cautioned the State is facing tremendous headwind with respect to the budget. He stressed the need to build an economy that supports the Administration’s ambition and gave examples of successful collaborations.

Secretary Anderson offered the floor to Secretaries Helene Grady and Portia Wu. Secretary Grady emphasized the need to backup up the Council’s report recommendations with evidence and documentation of the impact and while tracking the State’s performance.

II. Minutes of the May 31, 2024 Meeting

Upon a motion duly made and second, the minutes of the May 31, 2024 meeting were approved.

Chair Castleberry joined the meeting at 9:30am due to a traffic accident.

III. Chair’s Report

Chair Castleberry began his comments by stating he expected an open dialogue and respect among members in discussing the report recommendations and welcomed debate. He then turned the meeting to Mr. Jerel Registre who introduced the consultants serving as facilitators for the discussion.

IV. Draft Report Discussion

Mr. Registre introduced Andrew Estrain and Ashley Samonisky of Vision Planning and Consulting serving as facilitators who reviewed the rules of engagement for the discussion and expected outcome to assist with the completion of the report.

Mr. Estrain began by reviewing the topics of the report recommendations, an analysis of the State’s economic strengths and challenges. He explained that over 300 stakeholder engagements were held that included interviews, surveys and focus groups. Based on the Draft Report, Mr. Estrain led the discussion among the Council members that included tax structure, economic development structure, and economic development strategy and factors that impact business climate.

The remainder of the meeting was focused on open discussion and building consensus for recommendations into the report.

V. Good of the Order

No additional information was shared.

VI. Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and second, the meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm.