



## **MARYLAND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Minutes Approved on 06.12.26**

### **SPECIAL OPEN MEETING**

**May 27, 2026 | 11:00 AM**

[VIRTUAL]

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Todd Burbage, Blue Water  
Ashley Chenault, Charles County Tourism  
Dave Ferraro, Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park  
Tonya Fitzpatrick, Esq., World Footprints, LLC  
Andrew Frank, Capex Advisory  
Melonie Johnson, MGM National Harbor  
Gerardo Martinez, Wild Kid Acres, LLC

Chris Riehl, Rent-A-Tour  
Al Spence, A.S. Midway Tours  
Shelonda Stokes, Downtown Partnership  
Sandy Turner, Cecil County Tourism  
Cassandra Vanhooser, Talbot County Department of  
Economic Development and Tourism

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Robert Arthur, The Ivy Hotel  
Del. Wayne Hartman, Maryland House of Delegates  
Senator Nancy King, Maryland State Senate  
James Mathias, University of MD Eastern Shore

Senator Johnny Mautz, Maryland State Senate  
Leverne McElveen, Leverne McElveen & Associates, LLC  
Ben Seidel, Real Hospitality Group  
Del. Melissa Wells, Maryland House of Delegates

### **I. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order**

Vice Chair Dave Ferraro called the meeting of Wednesday, May 27, 2026, to order, welcoming attendees. A roll call indicated Board Members present. During roll call, Mr. Spencer Rada introduced himself as representing Senator Mautz.

Ferraro indicated the meeting announcement was posted on May 22 on the Office of Tourism's industry website and May 26 on the Department of Commerce's website and then read the Open Meetings Act statement.

### **II. Adjournment and Move to Closed Session**

**Vote Taken:** Vice Chair Ferraro requested a motion to adjourn the meeting and moved to closed session in accordance with Other Law Exception General Provision 3-305, the Board will meet to consider confidential commercial and financial information. Stokes made the motion. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Spence and Ferraro asked for a roll call for all in favor: "For" Burbage, Chenault, Fitzpatrick, Frank, Johnson, Martinez, Riehl, Spence, Stokes, Turner, and Vanhooser; all were in favor with no abstentions, so the motion carried. Note, Mr. Spencer Rada inadvertently indicated an affirmative vote on Senator Mautz's behalf which was subsequently dissolved from the vote count. The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.



## **MARYLAND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

**Minutes Approved on 06.12.26**

### **CLOSED MEETING**

**May 27, 2026 | 11:12 AM**

[VIRTUAL]

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Todd Burbage, Blue Water  
Ashley Chenault, Charles County Tourism  
Dave Ferraro, Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park  
Tonya Fitzpatrick, Esq., World Footprints, LLC  
Andrew Frank, Capex Advisory  
Melonie Johnson, MGM National Harbor

Gerardo Martinez, Wild Kid Acres, LLC  
Chris Riehl, Rent-A-Tour  
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#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

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Ben Seidel, Real Hospitality Group  
Al Spence, A.S. Midway Tours  
Del. Melissa Wells, Maryland House of Delegates

#### **OTD Staff Present**

Lisa Hansen Terhune, Brian Lawrence, Marci Ross, and Rianna Wan

#### **Guests**

Aviva North and Maura Allard, Coraggio Group

#### **I. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order**

Vice Chair Dave Ferraro called the Wednesday, May 27, 2026 closed session to order following the open meeting. Mr. Spence did not attend the close session.

#### **II. Session Discussion**

Board members listened to a predecisional strategic plan draft, including elements related to the organization's vision, mission, and strategic goals. The discussion was informed by confidential predecisional research and stakeholder engagement findings.

#### **III. Adjournment**

**Vote Taken:** Vice Chair Ferraro requested a motion to adjourn the meeting Johnson made the motion. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Turner and Ferraro asked for a roll call for all in favor: "For" Burbage, Chenault, Fitzpatrick, Frank, Johnson, Martinez, Riehl, Stokes, Turner, and Vanhooser; all were in favor with no abstentions, so the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.