COUNCIL OF INDUSTRIES

August 5, 2020

Board Meeting / Zoom

Present: Aaron, Barbara, Bielle, Fred, Hakim, Katrinka

Guest: Eric Zell Ahmad Anderson

1. July Minutes 1 minutes: defer to next meeting

2) Business License Tax Ballot Measure - Eric Zell provided information on the Measure. Based on poll paid for by “Lift Up Richmond” (ACCE, SEIU, APEN, RPOA, Fire), he feels that the measure will pass- it only requires 50+1% of voters to pass. To fight the measure could cost upwards of $250,000. Council has until 08/12 to adopt ordinance/ballot measure. If passes, need to work with current council before 01/01/21 to decrease rates. Question was raised if Melvin Willis has to recuse himself from vote as he is a paid employee of ACCE and they were one of the financial supporters for “Lift Up Richmond” that paid for the poll. (Update – per City Attorney, no he did not have to recuse himself.)

3) Election – Eric Zell provided information on the candidates. This will be our first district elections for district 1, 5, 6.

* District 1 – Melvin Willis (incumbent), Eleanor Thompson
* District 5- Ben Choi (not running), Eduardo Martinez (remains on council until 2022); candidates: Gayle McLaughlin (RPA), Ahmad Anderson, Mike Vasilas, Najari Smith
* District 6 – Vinay Pimple (former councilmember), La’Tanya Dandie, Claudia Jimenez (RPA)

Focus on election will be jobs, economy, crime/safety. City will not provide matching funds this year.

4) Candidate Ahmad Anderson – 22 year HR professional; mother Irma Anderson, former Richmond Mayor. Volunteered on Contra Council Childcare Council, NAACP. Focus on clean safe neighborhoods, graffiti, 911 responses, potholes, job creation, blight, homelessness, attract business to district. Business License Tax- rushed, should have met with business community, not against business paying fair share but they need to be at the table; this will chase away business from coming to Richmond.

*Katrinka:*

* *COVID survey - ongoing*
* *Contact Winery regarding October Board Dinner – continue conversation*
* *Contact Veolia for update on waste water discussions with SunCal/PtMolate.*
* *Rule 6-5 Refinery Rule (July 13,2020 deadline)-Hakim to get back to Katrinka*
* *Forward Richmond Pulse letter to Hakim and he will review with their media group. If we respond, we want to send right message.*
* *Main St. Marketing Plan – discuss 2021*
* *Contact James Lee, RCOC regarding Resiliency Fund*

*Board:*

* *Review updates to website – go to:* [www.coi.nerdxing.net](http://www.coi.nerdxing.net)
* *Participate in COVID business survey*
* *$480 Board Luncheon Charge- revisit this at October Board Meeting*