

## **BIC Meeting Minutes**

January 23, 2020, 3:30 – 5:00pm  
FITCI @ ROOT 118 N. Market Street

**BIC Members Present:** Denise Guyton-Boyer, Whitney Hahn, Denise Jacoby, Pierre Reed, Richard Griffin, Tom Lynch, Dwayne Myers, Tom Mullineaux, Jim Racheff and Rick Weldon

**Other Attendees:** Jan Gardner, Helen Propheter, Michelle Day, Britt Swartzlander, Sherman Coleman, Matt Doyle, Kathie Callahan Brady, Damon Price, Michelle Nusum-Smith, Dr. Xavier Bruce, Nick Damoulakis (phone)

**Welcome:** Helen Propheter

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from August 22, 2019 were unanimously approved with no changes (Motion – Tom Lynch, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dwayne Myers)

**Follow up from the County Executive:** The Bond Review went very well and Frederick County received the AAA rating, the lowest bond interest rate of any Maryland county!

Four CEO's were introduced and provided their unique stories of how ROOT is creating new programs for the business community.

CEO Connect (Matt Doyle and Nick Damoulakis) – Detailed how this unique event came to fruition, how they connected CEOs

The Edge Program (Kathie Callahan Brady and Daemon Price) – Talked about the success and positive growth Mr. Price experienced as a result of completing The Edge program and winning The Edge Demo Day.

ROOT Video Pitch Contest (Britt Swartzlander and Michelle Nusum-Smith) – Ms. Nusum-Smith was awarded the winner of this inaugural contest, discussed her company and the benefits of utilizing the Pitch Video service.

Future Minority Business Leader (Sherman Coleman and Dr. Xavier Bruce) - Valedictorian of the 2019 Future Minority Business Leader training program spoke to the merits of this eight-month program designed to prepare future business owners.

following list of concerns from the agriculture community: preservation of agriculture, promoting the Farm Link program where older farmers can rent their land to younger farmers to continue the operations, Video Services promotional ads including "Share the Road" with farm equipment, a Value-Added Ag Facility similar to the FITCI concept (the details are yet to be defined), Planning & Zoning acreage minimums, and making the Planning & Zoning forms and applications easier to complete.

### **Wrap Up**

The next meeting will be held Thursday, September 26, 2019.

Submitted by: Cindy Harris, Administrative Assistant, OED