**BIC Meeting Minutes**

April 26 – 4:00pm – 5:30pm

ROOT, 118 N. Market St., First floor

**BIC Members Present:** Tony Checchia, David O’Donnell (for Tom Lynch), Rob Miller, Dwayne Myers, Pete Plamondon, Jim Racheff, Scott Ryser, Adam Schueftan, Jason Stanczyk

**Other Attendees:** Jan Gardner, Helen Propheter, Tamar Osterman, Michelle Day

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from March 22, 2018 (motion – Dwayne Myers, 2nd – Adam Schueftan, unanimous approval)

**Updates from County Executive:**

* County FY19 Budget has been introduced and proposes an increase is salary for employees. Many appeals were not included. It is being review by the County Council at this time
* State legislative session has ended. The ethics bill passed. Highway user gas tax partially restored to previous levels. School construction funding for $400,000,000. Brewery bills did not pass. Hotel conference center had the MHT requirement removed (Pete Plamondon gave update on parking/state dollars)
* Discussed status of Livable Frederick. Asked if BIC would be interested in a presentation.

**BIC Members Updates:**

* Housing (update by Adam Schueftan)
  + Steady; not seeing the craziness like some parts of the country
  + Demand in Frederick County – townhouse side - $300,000
  + Buyer mix – military, those working in Montgomery or Howard County and working from home, first time buyer
  + Affordability is driving the industry
* Technology (Scott Ryser, Jim Racheff)
  + Appreciative of the GO strategy
  + Technology companies tend to be small – looking for space
  + Healthy industry
  + Challenges in recruiting, but improving

**Recap of GO Strategy Presentation:**

* Provided handouts of full report: <http://www.discoverfrederickmd.com/data> and presentation
* Touched on highlights from presentation

**Task Force Updates:**

* FCWS/Michelle D.
  + Branding initiative is underway; Received grant to promote the new Job Center/Monroe Location
  + Office Management/Administrative Professionals Training Co-hort began; 11 individuals
  + Best Places to Work Partnership – Nomination deadline April 27th
  + Apprenticeship opportunities – working with some associations in HVAC and electricians to do some local recruitment
  + Participating in STEM Summit sponsored by Maryland Out of School Time Network [www.mostnetwork.org](http://www.mostnetwork.org) who is putting together a team to attend a STEM Summit in May.  Their mission is to expand both the quantity and quality of afterschool and summer programs for Maryland’s school age youth. More information is attached on the STEM Summit and its purpose.
* ROOT/Helen
  + Shared website: [www.rootfrederick.com](http://www.rootfrederick.com)
  + Discussed partners
  + Suggestions from BIC members – have partners help support ROOT marketing efforts. Suggested using url on sandwich board out front

**Wrap-Up/Helen:**

* GO Strategy – send video link to all members when ready, as well as report (see above for report link)
* Schedule Livable Frederick presentation for BIC (Helen)

Submitted by: Sharon Hipkins, OED