

Richmond Region Tourism  
Foundation Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2022  
8:45 a.m.  
Zoom Video Conference

**I. ADMINISTRATON:**

- A. Dan Schmitt, Chairman of the Foundation, called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. It was noted that the meeting was held immediately following the RRT Executive Committee meeting and held via zoom video conference and a quorum was present.
- B. **MOTION Approval of Minutes:** The July 12, 2021 Annual Foundation meeting minutes were reviewed. Ms. Lisa Sims made a motion to adopt the minutes, seconded by Mr. Jim Holland. The vote passed.
- C. **Program Highlights June 2021 – December 2021:** Mr. J.C. Poma, Vice President of Community Relations, reviewed the three pillars of Education, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Sports Tourism as the primary functions of the Foundation. A report was shared with the Foundation Board regarding the 2021/22 Financial highlights. To date, 3,182 people have graduated from the I Am Tourism class. Scholarship dollars disbursed has been \$24,000 and Sports Grant dollars given out to date is \$19,500. BLK RVA and OUT RVA businesses supported have been 1,196 to date.

Mr. Poma reviewed the special events that have been held such as the Richmond Region Open Golf Tournament, which was a historic success raising \$33,858 with a record number of players and sponsors. The tournament for 2022 will be at Magnolia Green on September 22, 2022. The RVA Sports Awards event will be held February 5 and to date \$125,000 in corporate sponsorship dollars have been pledged. The event will be televised on CBS 6 and hosted by Tiki Barber. The Awards and Annual Meeting will be held April 27, 2022 at the Hilton Richmond Short Pump as a breakfast meeting.

A new Foundation website is almost complete. [www.RRTFoundation.org](http://www.RRTFoundation.org) and will contain information about the Foundation. Prior to the summer annual meeting of the Foundation, staff will explore the possibility of adding non-RRT board members to the Foundation Board or to an affiliated sub-committee. The cash position of the Foundation looks great, and Ms. Katherine O'Donnell commended J.C. Poma on his efforts to elevate and manage the Foundation.

There being no further business to bring before the Foundation, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Attendees: 11

Dan Schmitt, Chairman  
Angela Kelly-Wiecek, Chair-Elect  
Jim Holland, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman  
Ellen Robertson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman  
Dennis Bickmeier, Treasurer  
Lisa Sims, Secretary  
Neil Amin, Immed. Past Chairman  
Jack Berry, Richmond Region Tourism  
Katherine O'Donnell, Richmond Region Tourism  
Michelle Lovatt, Richmond Region Tourism  
J.C. Poma, Richmond Region Tourism

Absent: 0