

September IDA Director's Report

Turntable Park Stakeholder Meeting

On August 31, Mr. Kelly and I met with the Virginia Tech Design Assistance Center to share our vision and get familiar with the property. They measured the interior and exterior of the scale building, open-sided building, caboose, and Felton Brothers house/office building. They also took pictures and made notes. Thanks to Joe Morici of Stantec, Elizabeth Gilboy, Virginia Tech Director of CDAC, Lisa Tucker, Head of Apparel Housing and Resource Mgmt. Department, Landscape Design students Hayley Harrington & Kelci Nolen, Landscape Architecture, along with Joshua Protil and Emma Bowman, Interior Design students

The Virginia Tech team later met with a stakeholder group consisting of myself, April Beaty, Randy Lynch, Kim Martin, Mrs. Regina Williams, FBLA advisor and 4 of her students Alease Cleaton, Davanie Reece, Jeremiah Harrison and Carlyzia Whitaker. We hope to add more people to the stakeholder group. If interested in joining, please contact me. The Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC) will work with the Stakeholders Committee to develop a conceptual Site Master Plan.

Chamber Picnic

Mr. Kelly and I went to the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce Picnic. The well attended event was held at Southern Grace Weddings and Events in White Plains, VA. The facility is very beautiful and the food was enjoyed by everyone. It is good to see that the Chamber of Commerce is once again hosting events in the wake of the recent pandemic. Hat's off to everyone involved in this event.

Sledge and Barkley

Phase 1 construction have begun. The work covered by Phase 1 will be roof repair, preservation of the sides and work to stabilize and support the building. The work on Phase 1 is expected to be completed in January of 2024. Conditionally Phase 2, will tentatively begin in February. Final details are being worked out on the loan and the IRF Grant application will be submitted in October. Once completed the Historic Sledge & Barkley project will create 21 apartments and 3,000 square feet of commercial space. If you have business ideas, please contact the IDA office. We are considering and qualifying of intent in anticipation of project completion. The Feasibility Study and the Marketing Study have also been completed. Copies will be available on our website once they have been published.