

World Trade Center Delaware
Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 13, 2024 - 3:00 p.m.
Port of Wilmington – 1 Hausel Road, Wilmington, DE 19801

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on March 13, 2024, at the Port of Wilmington, 1 Hausel Road, Wilmington, DE 19801. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by the President of WTC Delaware, Carla Stone.

The following members of the Board, who constituted a quorum, were present:

Ravi Ammigan, Stephanie Chapman, Janet Daugherty, Carmen Facciolo, JC Fernandez-Seoane, Ken Grant, Bayard Hogans, David Máthé, Anabel Panayotti.

Absent:

Mohamed Cisse, Lisa Humber, George Kearns, Ayanna Khan, Rep. Jeffrey N. Spiegelman, Rafael X. Zahralddin.

Staff:

Carla Stone, Nesrin Cakiroglu.

Welcome

President Stone opened the meeting at 3:15 p.m., expressing gratitude to all attendees. She extended thanks to the Port of Wilmington for hosting us and then allowed the other board members to introduce themselves.

Meeting Minutes

In the absence of Secretary Zahralddin, President Stone presented the minutes for the Board meeting of January 17, 2024, for review and approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting minutes of the January 17, 2024 Board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Chapman provided an overview of WTC Delaware's financial status and expenditures. Following the introduction and seconding of a motion, the financials and expenditures were approved.

President's Report

- **Join Finance Committee**
 - President Stone presented the WTC Delaware's FY 2025 Request for Funding to the Joint Finance Committee on February 13th, 2024. We will await the publication of the final version of the budget on July 1st.

- **501c(3) Status**
 - We have received the letter from the IRS granting us the 501(c)(3) status, enabling us to accept and apply for grants.
- **World Trade Centers Association Global Business Forum**
 - At the World Trade Centers Association Global Business Forum in Bengaluru, India, where WTC Delaware exhibited, new branding guidelines, including updated logos, were shared by the WTCA. Additionally, WTC Delaware's president, Carla Stone, was interviewed at the event. As a result of our presence, we received several requests for a webinar focusing on incorporating in Delaware and the advantages of locating in Delaware.
 - In addition, WTC Delaware signed a reciprocity memo with WTC Chennai, facilitating trade information exchange, trade training, and other collaborative initiatives, signifying potential collaboration and partnership opportunities.
 - Next year's Global Business Forum will be hosted in Marseilles, France.
- **Events**
 - We had some well-attended and enjoyable events. We hosted the first two events last month while participating in the last:
 - Celebrating South of the Canal in Smyrna
 - Chocolate and Beer Tasting
 - Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce (Sunset Business Mixer – Exhibited)

Operations Report

President Stone delivered updates on WTC Delaware's operations and recent workstreams on behalf of Director of Operations & Training Cakiroglu. Board members are encouraged to contact companies that have not renewed to remind them.

Committee Reports

Committee reports were delivered.

- **Communications**
 - Ken Grant, Ravi Ammigan, Lisa Humber.
- **Membership**
 - Ayanna Khan, Stephanie Chapman.
- **Building**
 - George Kearns, Carmen Facciolo.
- **Events**
 - Stephanie Chapman, Janet Dougherty (new addition).

Old Business

- **Mutombo Coffee:** As previously discussed, WTC Delaware has forged a partnership with NBA Hall of Famer and Global Humanitarian, Dikembe Mutombo. The associated

link and QR code are now accessible on our homepage (www.wtcde.com). Through our engagement in the Mutombo Coffee Affiliate Marketing Program, WTC Delaware actively shares the affiliate link within its network of colleagues, friends, and associates. For each successful checkout made through this affiliate link, WTC Delaware earns a 5% commission on sales.

New Business

- **2024 International Delaware Magazine:** The 8th Edition of International Delaware Magazine, set to be released in December, will spotlight the 2024 theme: Supply Chain: Logistics and Transportation.

Next Meeting Date

The upcoming Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to take place in person on June 12, 2024 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. The location is to be determined.

Adjournment

President Stone made closing remarks and thanked Board members. There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded and, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. EST.

Calendar (WTC Delaware Events)

- **16 April** **Kickoff to US-Africa Business Summit** University & Whist Club
- **24 April** **Opportunity LIVES Here Symposium (Sen. Darius Brown)**, New Castle
- **1 May** **Made in USA Compliance Webinar**
<https://worldtradecenterdeassoc.wliinc32.com/events/Made-in-USA-Compliance-Webinar-8920/details>
- **4-9 May** **US Africa Business Summit**, Dallas, TX
<https://www.corporatecouncilonafrika.com/news/save-date-2024-us-africa-business-summit>
- **13-19 May** **Trade Winds Access Europe and Eurasia**, Istanbul, Türkiye
https://events.trade.gov/TradeWindsEuropeEurasia/?_gl=1%2A1ppctfo%2A_ga%2AMTkxOTI4NTkxNy4xNjk1MTM5OTQ2%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AMTY5NTEzOTk0Ni4xLjEuMTY5NTE0MDAzMS42MC4wLjA
- **22 May** **Leveraging Resources to Become a Successful Exporter**, Dover Public Library, with Delaware Small Business Development Center
- **3-5 June** **USGLC Global Forum**, Washington, DC
- **6-7 June** **EXIM Annual Conference**, Washington, DC
- **13 June** **WTC Delaware Annual EXIM Training**, University & Whist Club

- **21 June** **Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce Trade Webinar**
- **TBA** **WSFS Foreign Exchange Seminar, 4-6:30 with cocktails**
- **4 October** **Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce Trade Webinar**
- **TBA** **Gala Substitute**