

**World Trade Center Delaware**  
**Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**October 6, 2021 - 2:00 p.m.**  
**HYBRID – In Person and Zoom**

World Trade Center Delaware held its regular meeting of the Board of Directors on October 6, 2021 in a hybrid mode. The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. ET by the Chair of WTC Delaware, Charlie Tomlinson.

**The following members of the Board, who constituted a quorum, were present/on the call:**

Kathryn Bradley (on behalf of GT USA Wilmington), Michael Griffin, Howard Henderson, George Kearns, Sen. Nicole Poore, Andrew Silverman, Charlie Tomlinson.

**Absent:**

Carmen Facciolo, Brian McGlinchey, Theophilus R. Nix, Jr., Esq, Anabel Panayotti, Rep. Michael Ramone

**Staff:**

Carla Stone, Nesrin Cakiroglu

**Introductory Remarks**

Chair Tomlinson opened the meeting at 2:10 p.m. by thanking everyone for attending.

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes for the WTC Delaware's July 21, 2021 Board meeting were presented by President Stone for review and approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting minutes of the July 21, 2021 Board meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

President Stone and Treasurer Kearns provided an overview regarding the status of WTC Delaware's finances and expenditures.

**Chair Report**

Chair Tomlinson is looking for volunteers from the board members to form these committees listed below:

- Audit
- Governance and Development
- Nominations
- Membership

- Gala
- Board Development – George Kearns has volunteered to serve.

Chair Tomlinson will reach out to the Board Members who were unable to join the meeting and ask for their willingness to serve. An Advisory Board will also be formed.

INTERNATIONAL DELAWARE: The fifth edition of International Delaware Magazine, a supplement to Delaware Business Times, will be released the first week of December with the theme of STEM. Chair Tomlinson talked about the price schedule and encouraged the Board Members to recruit companies who would be prospective Advertisers.

### **President's Report**

President Stone provided updates on the WTC Delaware's projected budget for the 2021/2022 FY and shared our Measurements Report with the Board, which was sent to the Secretary of State, Jeff Bullock. A request letter was attached to the report to include the WTC Delaware in the Department of State's FY 2023 budget and to provide funding for the year FY 2023.

GALA: WTC Delaware Gala will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> with Secretary of State Jeff Bullock confirmed as the Champion of Trade 2020/21 Honoree. WTC Delaware has already issued an invitation to the Governor John Carney to present the award. Senator Chris Coons, Senator Tom Carper, and Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester were also invited to attend our Gala. Young singers of the Choir School of Delaware will perform at our Gala this year.

#### **HIGHLIGHTED UPCOMING PROGRAMS:**

*You May Be in International Business and Not Know It: Getting Ready to Enter International Markets – October 12:* WTC Delaware together with the Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce will be co-hosting a free virtual "Lunch & Learn" event October 12 for U.S. companies that would like to learn more about entering international business and trade.

*EU Ambassadors Visit, Port of Wilmington – October 18:* The Port of Wilmington will be hosting a number of EU Ambassadors on October 18. The meeting will focus on information about trading between EU and Delaware and the Ambassadors will be talking to Delaware businesses about the opportunities and/or help with any problems that they face.

*WTCA Member Forum – November 15-19, 2021:* The 2021 WTCA Member Forum is one of the Association's flagship events, gathering representatives from member World Trade Center® businesses, as well as renowned experts. Programming for this virtual global event will consist of keynotes, panel discussions and workshops. Additionally, the event offers enhanced virtual networking opportunities via a complimentary Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered B2B matchmaking platform. This year's event is open to all WTCA Members, as well as their business networks. With the theme of "The New (Virtual) Reality of Business," the 2021 Member Forum promises to be an engaging and insightful experience, demonstrating the resilience and global reach of the WTCA network.

*DACC – November 16:* Delaware Africa Caribbean Coalition has requested that WTC Delaware hosts a delegation from Nigeria, including a number of high-level officials on Nov. 16 to introduce Delaware companies to potential opportunities and the delegation to business opportunities in Delaware.

*Trade Winds: Middle East & Africa – March 2-10, 2022:* Organized by the U.S. Commercial Service, Trade Winds will feature meetings with U.S. commercial diplomats from over 20 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa. WTC Delaware will attend and represent Delaware companies on their behalf if they are unable to participate.

### **Operations Report**

Director Cakiroglu provided updates on the WTC Delaware's operations and most recent workstreams.

### **New Business**

Board Members approved a contribution to be made to the Seamen's Center of Wilmington in memory of Dennis Rochford, our former longtime board member.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on November 17, 2021, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. ET.

### **Adjournment**

Closing remarks and thanks were presented both by Chair Tomlinson and President Stone. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. ET.