



## TMTA November 26, 2018 Membership Meeting Sheraton Waterside

Meeting called to order at 6:15pm

Pledge of Allegiance – Marilyn Ryan (MR)

Introductions were made around the room.

Slate of 2019 Board of Directors and Officers were presented to membership.

President – Marguerite Frier-Bates

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Chris Columbus

2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Nicole Sapienza

Treasurer – Stacey Gilliland-Bolen

Directors (Two Year term)

Jake Darrell

Ray Jalkio

No floor nominations were made. LE motioned to close floor, DG seconded. LE motioned to accept slate, Susie Gresham seconded.

FB updated membership on Secretary of Transportation meeting – wanted to talk about commerce as a state issue, Board of Commissioners reports to Secy of Trans and POV reports to Bd of Comm. FB asked them to exercise due diligence on issues affecting commerce through the Port. DG, FB, Keith Helton from Givens, SG discussed the service being given to drayage community from the Port was impacting productivity thereby impacting economic growth for the state. With all the improvements they have made, expectation would be they are more productive, but we find the opposite. Improvements have not led to new capacity or increased productivity.

Driver retention is becoming a huge problem for the motor carriers and it will have an economic ripple when freight cannot be moved off the port. ATA expects the driver shortage to be 75,000 soon, up from 50,000 today. POV expects at 46% increase in freight through our region in the next few years, but this will not happen if productivity within the POV doesn't increase.

He spoke about

Adjourned to dinner. Reconvened at 7:10pm

Marilynn introduced Norfolk Police Office Michael Lovely

He spoke about the issues of Hampton Boulevard travel, personal vehicle and truck traffic along that corridor and ideas that Norfolk has to make travel safer for all citizens. City is considering adding bike lanes, so that introduces another traveler on this roadway. The city is going out to civic leagues to talk about the issues on Hampton Blvd to educate them about the issues on Hampton Blvd and that it is not a truck issue, it is a safety issue for all vehicle. As ODU expands, more foot traffic will be on Hampton Blvd and all drivers need to be aware of the students who often don't look up from their devices when crossing the road. Running red lights on Hampton Blvd is also an issue especially around ODU and the city is aware it is rarely a trucker running the light, mostly personal vehicles who then jeopardize pedestrians crossing the road. Truckers are not the ones speeding on Hampton Blvd.

Traffic on HB is 32,000 vehicles a day, truck volume is 3-4% of that. City is widening the lanes, updating lights, reducing speed, increasing fines for speeding, straightening the bend at Bolling Ave, reducing lanes from 3 to 2, adding red light cameras, truck restriction signs are being fixed to better indicate where the restrictions begin and end.

LE mentioned that the truckers need the community's support, they have restrictions that the passenger vehicles do not have. POV needs to add signage about the 4pm cutoff which is being heavily enforced since June. There is zero tolerance now and all drivers will be ticketed. We need to tell our drivers not to turn out onto HB after 4pm from the POV.

We must find ways to educate the citizens of Norfolk, through civic league discussions, flashes/flyers to our owner/operators to travel down HB safely, send message through social media, newspapers, about the importance of the trucking community to our economy and them personally to help change their perception that trucks are the problem on Hampton Blvd. Folks forget that without these trucks, goods from overseas don't make it to Walmart, etc. Personal vehicles create the majority of accidents on HB than truckers, but most are not aware of that statistic. City is working on a communication piece, city spokesperson Lori Crouch is working on that now, talking with the Navy, POV and EVMs.MR

MR thanked Officer Lovely for his time, promised to get presentation onto website, 50/50 raffle held, meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.