

Minutes

Northampton County Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

April 26, 2012

This was a regular meeting of the Northampton County Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) held on Thursday, April 26, 2012, in the Downstairs Conference Room located at 16404 Courthouse Road in Eastville, Virginia. Those present were Chairman Bill Parr, Vice-Chairman Bill Payne, David Long, Pat Coady, Peter Lawrence, Billy Moore, , Charles Bell, and Dick Drury. Absent from the meeting was Butch Bailey.

Also in attendance was Peter Stith, Northampton County Long Range Planner.

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. and a quorum was established. The committee reviewed minutes from April 12, 2012. Bill Payne made a motion to approve and with a second from David Long, the April 12th minutes were approved unanimously. The committee reviewed the minutes from April 17th meeting. Pat Coady made a motion to approve the minutes with an amendment that the minutes reference the various presentations from April 17th. Mr. Payne seconded the motion and the minutes passed unanimously as amended.

The committee began a discussion on the April 17th meeting in Richmond and how best to use the information they received. Dick Drury made the point that regionalism was mentioned throughout the day. Bill Parr stated regionalism also means Northampton County collaborating with the towns. He told the committee he had contacted Barbara Schwenk from the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (A-NPDC). HE talked about some of the publications found on the PDC's website and in particular the CEDS document or Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy the A-NPDC puts together and Ms. Schwenk is in charge of. The committee discussed inviting Ms. Schwenk to a future meeting to discuss economic development and how she can help the committee.

The committee began a discussion about Economic Development Authorities and Mr. Parr said he received a summary of the pros and cons of EDAs from Sandi McNinch to give to Supervisor Randall. He said MR. Randall is very interested in discussing with the Board the creation of an EDA and having this committee become that Authority. There was discussion about what Authorities can do.

Pat Coady said the committee should talk about transportation in preparation for next week's meeting with Dennis Heuer from VDOT. Mr. Coady stated that most of the fatalities are single car accidents from the Maryland line to the Bridge Tunnel, with no area of concentration. He noted the two areas with the most accidents are the bypasses around Exmore and Onley. He said the committee needs to ask how they can increase commercial development without reducing safety on Rt. 13. Discussion continued about the cost of highway improvements and how the county can raise or allocate money to help pay for some improvements, like creating special tax districts.

Mr. Payne said the committee should identify recommendations to the Board before the Comp Plan process gets ahead of them. He stated several items to send to the Board:

- IDA or EDA
- Economic Staff (full time)
- Joining with A-NPDC
- Rezoning
- Highway Development Plan

Peter Stith handed out the draft vision and told the committee they could make comments to send back to the Planning Commission. Mr. Payne stated the committee should make two lists, one of hurdles or roadblocks and one of solutions to roadblocks. It was decided at the next meeting they would review their lists and comments on the draft vision.

Mr. Parr told the committee about a conference he attended in Hampton Roads with the five cities and their economic development staff. He said he videotaped it and would be distributing DVDs to the committee. There was brief discussion about the survey and consultant before the meeting was adjourned at 11:04