

Minutes

Northampton County Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

Work Session

December 6, 2012

This was a regular meeting of the Northampton County Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) held on Thursday, December 6, 2012, in the County Administration main conference room located at 16404 Courthouse Road in Eastville, Virginia.

Those attending were Chair Bill Parr, Vice-Chair Bill Payne, Charles Bell, Peter Lawrence, Richard Drury, David Long and Pat Coady. Those absent were Butch Bailey and William Moore.

Also attending were Ava Wise, consultant; Peter Stith, Long Range Planner; and Kay Downing, Administrative Assistant.

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. and a quorum established.

The minutes of November 15 and November 29 were approved as submitted upon motion by Mr. Coady and second from Mr. Bell.

Ms. Wise presented the latest draft of the proposed Summary Report for review and discussion. She noted that various statistical data, revenue information and survey information had been added plus a quote from the County Administrator. This Summary will be the Committee's statement of process and findings and not the Economic Development Plan. However, she noted that next week the first draft of the Economic Development Plan will be presented for review.

The Committee reviewed the proposed Machipongo area development map and minor revisions were made.

(During discussion Mr. Payne moved that flowers be sent to the County Administrator due to her recent illness. However, the motion was withdrawn.)

It was noted by Mr. Long that local farmers will be required to utilize irrigation ponds and shallow wells more and more in the future due to new regulations. Mr. Coady noted that usage from deep wells has decreased; however, deep well permits have increased. It was noted that information from DEQ and the Eastern Shore Soil & Water Conservation District should be stated in the Report as well.

Specific critical assumptions stated in the Report were reviewed. Mr. Drury stated that "poverty" should be defined and free and reduced lunch statistics should be included as well.

Mr. Payne and Mr. Lawrence facilitated a complete review of Core Recommendations with assistance from Ms. Wise. Each Recommendation was then prioritized based on importance. Ms. Wise noted that each Core Recommendation was lifted from strategic recommendations. Additional information is to be added including biographical information, a "foreword" statement, an open letter from the Chair signed by the Committee, a letter of support, a conclusion page, additional emphasize on sustainable issues, include the ANPDC in the

credit list, and also include concerns as to how the Director of Economic Development and the Economic Development Authority are to function and interact. Mr. Coady suggested that the Economic Development Director should be an exclusive position that reports directly to the Economic Development Authority and not an overseer of county personnel and zoning regulations. It was his opinion that this position cannot be a regulator while at the same time act as a chief advocate.

Action:

Motion was made by Mr. Payne that Core Recommendation #4 read as follows, "The position of the Economic Development Director should serve exclusively as the chief advocate for economic development in the county to assist citizens and businesses in all matters involving growth and development of commerce in the county." Second was made by Mr. Drury and carried unanimously.

Discussion continued and Mr. Long noted that several local watermen have expressed definite interest in the establishment of a local retail and value-added seafood operation.

Action:

Motion was made by Mr. Drury that the Chair be authorized to spend remaining funds for the purposes of publicity, publication, printing, binding, etc., in coordination with Ms. Wise. Second was made by Mr. Long and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Stith will forward the revised development area maps to Ms. Wise for inclusion. Discussion was held on how to title said maps and that current underlying zoning districts would be removed.

Mr. Stith was asked to forward a quarterly report providing a brief status report to inform the Board that it is anticipated that final CPAC documents will be delivered at the Board's January work session meeting.

Mr. Payne expressed to the Committee's appreciation to Ms. Wise for her professionalism, guidance and hard work on this project.

The meeting schedule was discussed and it was determined that the Committee may need to continue to meet through the month of December if deemed necessary.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m. upon motion by Mr. Payne and second by Mr. Drury.