

Minutes  
Northampton County Planning Commission Work Session  
January 20, 2016  
16404 Courthouse Road, Eastville, VA  
7:00p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Admin. Conference Room

Those present – Dixon Leatherbury, Mark Freeze, Kay Downing, Michael Ward, Sylvia Stanley, and David Fauber  
Absent – Jacqueline Chatmon

Also in attendance was Peter Stith, Long Range Planner, and Theresa Adkins, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established.

The agenda was reviewed and accepted as presented.

The Commission discussed the draft Comprehensive Plan and made the edits as follows:

**Part I Section 2.2.6 Towns**

There are six incorporated towns in Northampton County: Exmore, Nassawadox, Eastville, Cheriton, Cape Charles, and a portion of Belle Haven. Towns have their own governing bodies and land-use planning and zoning controls. In 2010, the population of these towns ranged from a high of approximately 1460 residents in Exmore to as low as 157 in Eastville. The Towns have always served as social and economic focal points for the County. They have long been designated by the County as development areas and zoning reflects that expectation. The Towns continue to be the most appropriate location for development in the County. All towns, with the exception of Cape Charles, have frontage on US Rt. 13.

Update the tables in Section 4 Economic Analysis Figure 4.2 and 4.3

**Part II section 4.6 Tourism**

Tourism has become an important economic factor in Northampton County. According to the Virginia Tourism Corporation's analysis, there was a 3.4 percent increase in expenditures in tourist related industries in Northampton County from 2012 (\$68,847,296) to 2013 (\$71,160,661). Tourism related employment was up and that payroll increased 3.4% during that time period. Although revenue to the County from Transient Occupancy Tax decreased by 1.3% from 2012 to 2013, Food and Beverage Tax revenue increased 8.2%. Tourism brings additional revenue to the County through purchase of locally grown and produced items, i.e. seafood, organic produce, nursery products, wine, artisans work, marine expedition rentals, etc. without significant use of County provided services. These tourists are also introduced to our beautiful county, and many then decide to make this their home.

**Part II Section 6.7.5 Other Fauna**

The only large game in the County is the Virginia white-tailed deer. Small game is plentiful and hunting for cottontail rabbit and gray squirrel is a popular activity. Mourning dove, turkey and woodcock are the most frequently hunted upland game birds. Other wildlife are found, such as opossum, weasel, skunk, muskrat, red and gray fox, raccoon, river otter, coyote, and mink.

With no further business the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn until February 2, 2016 was made by Commissioner Freeze and seconded by Commissioner Downing. The motion carried with all in favor (5-0).

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Chairman

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Secretary