

ACCOMACK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013

At a meeting of the Accomack County Planning Commission held on the 22nd day of October 2013, in the Accomack County Administration Building School Board Conference Room, Room #201, Accomac, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT

Planning Commission Members Present:

Mr. Phil Hickman, Chairman
Mr. George Parker, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Leander Roberts, Jr.
Mr. Spiro Papadopoulos
Mr. Alan Silverman
Mr. Pete Onley
Mr. Tony Picardi
Mr. David Lumgair, Jr.

Planning Commission Members Absent:

Mr. Bob Hickman

Others Present:

Mr. Rich Morrison, Director of Planning and Community Development
Mrs. Hollis Parks, Administrative Assistant

B. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There being a quorum, Chairman Hickman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Lumgair and seconded by Mr. Parker, the Planning Commission voted to adopt the agenda.

3. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Morrison presented the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan's Future Land Use Plan (Chapter 6) to the Planning Commission. He passed out a new draft of the sustainability section and noted the change from the sustainability text that was presented to the Planning Commission at its October 9, 2013 meeting.

Mr. Picardi arrived for the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

The Planning Commission discussed the draft sustainability text that Mr. Morrison presented.

Mr. Parker recommended striking "At its narrowest point, Accomack County measures ___ from the Atlantic Ocean's Bay to the Bay on the Chesapeake Bay. The widest point is

ACCOMACK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013

located in the northern part of the County and measures ___ miles. (Source of measurements: Accomack County Planning Department)” from the draft text.

Discussion on adding the new FEMA flood maps took place and the Planning Commission was notified that the new maps wouldn't be adopted for at least one year.

The Planning Commission decided it wanted to add the storm surge map from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management in the sustainability section of the Future Land Use Plan.

Mr. Parker moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to include the following text in the sustainability section of the Future Land Use Plan:

“Surface water (Atlantic Ocean, Chesapeake Bay, ponds, creeks, branches, guts, ditches, and wetlands) is a significant part of the County’s landscape. With the amount of surface water evident, there is local interest in sea level rise/recurrent flooding, hurricane impacts/storm surge predictions, flooding due to Nor’easters, and flooding due to deferred ditch maintenance.

The following map which relates to storm surge is provided for informational purposes and in part, forms the basis for hurricane evacuations.”

Mr. Picardi moved to amend the motion to strike the work “predictions” and Mr. Parker did not accept, so the amendment did not carry.

Chairman Hickman called the question and the original motion made by Mr. Parker carried with a 7-1 vote:

Ayes: Roberts, Silverman, Phil Hickman, Parker, Onley, Picardi, Lumgair

Nays: Papadopoulos

Absent: Bob Hickman

The Planning Commission moved on to discuss the Coastal Resource Management Guidance requirement. Mr. Parker reminded the Planning Commission that at the October 9, 2013 meeting, Mr. Morrison presented model language issued from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) for inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan update.

Discussion on the VIMS model language took place and some Planning Commission members agreed with the language and some did not. Concerns were raised about there being no funding.

ACCOMACK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013

Mr. Morrison assured the Planning Commission that once specific language for Coastal Resource Management is created for Accomack County, we can amend the Comprehensive Plan and replace the VIMS model language at that time.

On a motion made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Chairman Hickman, the Planning Commission voted to send the draft document presented tonight, with the updated sustainability section, to public hearing on November 13, 2013.

Mr. Picardi initiated discussion on groundwater and Mr. Papadopoulos informed the Planning Commission that a summer study had been conducted regarding this matter. Mr. Picardi requested staff to send the study to the Planning Commission. Mr. Morrison agreed to do so if and when staff can obtain it.

4. OTHER MATTERS

A. **Town Center Applications**

Mr. Morrison updated the Planning Commission on the Town Center at Wallops Island Spaceport Planned Unit Development and Bridge Hill Conditional Rezoning Amendment applications. He informed the Commission that the Board of Supervisors did not vote on the applications but is expected to at its November 20, 2013 meeting.

B. **Assistant Planner Position**

Mr. Morrison also updated the Planning Commission on the vacant Assistant Planner position. He informed the Commission that we originally had one candidate under active consideration but thought it would be beneficial to interview two more candidates that were in reserve. No decisions have been made at this time.

5. NEXT MEETING

The next regular Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November, 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Accomack County Board Chambers, Room 104, in Accomac.

6. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Onley, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Hickman adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

E. Phillip Hickman, Chairman

Hollis Parks, Administrative Assistant