

Accomack County Planning Commission Minutes of March 27, 2012

Virginia: At a meeting of the Accomack County Planning Commission held on the 27th day of March 2012, in the Accomack County Administration Building School Board Conference Room, Room #201, Accomac.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A. MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT

Planning Commission Members Present

Mr. E. Phillip Hickman, Chairman
Mr. George Parker, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Toni Trepanier
Mr. C. Robert Hickman
Mr. Alan Silverman
Mr. Tony Picardi
Mr. Pete Onley
Mr. David Lumgair

Members Absent:

Mr. Leander Roberts

Others Present:

Mr. Rich Morrison, Director of Planning and Community Development
Mr. Robert Testerman, Land Use Planner
Ms. Hollis Fate, Administrative Assistant

B. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

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

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The Planning Commission voted unanimously to adopt the agenda.

3. REVIEW OF THE ROUTE 13 CORRIDOR OVERLAY DISTRICT

Mr. Morrison began the discussion by advising the Planning Commission that this meeting was to cover what the Planning Commissioners liked about Route 13 and what were some things that they would like to see change along Route 13.

First, the Planning Commissioners discussed some of the things that they liked about Route 13. Below is a list of the items that the individual members compiled:

- Old Business 13: Residential in small business areas
- Agricultural Areas
- Wooded Areas
- The contrast from businesses to agricultural land and wooded areas
- Landscaping (Crape Myrtles)
- Accomac Business Park

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- The accessibility of having businesses on Route 13
- Some nice houses and yards (well setback, nice landscaping, etc.)
- Schools
- Fair amount of advertisement
- Railroad tracks where there are no crossings
- Forested wetlands
- Historic buildings
- Community College setback (green lawn and landscaping)
- Absence of subdivisions
- Industrial park (Airport, Chamber of Commerce, etc.)
- High-speed roadway
- Tranquility
- Horse facility near Nelsonia
- Rustic feel of the area
- Windmill near Nelsonia

Second, the Planning Commissioners discussed some of the things that they would like to see change along Route 13. Below is a list of the items that the individual members compiled:

- Remnants of trailers
- Banking of the roads (when it rains)
- Dilapidated and closed businesses
- Too many penetrations from the roadway (access points and turns)
- Too many traffic lights
- Junk and junk yards
- Abandoned buildings
- Billboards (in some cases)
- Guttered some towns (Parksley, Onley, Hallwood, etc.)
- Un-landscaped parking lots (4-Corner's: way oversized)
- Not protecting recharge areas
- Signage
- Need tourism signs to historic buildings and places
- Lack of landscaping along strip malls
- A change in some franchise designs would make Route 13 unique
- Used car lots
- Portable toilets along the Route 13
- Car dealerships or street vendors using right-of-ways
- Repetitive signs
- Temporary signs
- Safety needs to be improved
- Long vehicles crossing highway or making U-turns (safety issue)
- Traffic
- Interconnections

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- Traffic lights need to be synced

Following the discussion of the positives and negatives of Route 13, the Planning Commission viewed a presentation that staff prepared that showed pictures along Route 13's north and southbound lanes.

At the next meeting, the Planning Commission will be requested to prioritize the two lists. From the prioritized list, staff will provide some observations and outline the next steps.

4. NEXT MEETING:

The next regular Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Accomack County Board Chambers, Accomac.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

The Planning Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Hickman adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

E. Phillip Hickman, Chairman

Hollis Fate, Administrative Assistant