

ACCOMACK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF JUNE 8, 2016

At a meeting of the Accomack County Planning Commission held on the 8th day of June 2016 in the Accomack County Administration Building Board Chambers, Room #104, in Accomac, Virginia.

1. CALL TO ORDER

MEMBERS PRESENT AND ABSENT

Planning Commission Members Present:

Mr. David Lumgair, Jr., Chairman
Mr. Spyridon Papadopoulos, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Brantley Onley
Mr. C. Robert Hickman
Mr. Lynn Gayle
Mr. Stephen Corazza
Mrs. Angela Wingfield
Mr. Roy Custis

Planning Commission Members Absent:

Mr. Leander Roberts, Jr.

Others Present:

Mr. Rich Morrison, Director of Planning and Community Development
Ms. Kristen Tremblay, Assistant Planner
Ms. Jessica Taylor, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Curt Smith, Accomack–Northampton Planning District Commission, Director of Planning

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

There being a quorum, Chairman Lumgair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (not a public hearing)

Chairman Lumgair opened the floor for the public comment period.

No one signed up or requested to speak.

4. MINUTES

A. May 11, 2016

Mr. Hickman noted that the first sentence of *6. A. Coastal Resiliency Discussion* included an extra *are* in the sentence and one should be removed.

On a motion made by Mr. Papadopoulos and seconded by Mr. Hickman, the Planning Commission voted to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2016 regular meeting as amended.

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B. May 24, 2016

On a motion made by Mr. Hickman and seconded by Mr. Papadopoulos, the Planning Commission voted to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2016 work session to tour the Eastern Shore Solar property as presented.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Coastal Resiliency

Mr. Morrison introduced Mr. Curt Smith to the Planning Commission. Mr. Smith gave a presentation to the Planning Commission on Eastern Shore of Virginia Transportation Infrastructure Inundation Vulnerability Assessment (TIIVA), a joint collaboration effort between A–NPDC and VDOT. The purpose of the study was to utilize best-available data in order to assess the long-term vulnerability of inundation on regional transportation infrastructure. Mr. Smith included maps to show sea level rise projections of the region, towns, and community accessibility. A–NPDC plans to incorporate findings into 6-Year Transportation Plan and Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Mr. Smith introduced a customized tool to the Planning Commission, the Coastal Resiliency Mapping Portal. He provided a quick overview of the portal and how to use the tool. Mr. Smith stated that the A–NPDC will invite the Planning Commission to a training once all applications on the portal have been implemented, he expected completion by the end of the summer. Discussion ensued in regard to sea-level rise, expected expenses, and possible outcomes.

Lastly, Mr. Smith discussed the Hazard Mitigation Plan with the Planning Commission. He also asked to give credit to Accomack and Northampton County for support given to the Groundwater Committee.

Chairman Lumgair expressed that the Planning Commission cannot ignore the information presented to them as the State of Virginia is using it. The Planning Commission found that it would be beneficial to further research the topic of Coastal Resiliency. Mr. Papadopoulos requested that staff invite the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) to speak at an upcoming Planning Commission meeting as a large part of the data presented came from VIMS.

B. Report to Board of Supervisors on Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Clear Zone and Accident Potential Zones (APZ's) Overlays (Zoning)

Mr. Morrison informed the Planning Commission that while at its last meeting, it voted to forward the report to the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Morrison did not complete that action. He expressed that this was not normal protocol, but due to information gathered at the first meeting of the Accomack Wallops Working Group (AWWG) he did not find it in the best interest to forward to the Board without updating the Planning Commission.

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During the AWWG meeting Mr. Morrison realized that while the Planning Commission's report was consistent with the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) the discussion at the meeting was not. He stated that Ms. Caroline Massey (NASA) had expressed that Agriculture Zoning and By-Right use in the Clear Zone was okay.

Mr. Morrison has concern that with the Planning Commission and NASA in different places, the Planning Commission will have no one behind them to support the recommendations within the report. Without the support of NASA and the Navy, the County would not be able to sustain a challenge. Mr. Morrison expressed that they need a clear message from the Federal Agency. An in-depth discussion ensued.

On a motion by Mr. Onley and seconded by Mr. Hickman, the Planning Commission voted to have staff inform the Board of Supervisors that the Planning Commission had completed a report, but since the Accomack Wallops Working Group meeting revealed that there are evolving positions, the Planning Commission will hold off on issuing its report until positions evolve further

Mrs. Wingfield requested that another Commissioner take her position on AWWG as she is unable to take vacation from work to attend. Mr. Hickman volunteered to be first on-call when Mrs. Wingfield cannot attend.

C. Utility-Scale Solar/Wind Energy Facility Impacts Discussion

Mr. Morrison asked the Planning Commission for its input after seeing the Solar Facility on its tour on May 25, 2016.

The Planning Commissioners expressed their thoughts and concerns regarding: proffers, the timeline for completion, size of gravel used for roads, number of roads going through the property, whether or not the original bond was large enough, taxes, material (aluminum/galvanized) used, the cost of electricity and benefits of solar facilities.

Staff heard the concerns and questions from the Planning Commission and agreed to gather more information to report back at its July 13, 2016 meeting.

6. OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Onley and Mr. Morrison briefly discussed natural gas. Mr. Morrison stated that the company he had been speaking with has run into struggles. He noted that he has two (2) other companies to meet with in hopes of bringing natural gas to the Eastern Shore.

Mr. Gayle and Mr. Morrison discussed an aerial sprayer that was stopped over the weekend and the area declared a 'hot zone.' Mr. Morrison clarified that this was due to the rocket being on the launch pad and towers on base closed. Supervisor Wolff was able to assist with the situation and contact was made with Pax River to obtain clearance for the spray to continue.

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7. NEXT MEETING

The next regular Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Accomack County Board Chambers, Room 104, in Accomac.

8. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Papadopoulos and seconded by Mr. Hickman, the Planning Commission voted to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

David Lumgair, Jr., Chairman

Jessica Taylor, Administrative Assistant