

Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

Economic Development Committee

MEETING MINUTES

February 28, 2017

3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Eastern Shore Community College

Members Present

Sue Anglim, The Palace
Sara Baldwin, New Ravenna
Joseph Betit, Citizen Representative
Tommy Clark, Don's Seafood Rest. & Tom's Cove Aquafarms
Fitz Godwin – Eastern Shore Public Library Foundation
Arthur Leonard, Town of Chincoteague
Robert Marsh, Merrill Lynch
Andy Mason, Mason-Davis Realtors
Elaine Meil, A-NPDC
Nicholas Pascaretti, ES Broadband Authority
John Pavlik, JIDA
Mark Reiter, Virginia Tech
Evelyn Shotwell, Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce
Richard Snyder, VIMS
Linda Thomas-Glover, ESCC

Members Absent

Roland Bailey, A-NPDC
Peter J. Bale, Wallops Island Regional Alliance
John Chandler, Bayshore Concrete
Kevin Dennis, Perdue Farms
Wesley Edwards, Accomack County EDA
Ava Gabrielle-Wise, New Road Community Dev.
Jarrod Goodman, Tyson Foods, Inc.
Donald Hart, A-NPDC
Dave Lumgair, Luminary Air Group
Caroline Massey, NASA
Charlie Russell, WESR

Others present:

Kerry Allison, Eastern Shore Tourism Commission
Scott Bono, Citizen
Caroline Bott, A-NPDC
Curtis Smith, A-NPDC
Joyce Topping, Citizen
Matt Underwood, USDA
Jessica West, The Chincoteague Center

Call to Order

The Economic Development Committee was called to order at 3:05 PM.

Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2016 meeting was moved by Andy Mason and seconded by Arthur Leonard. The Board approved the minutes by acclamation without revision.

SET High Quality Plan Presentation

Matt Underwood, Community Economic Development Specialist from USDA Rural Development, gave a brief presentation on the SET process and presented the A-NPDC with a Certificate for Outstanding Accomplishment for the completion of the high quality regional economic development plan for the Eastern Shore Region of Stronger Economies Together, Phase V.

Organizational Business

- A-NPDC Commissioners Donald Hart and Roland Bailey, both absent, were recognized as new members of the EDC.
- The Nominating Subcommittee report was presented. Arthur Leonard made the motion to confirm the nominations as presented by the Subcommittee and Linda Thomas-Glover seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

- Fitz Godwin made the motion to confirm the Subcommittee's nomination of Robie Marsh as chair and Sara Baldwin as vice chair, Joe Betit seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Dr. Glover was thanked for her service as committee chair.
- John Pavlik moved to adopt the Remote Board Meeting Attendance Policy as presented by staff. Fitz Godwin seconded the motion which was approved unanimously by the committee.

Regional Economic Plans Update

- Staff briefed the committee on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) & Strong Economies Together (SET) merger which is the focus of the EDC this year. They led the Committee through an exercise to nest the 2012 CEDS projects within 2016 SET industry sectors and provided a timeline for the plan rewrite (Due in December 2017). The presentation is included as Attachment A.
- Staff proposed a subcommittee framework which would align with the SET industry sectors (Aerospace & Defense; Agribusiness & Food Processing; Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, and Visitor Industries; and Foundational & Entrepreneurship Development).
- John Pavlik made a motion to create the industry cluster subcommittees, Andy Mason seconded the motion which was approved unanimously by the Committee.
- It was decided that committee members could self-nominate if they wanted to take a leadership role in the subcommittees, in the absence of an interested committee chair, staff will lead the subcommittee.
- Members of the community are welcome to join the work of the subcommittees.

Building Collaborative Communities Grant Update

In addition to the information provided in the meeting packet, staff updated the Committee on the February 27 meeting with the Northampton County Board of Supervisors to discuss the grant, the indoor environmental risk assessment bid opening, and the public stakeholder meeting on March 2 at Indiantown Park to discuss adaptive reuse of the Northampton County Community Facility.

GO Virginia Update

Staff recommended that a letter of appreciation be sent to legislators for their support of GO Virginia initiative. John Pavlik made a motion in support of the recommendation, Sara Baldwin seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Public Participation

- Linda Thomas-Glover informed the group that the ESCC will co-host with the local chambers of commerce a regional job fair on April 5.
- Kerry Allison informed the group that the Tourism Commission will host a free Tourism Summit on April 11, 2017 at the ESCC. The Summit will have an economic development focus.

Next Meeting Date

The next Economic Development Committee meeting will be scheduled via Doodle Poll in June. In the meantime, the Industry Cluster Subcommittees will meet to begin work on the CEDS rewrite.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.