

Minutes from 25 APRIL 2015
Presented 25 May 2015
Shore Drive Community Coalition General Meeting
Submitted by David Williams

Meeting Location: Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad Meeting Hall
Meeting Start: Called to order at 7:35 pm by Todd Solomon. 22 attendees.

Special Guests: Mr. Barry Frankenfield, Dir. Of Planning; Ms. Jeryl Phillips, Comprehensive Planning Coordinator; Dr. Stephen White, Asst. to the Dir. Planning

Special Presentation: Virginia Beach's Comprehensive Plan Update 2016

Officers' Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Pawlak
Balance as of 25 April 2016 \$7,213.45
Special Projects Account \$1,499.55
Total memberships 2016 18

Secretary's Report – David Williams
Minutes from March 28, 2016 approved with no corrections

Vice President's Report – Wally Damon
Comments deferred due to length of meeting

President Todd Solomon introduced Director of Planning Barry Frankenfield who introduced his planning staff; Ms. Jeryl Phillips and Assistant to the Director, Dr. Stephen White. Director Frankenfield spoke of the key components of the city's Comprehensive Plan (CP). There are many components to the CP, but tonight he would only address the key topics. The Comprehensive Plan is the city's five-year plan that serves as a long-range blue print that is adopted and reviewed for possible update every five years. The Plan contains three major elements; Policy Document, Technical Report, and the Reference Handbook. The Comprehensive Plan serves as a "Framework for Policies". The updated draft was available for review by the public through January 2016. A review of comments and the draft plan will be sent to the City Council for their review on April 13th. A final public hearing before City Council will be held 17 May.

The major components of Comprehensive Plan are to align city actions to accomplish the City's "Vision 2040", a set of planning goals. Many key issues are addressed in the CP such as Environmental Stewardship, Transportation, Neighborhood Housing Plan, and Sea-level Rise. As Virginia Beach is a "City of Choice", our city planners must consider our changing population demographics as diverse as millennial generation spending and housing patterns and aging population trends.

The Comprehensive Plan contains planning areas and planned land use considerations. For urban areas, (8) Strategic Growth Areas (SGA) are presented. For suburban area planning (8) Suburban Focus Areas (SFA's) including Shore Drive Corridor are discussed. Four Special Economic Growth Areas in proximity to NAS Oceana have been designated to support particular zoning and military restrictions associated with potential jet hazards and noise levels. The CP includes a new chapter to discuss Virginia Beach's support to the military installations and the interdependency to our city's economy, even while diversification is considered because of the decline in

DOD budget projections. As the military is the largest employer in this city, every effort will be made to ensure mutual support of the military mission and future city growth.

The CP must consider the city's future growth, which could emphasize more vertical development and less single residential structures; balancing the mix of single and multi-family home construction versus vertical apartment complexes and what would be the implications on future transportation modes. Future multi-modal Transportation Planning is described as the city strives to be safer and friendlier throughout the city to both pedestrians and cyclists by incorporating Complete Street concepts designs. Future bus options and light rail options are also included to possibly decrease traffic congestion.

During the questions and answers portion of the briefing, President Solomon asked the city representatives if the Neighborhood Dredging Program was included in the CP as it will be a prolonged program (of over 16 years), draw from the city's Operating Budget, and impact both the Owl Creek Marina (Lynnhaven River turn basin) and Shore Drive. Mr. Frankenfield indicated that it was not included. Secretary Williams asked if the city had included any planning to participate in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS), a component of National Flood Insurance Program, which would decrease subscriber's flood insurance premiums from 5-45% for homes in the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). (Ed. note: VB has 25,000 National Flood Insurance Program subscribers, the largest number in Virginia). Mr. Frankenfield took note and indicated that the Sustainability Office was evaluating the CRS program and that city participation was being reviewed. Mrs. Hruska asked if more buses but of smaller size with a higher bus stop frequency could be used to improve ridership. Mr. Frankenfield indicated that the entire bus frequency, size, ridership, and system efficiency are under continual review.

There being no further questions from those present, President Solomon thanked the Planning Department for the thorough overview of the city's Comprehensive Plan update.

President Solomon asked the Vice President for his comments concerning the BAC meeting. Mr. Damon commented that Mr. Mike Wills from the Fire Department (Fire Inspector's Office?) commented that (ed. some) builders are not following city Building Codes. Because of time constraints, this discussion was deferred to a later meeting.

President Solomon commented that the Beaches and Waterways Advisory Commission would be reactivated after two years of inactivity to develop recommendations for City Council on "Beach Event Houses" (homes that are rented out for a single event as a wedding party, or graduation party). He then commented on the Marina Shores development project and that it would be going to the Planning Commission in June. Two issues need resolution; parking for the project and a second access road for the complex.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

David Williams
SDCC Secretary