

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Adjourned Meeting
February 2, 2008

6:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened. An Adjourned Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, February 2, 2008, in the Northwest Territory Room, Great Wolf Lodge, by Chairman Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Walter C. Zarembo, Sheila S. Noll, Donald E. Wiggins, George S. Hrichak, and Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Also in attendance were James O. McReynolds, County Administrator; and James E. Barnett, County Attorney.

RETREAT SESSION

Mission and Goals

The Board of Supervisors reviewed its current mission statement and by consensus, at the suggestion of Chairman Shepperd, added the words "and resources" to the first sentence to amend the statement to read:

As stewards of the public trust and resources, the Board of Supervisors will maintain and improve the quality of life for all County citizens. The Board will:

- emphasize efficiency, effectiveness, and openness of County government;
- protect the physical, historical and environmental heritage of the County;
- ensure that growth and development are positive forces on the quality of life;
- value and respect the individual.

The Board of Supervisors then reviewed its current goals and, by consensus, agreed to remove the numbers from the goals, agreeing that there was no prioritization of the goals. The goals are as follows:

Define and aggressively pursue economic development that broadens the County's tax base and sustains its character and quality of life.

Improve communication and respect among the Board of Supervisors, other elected and appointed officials, other agencies, County staff and the public.

Promote accountability, innovation and excellence in providing service to the customer.

Generate quality educational opportunities for all citizens.

Manage the provision and expansion of County services and facilities in a manner that balances necessary increases in expenditures with the expansion of the tax base.

Chairman Shepperd noted that one of the initiatives under the first goal is to implement the Route 17 Corridor Improvement Plan, and he stated this has been completed.

Mr. Carter indicated there is still some money in the fund.

Mr. McReynolds suggested that the initiative be amended to read "Implement a Corridor Improvement Plan."

Mr. Zaremba suggested an initiative for improvements in the upper County. He stated the Board had discussed moving from Route 17 to other corridors once Route 17 was done.

Mr. McReynolds noted that there are several pockets on Merrimac Trail, and some work could be done on the portion of Rochambeau Drive that borders the interstate. He stated there is also a trouble spot on Route 60 that could be addressed.

Chairman Shepperd summarized that it was the sense of the Board that the Route 17 program was a success, and it now needs a plan to incorporate other areas into a program. He stated staff needs to come back to the Board with a plan to carry this corridor improvement plan forward.

During further review of the initiatives for the first goal, it was noted that the objectives under Tourism Development and Support Strategy had been completed, and Chairman Shepperd indicated that staff should develop new objectives for that initiative. Regarding the initiative of a Strategic Plan for Economic Development, Mr. Shepperd also noted that the Mixed-Use Study Committee was completed and should be removed from the list.

Mr. Zaremba agreed, but stated the objective for developing tourism opportunities in Yorktown should be left on.

Discussion followed on neighborhood revitalization, and Mr. Wiggins spoke of problems with parking at Seaford Elementary School during sports events.

Mrs. Noll stated it was her belief that government was to help people who could not help themselves, and this was a community involvement situation. She stated there needs to be some kind of self-help plan to revitalize the older neighborhoods through neighborhood volunteers.

Chairman Shepperd indicated the Board should keep this discussion at the idea level. He stated the Board had its objectives, and wanted the staff to come back with recommendations on how to get them done. He asked if the Board would be interested in having citizens get together to discuss some general concepts of neighborhood revitalization or a neighborhood improvement plan. He stated it would involve the community with the idea that the Board would partner with the citizens in the neighborhoods.

By consensus the Board directed staff to develop a concept and plan prior to the end of the year to explore a community/neighborhood improvement program.

Mr. McReynolds stated staff will put together some ideas and levels of funding to bring back to the Board for review and consideration.

Chairman Shepperd spoke of a new development going in District 5, stating every tree from the property had been stripped. He stated that currently there is no incentive for a developer to keep the trees, and he was personally interested in staff coming back with a proposal to provide incentives for developers to retain trees on property to be developed.

Mr. Zaremba suggested that staff look at any options the Board might have for legally requiring it of developers.

Mrs. Noll indicated she had a problem with "incentives" unless they are economically feasible for the County. She suggested that perhaps there is something the County can do to with buffers between residential districts.

Mr. Carter noted that there has to be a buffer in cluster developments, and staff can look at what goes in the buffers.

The Board then reviewed the current initiatives for the Goal to improve communications and respect among the Board of Supervisors, other elected and appointed officials, other agencies, County staff, and the public. Discussion was held on the Citizens Institute and it not being well attended by the citizenry, and a suggestion to provide special topic spots on Channel 46 to better inform the citizens on York County and its government. There was also consensus that

Citizens News should be added to the objectives with initiatives to better maximize its use as a public information tool.

During the review of the objective to promote accountability, innovation and excellence in providing service to the customer, Mr. McReynolds distributed a memorandum to the Board members providing a report on the County's customer service survey program.

During discussion on the objective of generating quality educational opportunities for all citizens, Chairman Shepperd stated he would be interested in seeing a list of what the County does in terms of educating its employees and what it leads to. He noted he would like to know how many employees are utilizing the County's benefit.

After a brief discussion on the last objective to manage the provision and expansion of County services and facilities in a manner that balances necessary increases in expenditures with the expansion of the tax base, it was noted that the Yorktown Revitalization Plans initiative had been completed and should be removed. Discussion also took place on the space needs study, and Mr. McReynolds indicated it was nearly complete. The Board also reviewed plans to open the new Marquis Library and the cost of providing funding to the Williamsburg Regional Library on a yearly basis.

Meeting Recessed. At 10:47 a.m. Chairman Shepperd declared a short recess.

Meeting Reconvened. At 10:52 a.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

Review of Playing Field Complex

Mr. McReynolds briefed the Board on the status of the construction of the new athletic field complex off of Route 17. He noted that the Board would be invited for a tour in the March/April timeframe.

Mrs. Noll asked that staff look at the landscaping plan. She indicated it should be something that will be beautiful as well as utilitarian. She suggested that the Board might want to put a little more money into it, and it was another area where citizen involvement was important.

Mr. Zaremba suggested that Jim Orband of Extension and his group be involved in the process.

Chairman Shepperd agreed that landscaping will be a big issue. He also noted that the field complex will be extremely popular and, if not scheduled property, there will be a problem because of parking.

Mr. McReynolds stated staff will try to be more aware of scheduling and providing adequate space between games. He indicated that scheduling must be done sensitively because of the Route 17 entrance and egress and the right-out only on Oriana Road.

Review of Schedule for New Library

Mr. McReynolds briefed the Board members on the plans for the new Marquis Library to be constructed at the Marquis Lifestyle Center off of Route 199 next to Water Country and open in April of 2009. He reviewed the timeline for the facility and operations planning, the interior buildout, collection shelving, and staff training.

Mr. Zaremba asked that staff do what is necessary to provide for growth at this library since there is second story space.

Meeting Recessed. At 11:47 a.m. Chairman Shepperd declared the meeting recessed for lunch.

Meeting Reconvened. At 12:29 p.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

Economic Development

Mr. James Noel, Director of Economic Development, briefed the Board on the County's economic development activities to include:

- Economic Development Authority Incentive Policy
- Lightfoot Commercial Corridor
- Riverwalk Landing Businesses
- Route 17 Revitalization Update
- York River Commerce Park
- 2006 Business Retention Survey
- York County Site Selector
- York County Familiarization Tour
- Mixed Use Development
- New Business Development

Mr. Noel indicated that Economic Development was completely revamping its website which will come out in February to coincide with the newest developer's guide.

Potential Areas of Concentration

Mr. McReynolds reviewed the following potential areas of concentration for CY2008:

- Economic Development
- Customer Service
- Education
- Drainage Improvements
- Playing Field Program and Staffing
- New Library Program and Staffing
- Corridor and Entryway Improvements
- Transportation—Hampton Roads Transportation Authority
- Yorktown and Tourism
- Cable Television Franchise Agreements

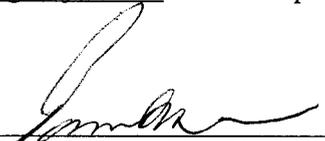
A brief discussion ensued on the new cable television franchise agreements negotiations.

Other Discussion

The Board of Supervisors briefly discussed the following topics:

- Boat Tax
- Closed Meetings
- Affordable Housing

Meeting Adjourned. At 2:40 p.m. Chairman Shepperd declared the meeting adjourned sine die.



James O. McReynolds, Clerk
York County Board of Supervisors



Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr., Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors