

**CURRITUCK COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD**

May 19, 2011

Historic Courthouse, Currituck

Attendance: Elizabeth White, Tameron Kugler, Frances Walker, Ken Edgar, Ed Cornet, Kevin Burwell, Ron Rose, Mike Painter, Paul O'Neal and Peter Bishop,

Guests: Ben Woody, Ike McRee, and Donna Voliva

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm.

Mr. Bishop noted that Mr. Palmer resigned from the ED Advisory Board. A new Chairman was needed.

Election of Officers

Mr. Bishop opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. Ms. Kugler nominated Elizabeth White. Mr. Edgar seconded the nomination. Ms. White was unanimously elected as Chair.

Mr. Bishop opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Edgar nominated Kevin Burwell. Ms. Kugler seconded the nomination. Mr. Burwell was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

Welcome and Recognition

New member Ron Rose was recognized and asked to tell a little bit about himself. Mr. Bishop recognized Ike McRee, County Attorney, who would be making a presentation. He also recognized Ben Woody, Planning Director, who would also be making a presentation, and Donna Voliva, Planner. He thanked the members for attending the meeting which had to be rescheduled due to weather.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Cornet moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Burwell seconded the motion. The agenda was approved.

Public Comment

Commissioner O'Neal explained the reason for the items on the agenda. He stated that it was important for the ED Board to be able to discuss potential projects; however, some projects are confidential and must be discussed in closed session. He had asked Ike McRee to present the

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parameters for entering into closed session and the importance of those discussions remaining confidential.

He had asked Ben Woody to make a presentation regarding the perception that it is difficult to do business in Currituck County due to the planning and permitting process. He asked him to explain the process so members could suggest ways to improve the process. He realized the staff was already working on improvements.

He had been meeting with Mr. Bishop to work on several economic development items suggested by the Board of Commissioners and wanted the members' input. These items would become Mr. Bishop's plan of work.

Mr. Bishop noted that Approval of January 27 Minutes had been omitted from the agenda. The item was placed under Other Business and Announcements

Presentation and Discussion with County Attorney Ike McRee

Mr. McRee reviewed the open meetings law and public records act as well as closed session issues and confidentiality. It applies to the ED Board as any other public body.

Presentation and Discussion with Planning Director Ben Woody

Mr. Woody reviewed the Commercial Development Review processes, highlighting the County's efforts since 2007 to improve and streamline the approvals process for business projects. Mr. Woody explained that the new UDO will work to further improve 'user-friendliness' of the codes, and help encourage density and investment in targeted areas.

Discussion and Action: Economic Visioning documents

Mr. Bishop thanked Ms. White for updating the document as discussed at the last work session. It had been forwarded to the members. He asked if there was anything awry after their review. Suggestions were noted and would be added, particularly the Corolla process piece.

Mr. Burwell moved to approve the document, post it and send it to the UDO Committee for review. Mr. Cornet seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting would begin the next process of establishing a draft Incentive Policy for BOC review.

Director's Report

a) FY 2011-2012 Work Plan - Mr. Bishop noted that there would be a shared process to form a comprehensive data base of businesses. This would involve EDAB, Economic Development Department, Tourism and the Chamber of Commerce.

Members were asked to review the work plan and make suggestions as a homework assignment. There was discussion on promoting eco-tourism, reviving promoting the County as a "Sportsman Paradise," more water accesses, particularly at the Whalehead Club.

b) Project Updates

- (1) Buy Local** - A presentation would be given at the June 6 BOC meeting by Tourism, Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development. Mr. Bishop explained some marketing strategies being planned. Website should be ready in about 2 months.
- (2) Maple Commerce Park** - Board of Commissioners approved a contract for \$1.95M for construction of the wastewater treatment plant to come on line in November-December, 2011, along with the YMCA; and, hopefully, budget will include funding for infrastructure improvements.
- (3) COA** - He was excited about an institution for higher education being located within the county. He would be applying for some grants for equipment.
- (4) Moyock Wastewater Plant** - It has been put out for RFQ. The County is doing a construction manager at risk type of project. It is more cost conscious.
- (5) AWEA** – The grant funding check for the force main to serve the assisted living facility has been received.
- (6) CTP** - Comprehensive Transportation Committee had walk-in sessions. They are looking at points of clarification requested by BOC and staff. A few things drawn in for future plans are a Moyock by-pass, relocating intersections, road extensions for better connectivity to get traffic off the main road, pedestrian improvements, and trolley system.

Mr. Bishop announced he would be going to California for a wind energy conference the following week.

Other Business & Announcements

Approval of Minutes - Mr. Edgar moved to approve the January 27, 2011, minutes as submitted. Mr. Burwell seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Next Meeting - The next meeting will be June 23 at the Powells Point Senior Center.

Adjourn

Ms. Kugler moved to adjourn. Mr. Burwell seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

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