

PRESENT: T. Jennings, Chairman
G. Campbell, Vice Chairman
S. Bridge
J. Curd
L. Howdysshell
K. Leonard
K. Shiflett
J. Wilkinson, Director of Community Development
L. Tate, Senior Planner

ABSENT:

VIRGINIA: At the Regular Meeting of the Augusta County Planning Commission held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, Augusta County Government Center, Verona, Virginia.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Mr. Jennings stated as all members were present, there was a quorum.

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MINUTES

Mr. Bridge moved to approve the minutes of the called and regular meetings held on August 13, 2019.

Mrs. Shiflett seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public hearing for the September meeting.

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New Business

Mrs. Tate reviewed with the Planning Commission Members a proposed conservation easement for property owned by David and Patricia Simmons located in the North River District. The property is located within ½ mile of Natural Chimneys Park, which is owned by the County of Augusta. The Comprehensive Plan requests review of any conservation

easements that are placed within ½ mile of a significant public facility. Mrs. Tate mentioned another policy from the Comprehensive Plan which encourages the placement of conservation easement on property located in the Rural Conservation and Agriculture Conservation Areas.

Mrs. Tate stated that VDOT did not object to the creation of the conservation easement, but did recommend revising the language in the draft easement to allow acquisition of right-of-way for the purpose of widening the road.

Mrs. Tate also pointed out that the Parks and Recreation staff did not anticipate any close properties being developed adjacent to the park and having an impact on the Natural Chimneys Park.

Mr. Bridge asked if the application for the easement was just a generic template.

Mrs. Tate stated that she believes that it is just a template and could be amended.

Mr. Howdysshell stated that right now the road through the area of the proposed easement is in very good condition and did not see the need for widening it in this lifetime.

Mr. Howdysshell made a motion to recommend the conservation easement is in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Leonard, which carried unanimously

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STAFF REPORTS

Mrs. Tate gave an update on the Stuarts Draft Small Area Plan. She stated that there was an upcoming advisory committee meeting to review the draft plan. The plan will be posted on the county website for a public comment period. Mrs. Tate also mentioned the map of future land uses was adopted into the Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Tate, also discussed an update on the utility scale solar/renewable energy Comprehensive Plan amendments. Mrs. Tate stated that a survey was released to the public for input on the utility scale renewable energy topic. Mrs. Tate informed the commission that the Board of Supervisors members were to appoint two citizens from to serve on a sub-committee that would review the public input surveys concerning the utility scale renewable energy amendments to form a recommendation for the Board of Supervisors.

Mrs. Tate then stated that the Board of Supervisors asked for a representative from the Planning Commission to set on the sub-committee.

Mr. Bridge said that he would like to volunteer to be a part of the sub-committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Curd to nominate Mr. Bridge to the committee.

Mrs. Shiflett seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Tate reviewed with the commission the Board of Zoning Appeals items. There were no comments on those items.

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With no further business to be discussed, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bridge. Mr. Leonard seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman

Secretary