

PRESENT: K. Shiflett, Vice Chairman
G. Campbell
J. Curd
T. Jennings
E. Shipplett
R. L. Earhart, Senior Planner and Secretary

ABSENT: S. Bridge, Chairman
K. Leonard

VIRGINIA: At the Regular Meeting of the Augusta County Planning Commission held on Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room, Augusta County Government Center, Verona, Virginia.

* * * * *

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Ms. Shiflett stated as there were five (5) members present, there was a quorum.

* * * * *

Mrs. Shiflett introduced Greg Campbell as the new Commissioner representing the Beverley Manor District and filling the expired term of Chris Foschini.

* * * * *

MINUTES

Mr. Curd moved to approve the minutes of the called and regular meetings held on June 14, 2016.

Mr. Jennings seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

* * * * *

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Andy Wells, Director of Parks and Recreation introduced staff members Kim Hull, Program Coordinator, and Nick Grow, Program Technician. Mrs. Hull is heading up the department's efforts to revise the Master Plan. Mr. Grow, who is also an undergraduate student at Bridgewater College, has been assisting Mrs. Hull and has been a valuable asset. One of the steps in the revision process was a public survey. The results of the survey will be incorporated into the revised Master Plan.

Mrs. Hull credited Mr. Grow for the time he spent in collecting and analyzing data from the survey. She stated when creating the survey, she researched other local surveys and master plans and used them as a guide to help determine what questions to ask in the survey and what data would be most helpful pertaining to Augusta County. The survey was put on the County website and hard copies were placed in various County facilities.

Mrs. Hull and Mr. Grow reviewed the results of the survey. It was determined of the 1149 surveys completed, 69% were completed by Augusta County residents. Information received from this survey was compared and analyzed against information from the 2003 County Recreation Master Plan and the 2013 Virginia Outdoors Plan. The greatest need is to have more walking and biking trails and/or indoor walking and jogging tracks. 39% of survey participants have participated in programs offered by the County. Of the 83% of survey participants that have visited County parks within the last 12 months, 48% visited Natural Chimneys and 56% of participants rated the County parks as being in good condition.

Mr. Jennings stated he is surprised at the low percentage of usage at school facilities.

Mrs. Hull stated that schools are mainly used for school programs or adult league activities.

The survey results stated the most common suggested changes by participants were modernization and upgrading of County facilities, more picnic facilities and more playground equipment. The survey showed that more programming should be available for children or young adults ages 0 – 18. For the major capital improvements over the next five years the survey results show that walking/biking trail development, accessible updated restrooms at parks, and a new recreation center are the most important. 50% of survey participants say they learn about programs through the program guide, 41% by word of mouth and 38% on the County website.

Mr. Jennings asked if there are currently trails specifically for biking.

Mrs. Hull stated there are not trails specifically for biking, but there are multi-purpose trails.

Mrs. Earhart stated the goal of Parks and Recreation is to have a draft of the Master Plan available to the Planning Commission in October for consideration of adoption into the Comprehensive Plan.

* * * * *

STAFF REPORTS

16-30 Titan Mid-Atlantic Aggregates, LLC

Mr. Jennings moved to voice concerns about the amount of traffic proposed to be using Pine Chapel Lane, a rural rustic road, and Cold Springs Road. The Commission also stated their concerns about how information about this request will be disseminated and recommended that signage beyond that required on-site of the proposed use be utilized to ensure that the residents impacted by the increased traffic are aware of the public hearing on the proposed Special Use Permit.

Mr. Shipplett seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

* * * * *

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Secretary