

Patrick County Planning Commission

Sub-Committee Work Session

October 18, 2022

Present: Larry Cowley, Chairman; Kurt Bozenmayer, Vice-Chairman other members of the Sub-Committee; David Lusk and Barbara Jo Newton; Jane Fulk and Cynthia Cowley, Citizen at Large members; Doug Perry, Board of Supervisor Liaison.

Also Present: Teresa McCormick, Clerk

Absent: Richard Hazelwood

Comprehensive Plan Revisions:

Recreation and Tourism

Pg. 9-1 – Revise – Introduction

Move the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of the introduction pertaining to Primland Resort information to Lodging.

Pg. 9-1

Update Table 1: Travel Economic Impact in Patrick County using the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Jane Fulk will check with James Houchins, Tourism Director for these updates.

Pg. 9-2

Table 1 – updated by removing last paragraph.

Lodging: remove the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph

Centers of Activity in Patrick County:

Each of the five areas of the county offers a variety of sightseeing to tourist:

- 1) The Meadows of Dan area has a shopping village located right off the Blue Ridge Parkway near MP 177. The area showcases Villa Appalachia and Chateau Morrisett Wineries. The area is potentially the perfect location for a “Dark Sky” Community. The Hidden Road trail takes visitors from the Meadows of Dan Fire Department station to the famous Mabry Mill.
- 2) No changes in Ararat
- 3) Patrick Springs showcases the Stanburn Winery.
- 4) The Woolwine area offers a 16-mile Virginia State Championship mountain trail located at I.C. Dehart Park. Fairystone State Park the second largest park in Virginia. Jack’s Creek Covered Bridge, noted on the National Register of Historic Places.
- 5) No changes in Town of Stuart

6) Critz features the Reynolds Homestead, birth place of R. J. Reynolds and Virginia Tech Forestry Research Center.

Pg. 9-3

The Blue Ridge Parkway

Updated 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph

The Blue Ridge Parkway and its beautiful scenery provide another excellent backdrop for outdoor recreational activities. The parkway extends 469 miles and links two national parks—Shenandoah and the Great Smoky Mountains. The Blue Ridge Parkway, which runs the length of Patrick County's western border, offers campsites, hiking trails, historic sites and scenic overlooks including the popular Rocky Knob Recreation Area. A favorite destination is Mabry Mill, which was operated by E.B. Mabry from 1910 to 1935. Artists and photographers have made the Mill famous the world over. It features trails, gristmill, sawmill, blacksmith shop and restaurant. Another attraction along the Parkway is Meadows of Dan Village which is located right off the Blue Ridge Parkway near Milepost 177.7, offers shopping, food and sightseeing.

Removed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraphs

Updated last paragraph

The Blue Ridge Parkway is utilized by motorists during the spring flowering session and to view foliage in the fall. The Rocky Knob Recreation Area, which lies near the Blue Ridge Parkway in Patrick County provides camping, picnicking, hiking, fishing and naturalist walks over a 4,000-acre site. The site also includes the Rock Castle Gorge which has a walking trail from the Blue Ridge Parkway to the Woolwine area.

The Blue Ridge Heritage Education Center will be designed for the purposes of drawing visitors into both Floyd and Patrick counties to promote economic development. Additionally, this center is expected to facilitate authentic experiences in the communities for visitors, as well as to serve to connect visitors with local business interests, educational resources. Please visit our website: <https://brheritage.com>. (Source: Blue Ridge Heritage, Inc. and Blue Ridge Heritage Education Center Master Plan & Design Concepts).

Pg. 9-4

Trails and Regional Bicycle Plan

Move 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph to Transportation and update Dan River Basin

Mayo River Rail trail – Remove the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> phases replace with—These first two phases of this project has been completed.

Pg. 9-5

Revised – Dan River Trail is a 0.6 mile trail that connects with the Dan River Park to the Blue Ridge Elementary school.

West Piedmont Regional Bicycle Plan for more up to date information please visit  
<http://www.wppdc.org/documents-publications/transportation> - Move to Transportation

Pg. 9-6

No changes on Birding and Wildlife Trails

Pg. 9-7

Patrick County Trails – Table 2 – Kirt will check with the Dan River Basin Association for updates.

Pg. 9-8

County and Regional Recreation Facilities

Update 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph – It houses a satellite center for the Patrick Henry Community College.

Pg. 9-9

I.C. DeHart Park (Woolwine) – Update information and remove the Multi-use trail at I.C. DeHart Park in Woolwine picture.

Pg. 9-10

Proposed and Planned Recreational Facilities and Accommodations

Update 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraphs

A recreation center is needed to serve the County. An indoor pool should be included in the recreation center to be used by the County school division for the purposes of therapy and aerobics, in addition to the benefit of the community. Such a facility would be ideally located in the vicinity of the Mayo River Rail Trail and the Landmark Center. The County also desires to establish a public/private partnership with an existing private gym owner in the County for the purpose of expanding the facility.

The State of Virginia is in the process of developing a 600-acre state park to encompass portions of the North Mayo River and South Mayo River in the Spencer area of Henry County. Due to the close proximity of this new state park to Patrick County, the County seeks to be involved in development of that facility for the mutual benefit of both counties. Additionally, Patrick County recognizes that the state park can be significant tourism draw and seeks to capitalize on the park's proximity to the County to attract additional visitors to experience all that Patrick County has to offer.

Remove footnote information – Wyatt, Bill. Watch Now – information

Pg. 9-11

Remove- Trail and bikeway development along abandoned road in the County.

Proposed River Access points

Update adding more access points.

Privately-owned Attractions/ Recreation

Add:

Fairystone Equestrian Park

Fairystone Deer Run Campground

Meadows of Dan Villa Appalachia

Meadows of Dan Free House Brewery

Patrick Springs Stanburn Vineyard

All members present will review Patrick County Tourism Department - Pg.9-11 at the November meeting

The next Planning Commission Sub-Committee work session scheduled November 15, 2022 at 4 p.m.

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Larry Cowley, Chairman