

Patrick County Planning Commission

Meeting of June 19, 2006

Present: Leon Holt, Chairman; Cleve Lawson; Ed Anthony; and Jonathan Large

Also Present: Michael Burnette, Assistant County Administrator; Jeannie Frisco, Tourism Coordinator; and Nancy Lindsey, The Enterprise

Absent: Johnny Marion and Jimmy Phillips

A meeting of the Patrick County Planning Commission was held on June 19, 2006 at 7:00 PM in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Patrick County Veterans' Memorial Building.

Mr. Leon Holt called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. The agenda was presented for approval. Mr. Cleve Lawson made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Ed Anthony to approve the agenda. Minutes of the May 15, 2006 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Lawson made the motion and was seconded by Mr. Anthony to approve the minutes as presented.

Voting Aye: All
Voting Nay: None

PROPOSED COUNTY LAND USE ORDINANCE

Mr. Leon Holt led a discussion and review of the surrounding counties' zoning ordinances which were distributed to the members at the previous meeting. He further stated that a description of categories should be established and each parcel of land in the county designated in the appropriate category. He suggested that each district in the county be evaluated and categorized individually.

Mr. Jonathan Large stated that the purpose of the land use ordinance should be to educate and protect people, rather than regulating the use of their property.

The members discussed the Code of Virginia statutes pertaining to land use ordinances, specifically the purposes, requirements, guidelines pertaining to appeals, and regulations protecting mountain ridges. They further discussed the possibility of restrictions on farmlands, and Mr. Holt suggested that the Planning Commission invite Mr. Eric Monday, County Attorney to attend the next meeting to review the Virginia regulations on land use ordinances.

Mr. Holt presented a letter from Janet Rorrer, Commissioner of Revenue to the members for their review. Mrs. Rorrer's letter addressed the land use issue and explained that land use and zoning are two separate issues. Land use is a deferred tax and will not control building sizes, structures, wind turbines, towers, etc., and its main purpose is to preserve agricultural, horticultural, forestal, and open land.

Mr. Holt suggested that the members exchange copies of surrounding counties' land use ordinances so that each member may review them. He further suggested that the Planning Commission contact the Henry County Planning Commission to offer any advice that may be pertinent.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mr. Burnette stated that the representatives from the West Piedmont Planning District Commission will attend the next meeting to discuss revisions to the Patrick County Comprehensive Plan. A work session, in addition to the regularly scheduled meeting, may be necessary in order to begin the process of revising this document.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Holt stated the importance of the participation of all members in these current projects and the necessity of representation of each district in the county.

With no further business to discuss, on motion by Mr. Lawson and seconded by Mr. Anthony, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

Date