

CECIL COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
16 September 2009

Present: Bennett, John; Broomell, Diana; Cairns, Ed; Clewer, Jeff; Colenda, Sarah; Denver, John; Derr, Dan; Doordan, B. Patrick; Edwards, Sandra; Gell, Robert; Gilley, Paula; Jackson, Ann; Kilby, Phyllis; Lane, Diane; Polite, Dan; Priapi, Vic; Smyser, Chuck; Snyder, Linda; Stewart, Gary; Strause, Vicky; Tapley, Donna; Thorne, Owen; Walbeck, Carl; Whiteman, Will; Wiggins, Kennard; Bayer, Michael – ERM; Graham, Clive – ERM; Di Giacomo, Tony; Sennstrom, Eric

Absent: Buck, Walter; Bunnell, John; Butler, Eileen; Day, Shawn; Deckard, Donna; Duckett, Vernon; Ellerton, Vaughan; Folk, Patricia; Pugh, Mike; Rossetti, Rupert; Shaffer, Henry; Whitehurst, Dan

Observers: Mattix, Cheryl – Cecil Whig; Thompson, Vernon – Cecil Co. DED

Call to Order: Dr. Lane called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Paula Gilley to approve the 19 August 2009 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Vicky Strause. All members present voted in favor of motion. Motion carried.

Old Business: Dr. Lane provided a report on her updates to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners. She stated that she provided a summary of the 19 August meeting and the public forum. Public comment and Town comments received by the COC will be forwarded to both the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners for their edification. Dr. Lane also noted that the meeting dates between now and 14 October 2009 are fluid as ERM is drafting the remaining chapters. Dr. Lane said that the remaining chapters will most likely be ready for a meeting on 30 September 2009. The COC will meet on 30 September 2009 with 7 October 2009 on hold if needed for a meeting. Additionally, Dr. Lane reported that the Board of County Commissioners would like to meet with the COC on 14 October 2009 to express their gratitude for the COC's efforts and hard work over the last two (2) years.

New Business: Clive Graham announced that he would like to move chapter by chapter for comments on the draft plan. He requested that edits be sent to P&Z for forwarding to ERM. Mr. Graham stated that the draft plan needed to be consistent with the concept plan and that the COC needed to point out areas of deviation. Mr. Graham recommended the group point out factual errors and inconsistencies with the subcommittee goals, but not to get bogged down in minutia. Discussion ensued on the recent activity data, the use of population data for 2010, as the current population and revisions to make the content clearer.

Clive Graham queried the COC as to whether there were any comments or questions on the introduction and legal requirements. Ed Cairns questioned whether the language was accurate since the group voted

not to include the Towns' comments. Mr. Graham noted that resolution will occur with the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners review, therefore the language is accurate. Kennard Wiggins noted that the COC should be described as a 41 member group. Ed Cairns suggested listing the various groups or organizations that each member represents. Dr. Lane interjected that that detail of information was not provided when the COC was appointed and should not be included. Discussion ensued on Chapters 2 and 3 with comments focusing on edits to improve clarity of meaning and to remove any ambiguity that the COC perceived to be present. Mr. Graham stated that rewrites will address the COC's comments relative to edits, color contrasts on the maps, discrepancies in the tables, and typos.

John Bennett noted that the language on page 3-18, third paragraph, dilutes the growth cap resolution. Clive Graham noted that the plan's language was written to include flexibility and perhaps it should move to page 3-30 under policy and action. Dr. Lane interjected that the original language in Mr. Derr's motion will be checked to ensure accuracy. Discussion moved on to Chapters 4 and 6. Comments were received regarding improvements to clarity of meaning, eliminating confusion in the tabular data, improvements to data organization, and color contrasts in the maps. Dr. Lane noted that she had received comments from Rupert Rossetti who was unable to attend this evening's meeting. She conveyed those comments to the COC and will provide them to each member. Phyllis Kilby noted that it is important to consider Mr. Rossetti's comments. Discussion moved to the repercussions of the State's new stormwater management regulations.

Dr. Lane announced that the COC will meet on Wednesday, 30 September 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at Cecil College to review the remaining chapters. The meeting will most likely occur in Room 208 of the Technology Center pending confirmation of availability.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Sarah Colenda to adjourn. The motion was seconded by John Denver. All members present voted in favor of motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Next Meeting: 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, 30 September 2009, Cecil College

Respectfully Submitted:

Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP
Director – Planning & Zoning