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

Present: Butler, Eileen; Cairns, Ed; Clewer, Jeff; Colenda, Sarah; Denver, John; Derr, Dan; Doordan, B. Patrick; Edwards, Sandra; Folk, Patricia; Gell, Robert; Gilley, Paula; Jackson, Ann; Lane, Diane; Priapi, Vic; Pugh, Mike; Snyder, Linda; Stewart, Gary; Thorne, Owen; Walbeck, Carl; Wiggins, Kennard; Graham, Clive – ERM; Di Giacomo, Tony; Sennstrom, Eric

Absent: Bennett, John; Broomell, Diana; Buck, Walter; Bunnell, John; Day, Shawn; Deckard, Donna; Duckett, Vernon; Ellerton, Vaughan; Kilby, Phyllis; Polite, Dan; Rossetti, Rupert; Shaffer, Henry; Smyser, Chuck; Strause, Vicky; Tapley, Donna; Whitehurst, Dan; Whiteman, Will

Observers: Di Nunzio, Joe; Passi, Hank

Call to Order: Dr. Lane called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Robert Gell to approve the 16 September 2009 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Patricia Folk. All members present voted in favor of motion to approve. Motion carried.

Old Business: Dr. Lane notified the COC that invitations to the final meeting on 14 October 2009 were being distributed to each member. The Board of County Commissioners desired to show their appreciation to the COC for its efforts over the last two years by hosting a dinner at the Chesapeake Bay Golf Club. Dr. Lane also noted that the draft Comprehensive Plan will be officially transferred to the Planning Commission on 19 October 2009 at their regular monthly subdivision review meeting in the afternoon.

New Business: Dr. Lane announced that the COC needed to review the remaining chapters of the draft plan and provide their comments to Mr. Graham. She stated that the COC would commence their evening’s work with the Transportation chapter. Clive Graham asked if the COC had comments on Chapter 5. Ed Cairns stated that Section 5.2.2 was unacceptable to him and he suggested a rewrite based on his specific objections which were:

1. The recommendations were not consistent with the transportation subcommittee’s recommendations
2. The section is not consistent with the County’s Transportation Priorities letter
3. The section is technically flawed as it is based on the 2007 JMT study
4. The language ignores priorities
5. The language was not discussed with the COC
6. The costs are beyond taxpayer’s capabilities
Mr. Cairns presented his documentation relative to his assertions. Mr. Cairns made a motion to rewrite Section 5.2.2. Discussion ensued on the motion. Dr. Lane and Clive Graham reminded the COC that the goals were in the concept plan and they were voted on at that time. Linda Snyder seconded Mr. Cairns motion. Additional discussion occurred on the information presented by Mr. Cairns and the time required to adequately digest the data, the content of materials previously voted on, the original intent of the subcommittee, the preservation of original meaning in the various iterations of the plan as it evolved, and whether the intent was still contained in the verbiage. Dr. Lane queried Mr. Cairns as to whether he desired to table his motion to permit the COC to review his assertions or whether he wanted to have a vote this evening. After a period of rumination and contemplation, Mr. Cairns decided to table his motion. Dr. Lane announced that only the 19 members present would be asked to vote on the motion and all votes must be received by noon on 5 October 2009. She will send an e-mail to each member present requesting their vote. The data provided by Mr. Cairns will be provided to all members present prior to adjournment. Additional comments relative to the text of Chapter 5 were provided by Carl Walbeck and Sarah Colenda.

Dr. Lane requested comments on Chapter 7. Additionally, she summarized Rupert Rossetti’s written comments. Carl Walbeck, Paula Gilley, Sarah Colenda, Dan Derr, and Eileen Butler provided suggestions to revise the text. Gary Stewart made a motion to strike Map 7.6 from the document. Motion was seconded by Sarah Colenda. Twelve (12) members voted in favor of the motion. Seven (7) members voted against the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Lane requested comments on Chapter 8. Carl Walbeck, John Denver and Jeff Clewer presented comments relative to the sections pertaining to the College, Fire and Paramedic services, and the Sheriff’s department.

Dr. Lane requested comments on Chapter 9. Paula Gilley requested clarity on the meaning of the language regarding the rehabilitation of the aging housing stock. Mr. Graham stated clarification will be provided.

Dr. Lane requested comments on Chapter 10. Gary Stewart, Eileen Butler, Paula Gilley and Owen Thorne provided input.

The COC advised Dr. Lane that Chapter 11 was fine as written. Jeff Clewer noted that items 14 & 15 in the appendix should change from the responsibility of the Sheriff’s department to the responsibility of the Board of County Commissioners.

Motion was made by B. Patrick Doordan to approve the document with the suggested revisions and with the tabling of Ed Cairns motion. Motion was seconded by Sarah Colenda. Seventeen (17) members voted in favor of the motion. Two (2) members opposed the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Lane reminded everyone to return their votes on Mr. Cairns’ motion by noon on Monday, 10/5/09.
Motion to adjourn was made by Sarah Colenda. Motion was seconded by Vic Priapi. All members present voted in favor of motion. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** 6:00 p.m., 14 October 2009, Chesapeake Bay Golf Club

Respectfully Submitted:

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Eric S. Sennstrom, AICP
Director – Planning & Zoning