

Members Present

Randy Smith

Priscilla Russ

Gaynelle Thompson

Virginia Hart

Rod Cury

Staff Present

Tim Taylor

Members Absent

Richard Smith

The meeting was called to order by acting chairman, Randy Smith, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

- I. Chairman Smith welcome guest, Rick Barton, from Adventure Tourism. Mr. Barton shared with the Commission an overview of his work in the area to make the public more aware of the potential of outdoor tourism. He spoke about a Community Wellness Survey that had been completed and the availability of grants to fund outdoor tourism projects. As an example of the funding available, he gave an update on the Spearhead Trail and the funding that had been given for that by The Shott Foundation. He stressed the good working relationships that have been developed with property owners in the area. He is interested in working with the Town to complete the walking trail project. He only recently learned of the Town's early development/planning of this project when he began talking with property owners in town about the possibility of right of ways for a walking trail. Commission members who were familiar with the Town's efforts updated him on what had and had not been done so far with the project. Discussion then moved to two fronts: What challenges are faced? Where do we go from here? Mr. Barton was invited back to the next meeting, on May 1, 2018, to work with the Commission on getting together information to bring the project back before Council. The plan is to also bring in input from the Recreation and Industrial Development Authority.
- II. Minutes from the January 16, 2018 meeting presented by Gaynelle Thompson were distributed. Rod Cury made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Priscilla Altizer. All voted "aye" to approve the minutes. Minutes from the February 13, 2018 meeting following the Joint Public Hearing were then distributed. Gaynelle Thompson made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Rod Cury. All voted "aye" to approve the minutes.
- III. Rod Cury made the motion for the Commission to enter into Closed Session per Section 2.2-3711(a)(7). Virginia Hart seconded the motion. All members voted "aye" to enter into closed session.
- IV. The Commission returned from closed session. Rod Cury made the motion to return to open session. Virginia Hart seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and all members certified that no business other than Section 2.2-3711(a)(7) had been discussed in closed session.
- V. There were no other new business or members' concerns. Gaynell Thompson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Rod Cury seconded the motion and all members voted "aye". Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Virginia Hart, Secretary

Virginia Hart 5/1/2018
Rod Cury 5-1-18