

SOUTHSIDE PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Annual Dinner Meeting
October 10, 2024

Southside PDC Chair Tom Tanner welcomed everyone to the Southside PDC Annual Dinner Meeting, held at the Dogwood in South Hill, Virginia, on October 10, 2024. Chair Tanner thanked Mecklenburg County/South Hill for hosting this year's meeting and introduced Keli Reekes, South Hill Town Manager, and Alex Gottschalk, Mecklenburg County Administrator, who provided welcoming comments to the group.

Deborah Gosney, Executive Director of Southside PDC, recognized special guests and sponsors of the Annual Dinner Meeting. Executive Director Gosney thanked PDC Commissioners and sponsors for their continued support of the organization. Recognition was given to the CEDS Committee and past PDC Executive Directors.

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS/SPONSORS

The following guests were recognized for their committed work and dedication to serving our communities:

- Senator Tammy Mulchi- Virginia Senate
- Delegate Tommy Wright- Virginia House of Delegates
- Laurette Tucker- Area Director, USDA Rural Development
- Perry Hickman- Virginia State Director, USDA Rural Development
- Bill Curtis- Assistant Director, DHCD
- Lisa Tharpe- Sr. Destination Development Manager, VA Department of Tourism

The following sponsors were recognized for their partnerships and contributions:

- B & B Consultants, Inc.
- Dewberry
- EMPOWER Broadband, Inc.
- First Citizens Bank
- Letterpress Communications
- MBC
- Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative
- SERCAP, Inc.
- Southside Outreach Group
- Timmons Group

INVOCATION

Claudia Lundy, Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors and Southside PDC Commissioner delivered the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tanner called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Executive Director Gosney called the roll. With **14** Commissioners being present, a quorum was met for this meeting. The full list of Annual Dinner Meeting attendees is attached.

| Brunswick County | Present | Absent |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Dr. Alfonzo Seward | X | |
| Leslie Weddington -Treasurer | X | |
| Dr. Barabara Jarrett-Harris | | X |
| Halifax County | | |
| Stanley Brandon | | X |
| William Claiborne | | X |
| Jerry Lovelace | X | |
| Keith McDowell | X | |
| Scott Simpson | X | |
| Mecklenburg County | | |
| Joe Cappaert | X | |
| Charlie Simmons | X | |
| Kirk Gravitt | X | |
| Claudia Lundy | X | |
| Tom Tanner - Chair | X | |
| South Boston | | |
| Joseph Chandler | X | |
| George Leonard – Vice Chair | X | |
| South Hill | | |
| Kim Callis | X | |
| Lillie Feggins-Boone | X | |
| TOTAL | 14 | 3 |

CONSENT AGENDA

The Commissioners received their respective meeting packets prior to the meeting. The meeting packet contained the agenda, minutes from the previous Commissioner meeting dated July 25, 2024, and the Financial Report period ending September 30, 2024. The Commissioners were asked if any of the Consent Agenda items needed to be moved to regular discussion items. Hearing none, the Consent Agenda items were recommended for approval. UPON MOTION BY LESLIE WEDDINGTON, SECONDED BY GEORGE LEONARD, THE CONSENT AGENDA WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF

Executive Director Gosney recognized PDC staff by title and length of service.

| SPDC STAFF | |
|---|----------|
| Ashleigh Zincone - Senior Community Planner | 26 years |
| Andy Wells- Director of Local Gov't Services | 21 years |
| Sangi Cooper - Senior Community Planner | 14 years |
| Chad Neese - Senior Planner/GIS Specialist | 7 years |
| Erika Tanner - Community Planner I | 4 years |
| Magen Long - Administrative Assistant | 1 year |
| Leslie Kubasek- Finance Director/HR | 1 year |
| Ann Taylor Wright - CTW Consulting LLC - Contract Staff | 5 years |

GUEST SPEAKER

Chair Tom Tanner introduced speaker William "Bill" Leighty and his message on "**Capitol Secrets: Leadership Wisdom from a Life of Public Service.**" Mr. Leighty served as Chief of Staff to Governors Warner and Kaine of Virginia. As Chief of Staff, Bill essentially served as the Chief Operating Officer of the Commonwealth. In 2005 and again in 2007, *Governing Magazine* named Virginia the Best Managed State in the Nation." In 2007, *Governing Magazine* named Bill one of the nine Public Officials of the Year nationally. Bill was the Director of the Virginia Retirement System for seven years, which led the agency to three consecutive US Senate Productivity Awards.

Upon retirement, Bill joined DecideSmart LLC consulting. In April 2008, he served as Senior Advisor to the Scottish Executive, advising the government on designing and implementing Scotland Performs, a national performance management system. In July 2008, Bill conducted a performance review of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, a \$52 billion pension system. In 2011, at the request of the National Governors Association, Bill led a five-person delegation to Nigeria to conduct a "new governors" seminar for newly elected governors. In 2014, Bill completed a manual on transition into office for the National Governors Association. Bill published *Capitol Secrets*, a book detailing his four decades of public service, including his service to twelve Virginia Governors, six Republicans and six Democrats. Bill serves as a senior strategic advisor to the Dean at the L Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

In closing, Chair Tanner thanked Mr. Leighty for his interesting and informative presentation. Additionally, he thanked Mecklenburg County and the Town of South Hill for hosting the Annual Dinner Meeting and 313 Franklin for providing the meal.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



Tom Tanner, Chair



Deborah Gosney, Secretary

Annual Dinner Meeting Attendees October 10, 2024

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|---|
| Tom | Tanner | SPDC Commissioner (Chair) |
| George | Leonard | SPDC Commissioner (Vice Chair) |
| Leslie | Weddington | SPDC Commissioner (Treasurer) |
| Scott | Simpson | SPDC Commissioner |
| Kirk | Gravitt | SPDC Commissioner |
| Kim | Callis | SPDC Commissioner |
| Joe | Cappaert | SPDC Commissioner |
| Alfonzo | Seward | SPDC Commissioner |
| Taleisha | Seward | Guest |
| Jerry | Lovelace | SPDC Commissioner |
| Claudia | Lundy | SPSC Commissioner |
| Joseph | Chandler | SPDC Commissioner |
| Lillie | Feggins-Boone | SPDC Commissioner |
| Charlie | Simmons | SPDC Commissioner |
| Keith | McDowell | SPDC Commissioner |
| Daughter | McDowell | Guest |
| Deborah | Gosney | SPDC Executive Director |
| Andy | Wells | SPDC Director of Local Services |
| Leah | Wells | Guest |
| Magen | Long | SPDC Administrative Assistant |
| Ashleigh | Zincone | SPDC Senior Community Planner |
| Scott | Zincone | Guest |
| Chad | Neese | SPDC Senior Planner/GIS Specialist |
| Emily | Zincone | Guest |
| Leslie | Kubasek | SPDC Director of Finance/HR |
| Chuck | Kubasek | Guest |
| Erika | Tanner | SPDC Community Planner II |
| Dustin | Tanner | Guest |
| Sangi | Cooper | SPDC Senior Community Planner |
| Edward | Cooper | Guest |
| Alex | Gottschalk | Mecklenburg County Administrator |
| Keli | Reekes | South Hill Town Manager |
| Brentley | Morris | South Hill Business Development Manager |
| Tina | Morgan | Mecklenburg County Tourism Coordinator |
| Judy | Sheffield | Mecklenburg County Assistant County Administrator |
| James | Jennings | Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors |
| Mike | Moody | South Hill Town Council |
| Sandra | Tanner | South Hill Chamber of Commerce Executive Director |
| Reggie | Owens | Brunswick County Board of Supervisors |
| Matt | Candland | South Boston Town Manager |
| Mayor Robert | Hayes | Alberta Town Mayor |
| Elizabeth | Crowder | Alberta Town Clerk |
| Dusty | Forbes | Chase City Town Manager |
| Dennis | Whitt | Halifax County Board Of Supervisors |
| Senator Tammy | Mulchi | Virginia Senate |
| Delegate Tommy | Wright | Virginia House of Delegates |
| Dr. Quentin | Johnson | SVCC President |
| Jamie | Jones | SVCC Institutional Advancement Executive Director |

