

SOUTHSIDE PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
 Regular Quarterly Meeting
 July 25, 2024

The Southside Planning District Commission (SPDC) held its regular quarterly virtual meeting on July 25, 2024 at the Commission's Conference Room, 200 South Mecklenburg Avenue, South Hill, Virginia.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tanner called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Director Gosney called the roll. A total of 13 Commissioners attended in person, and two (2) attended remotely. A quorum was met for this meeting. The Roll Call is as follows:

Brunswick County	Present	Virtual	Absent
Dr. Alfonzo Seward	X		
Leslie Weddington -Treasurer	X		
Dr. Barbara 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-Past Chair	X		
Lillie Feggins-Boone	X		
TOTAL	13	2	2

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

- Deborah Gosney, Executive Director
- Ashleigh Zincone, Senior Community Planner
- Andy Wells, Director of Local Services
- Sangi Cooper, Senior Community Planner
- Chad Neese, Senior Planner/GIS Specialist
- Erika Tanner, Community Planner II
- Leslie Kubasek, Finance Director/HR
- Magen Long, Administrative Assistant



GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Mike Hankins, Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors, and VAPDC Board Member
Christin Jackson, Commonwealth Regional Council Executive Director

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Chair Tanner introduced and welcomed guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Tanner asked for public comments. Hearing none, the public comment period was closed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Tanner asked for additions to the agenda. Hearing none, LILLIE FEGGINS-BOONE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY DR. ALFONZO SEWARD, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

GUEST SPEAKER

Judge Cunningham is a native of Halifax County, Virginia. He graduated from Virginia State University and the University of Virginia School of Law and was first elected to the General District Court in 1997 and to the Circuit Court in 2006. He retired in April 2016. Concerned about the number of individuals incarcerated for drug-related offenses, Judge Cunningham initiated the effort, with local assistance, to establish an adult drug court in the Circuit Court of Halifax County, Virginia. He is the Chairman of the Joint Committee for Recovery Housing (JCRH), a statewide group whose mission is to provide safe and affordable housing to needy individuals in recovery in South Central Virginia. Prior to becoming a judge, he was an Assistant Attorney General of Virginia and Assistant Commonwealth Attorney. He also was the managing attorney for the Virginia Legal Aid Society. Judge Cunningham's presentation was on the Halifax County Recovery Court and its successes and challenges.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Tanner reported that the April 25, 2024, minutes were included in the packets previously emailed to members for review. Chair Tanner asked for any changes and/or additions. Leslie Weddington made one correction request for Dr. Alfonzo Seward's name. LESLIE WEDDINGTON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APRIL 25, 2024 MINUTES AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY KIM CALLIS, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ELECTRONIC MEETING POLICY

Executive Director Gosney noted that each year, we ask the commission to review and adopt the electronic meeting policy. There being no questions or comments, GEORGE LEONARD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ELECTRONIC MEETING POLICY FOR FY25 AS PRESENTED, SECONDED BY KEITH MCDOWELL, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Weddington presented the JUNE 30, 2024, financial report as follows: Assets, \$1,827,521.71; Liabilities, \$1,443,092.84; Retained Earnings, \$81,442.04; and Net Balance, \$189,320.64. Expenditures for the year to date totaled \$1,095,352.35, which was 92% of the annual budget. UPON MOTION BY KIM CALLIS, SECONDED BY GEORGE LEONARD, THE JUNE 30, 2024 TREASURER'S REPORT WAS UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED.



CEDS UPDATE

Senior Planner/GIS Specialist Chad Neese provided an update on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Mr. Neese reminded the Commissioners that major updates to the CEDS occur every five years, with the next occurring in 2025; however, annually, staff and the CEDS Committee perform a cursory review. The goals and objectives were reviewed and amended. The CEDS Committee met in July and recommended approval of the proposed changes. Chair Tanner presented the CEDS Resolution for adoption. LESLIE WEDDINGTON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS READ, SECONDED BY LILLIE FEGGINS-BOONE, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SMART SCALE

Senior Planner/GIS Specialist Chad Neese presented the SMART SCALE transportation grant applications that will be submitted by the localities through assistance from the SPDC. Brunswick County will be submitting three applications and Halifax County four. Chair Tanner presented the resolution of support for adoption, CLAUDIA LUNDY A MOTION TO ADOPT THE SMART SCALE RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AS READ, SECONDED BY CHARLIE SIMMONS, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Recent Project Activity - Southside PDC offers grant writing and administrative services to all 15 jurisdictions that are within the District's geographic footprint. A total of 30 project applications were approved in FY24, totaling \$35,069,339; an additional ten (10) applications have been submitted that are pending review. Southside PDC Staff successfully managed a total of 67 projects, plans, and initiatives for FY24.
- Regional Housing Study – The Study is nearing completion. A Housing Summit will be held to review the results and identify next steps. The Estes Center in Chase City has been selected as the venue for the event-stay tuned for the scheduled date.
- Upcoming Grant Rounds – The Tobacco Commission has announced two funding rounds for FY25. The first-round deadline is July 31st and the second-round deadline is March 2025.
The regional economic development grant program supports projects under four investment strategies – Agribusiness, Business Development, Sites & Infrastructure, and Tourism.
- Travel – Staff will be attending the GO VA Retreat held in Danville early September, NADO Annual Training Conference held in New Orleans the end of October, and the Governor's Summit on Rural Prosperity held in Wytheville, VA in late October.
- Next PDC Meeting – This year's annual dinner meeting, scheduled for Thursday, October 10th, is being jointly hosted by Mecklenburg County/South Hill. The meeting will be held at The Dogwood, and Bill Leighty, Managing Partner with DecideSmart, will be the guest speaker.

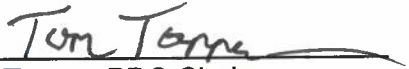


OTHER BUSINESS

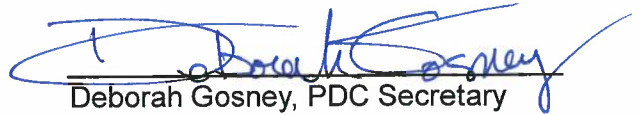
There was no other business presented.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.



Tom Tanner, PDC Chair



Deborah Gosney, PDC Secretary

