

**AMHERST COUNTY
ROUTE 29 BUSINESS BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2018
MINUTES**

VIRGINIA

A public meeting for the Route 29 Business Beautification Committee was held on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 in the County Administration Meeting Room located in the Administration Building at 153 Washington Street, Amherst, VA.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beverly Jones, Chairman
Calvin Kennon, Vice Chairman
Lori Saunders
Teresa Brooks-Dudley
Benita Unrue
Dottie Rucker
Jeremy Bryant

MEMBERS ABSENT: CT Wingfield

STAFF PRESENT: Dylan Bishop, Assistant Zoning Administrator/Planner
Stacey Stinnett, Administrative Assistant

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Citizens Comments
4. VDOT'S Work on Route 29 Business
5. AEP Pole Attachment Agreement
6. Old/New Business
7. Approval of Minutes for April 26, 2017 and August 23, 2017
8. Adjournment

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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The agenda was approved as submitted.

Action:

Motion: Unrue Motion to approve the agenda as submitted.

Second: Kennon

The motion carried by a 8-0 vote

3. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were none.

4. VDOT's WORK ON ROUTE 29 BUSINESS

Mr. Bryant mentioned the twelve miles of the corridor that VDOT has been cleaning up around the curbs and sidewalks. Mr. Bryant also showed a couple pictures of the work that had been done.

Teresa Brooks-Dudley arrived at 4:02 pm.

Ms. Jones introduced Dylan Bishop as the new Assistant Zoning Administrator/Planner. The Committee welcomed Dylan Bishop.

Ms. Jones congratulated Jeremy Bryant on his appointed seat on the Rural Broadband Committee. Mr. Bryant explained that this committee is a voice and advocate to the help with policies, laws and funding to review broadband in other localities.

5. AEP POLE ATTACHMENT AGREEMENT

Ms. Bishop briefly reviewed her memo stating that once AEP prepares the Pole Attachment Agreement and a preconstruction meeting is held, stall will then prepare a layout of which poles are requested for attachment. AEP will then complete an engineer review within 45 days and notify the County of the estimated cost within 14 days. The County then has 30 days to make payment. This is followed by a 60-day period, within which AEP will make any necessary corrections or repairs to the approved poles. An insured individual approved by the County can mount the banners.

Mr. Bryant stated that he had completed the application and send it to AEP.

Mr. Bryant stated that the office had been in touch with McBride Signs and gotten quotes on the banners and cost of labor. Mr. Bryant stated that McBride Signs did the banners for the City of Lynchburg throughout Fifth Street and on the Carter Glass Bridge.

6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was a brief discussion regarding removal of the Old Blockbuster Sign. The Committee came to a consensus that staff find out where a bucket truck could be used and the cost to remove the sign. Once this information was obtained then someone from this committee would contact the owner for their permission to remove the sign at the County's expense.

There was also discussion of the removal of the old Exxon sign. Mr. Bryant mentioned that C.T Wingfield owns the property and he had no objection to having the County remove the sign, keeping the material from the sign and the County paying for the labor.

There was general discussion regarding the large sign at the Independence Mall and the trash that blows from the recycling center over the new doctor office.

Mrs. Saunders mentioned that she would contact Commercial Steel Erection (CSE) about the costs and removing the signs mentioned above.

Ms. Jones recommended that the News and Advance write an article and contact WSET about this committee and produce before and after pictures of the cleanup, banners and trees.

Ms. Brooks-Dudley asks staff to could provide the committee with either business cards or stationary so that when members are speaking with businesses and citizens it would seem more official.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 5, 2017

The April 26, 2017 and August 23, 2017 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Action:

Motion: Kennon

Motion to approve the April 26, 2017 meeting minutes.

Second: Brooks-Dudley

The motion carried by a 8-0 vote.

Action:

Motion: Kennon

Motion to approve the August 23 ,2017 meeting minutes.

Second: Brooks-Dudley

The motion carried by a 8-0 vote.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm.

Action:

Motion: Brooks-Dudley

Motion to adjourn.

Second: Kennon

The motion carried by a 8-0 vote.

/SS/2.12.18


Chairman