

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

VIRGINIA

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beverly Jones, Chairwoman
Calvin Kennon, Vice Chairman
Lori Saunders
Dottie Rucker
Jeremy Bryant
Benita Unrue

MEMBERS ABSENT: Teresa Brooks-Dudley

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

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes for August 1, 2018
4. Citizens Comments
5. Updates on Banners
6. Discussion of Letter to Business Owners Throughout the Corridor
7. Discussion of Appointing Two New Members
8. Old / New Business
 - A. Potential Change in Charter
 - B. Update on Illegal Signs
 - C. Update on Old Exxon Sign
9. Adjournment

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Jones called to order at 4:00 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Action:

Motion: Unrue Motion to approve the agenda as submitted.

Second: Kennon
The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR AUGUST 1, 2018

The August 1, 2018 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Action:

Motion: Kennon Motion to approve the Route 29 Business
Beautification Corridor Minutes for August 1, 2018.

Second: Saunders
The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were none.

5. UPDATE ON BANNERS

Stacey Stinnett presented three price quotes from McBride Signs, FastSigns, and PIP Signs regarding the banners, hardware, replacement costs, and durability. These prices were based on a quantity of 100 banners. Ms. Stinnett stated that after talking with several different companies they all stated that the banners would last up to one year then after that you may notice wear and tear and fading. Mr. Kennon requested that staff find out what type of material the banners are made of. Mr. Bryant stated that 71 sign poles had been approved by AEP, however, only approximately 50 may be used. Mr. Bryant stated that he was disappointed that the signs would not last longer than one year.

6. DISCUSSION OF LETTERS TO BUSINESS OWNERS THROUGHOUT THE CORRIDOR

Ms. Bishop reviewed the letter that would be sent to all business owners throughout the corridor from the committee.

Mrs. Saunders encouraged staff to look into incentives though would hopefully get business owners involved.

Mrs. Rucker encouraged staff to get clubs involved and see if they would be willing to offer assistance or donations in the project of trees.

Mr. Bryant stated that he would check with Teresa Brooks-Dudley and see if she would reach out to Lowes about donating trees and he would contact some local businesses.

Action:

Motion: Unrue

Motion to authorize Beverly Jones to sign the proposed letter and directed staff to mail out to business within the Route 29 Business Corridor.

Second: Saunders

The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.

7. DISCUSSION OF APPOINTING TWO NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Bryant stated that two new members needed to be appointed for this committee. One needed to be a business owner and the other could be a citizen on Amherst County.

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A. Potential Change in Charter

Mr. Bryant informed the committee that the Board of Supervisors has discussed making the Route 29 Business Beautification Corridor a subcommittee of the Board of Supervisors not the Planning Commission. With this change, once its implemented, then this committee would report directly to the Board of Supervisors.

B. Update on Illegal Signs

Ms. Bishop passed around pictures of abandoned and illegal signs within the Route 29 Business Corridor. Staff advised meeting with the County Attorney on drafting a letter to send to property owners regarding the abdomen.

Mr. Kennon wanted to make sure the staff and committee would work with property owners in trying to make the signs conforming to county code to also reflect business friendliness.

C. Update on Old Exxon Sign

Ms. Saunders stated that she had spoken with Stuart Johnson with SCX and he said that due to their busy schedule they have not been able to remove the sign, however, once they can they will have it removed and let the county know.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Action:

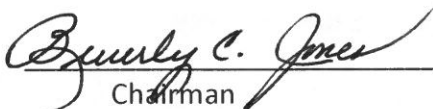
Motion: Saunders

Motion to adjourn.

Second: Kennon

The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.

/SS/8.30.18


Chairman