

Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

(approved May 24, 2016)

1:30 p.m.

Accomack County Administration Building, Board Room
Accomac, Virginia

A-NPDC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee met March 22, 2016 in the Accomack County Administration Building Board Room, in Accomac, Virginia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry DiRe, Town of Cape Charles
Barbara Haxter, Accomack County Airport
Granville Hogg, A-NPDC
Tim Holloway, CBBT
Larry LeMond, A-NTDC
John Maher, STAR Transit
Rich Morrison, Accomack County
Dinah Oliver, VDOT
Alex Parry, Bay Coast Railroad
Jerry Pauley, VDOT

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vanessa Cousineau, ESAAA/CAA/Head Start
Chris Isdell, VDOT
Cabell Lawton, Town of Onancock
Mike Leahy, ESCSB
Ivan Rucker, FHWA
Eric Stringfield, VDOT
Peter Stith, Northampton County
Keisha Wilkins, VDOT

OTHERS:

Shannon Alexander, A-NPDC
Connie Morrison, A-NPDC
Curt Smith, A-NPDC

1. Call to Order

In the absence of acting Chairman Peter Stith, Secretary Connie Morrison convened the meeting at 1:36 pm.

Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

Since there was not yet a quorum present, Ms. Morrison asked to move to items that were information items and would not require a vote.

2. **Staff Report.** Ms. Morrison summarized her staff report, which included new members Granville Hogg (A-NPDC), Tim Holloway (CBBT), and Lisa Sedjat (ESCSB); VTrans 2040 status; and an update on the U.S. Route 13 Safety Study.

3. **Unfinished business**

Sidewalk Gaps Project Update

Ms. Morrison reported on the status on of sidewalk gap study. She said she could finish the project by the end of the year as it is configured now, but she questioned its utility because it does not contain all of the gaps in the sample town she chose, which was Onancock. The current method is not based on a set of policies or procedures. She proposed an alternative, which is a more thorough sidewalk inventory, identifying needs on a town-by-town basis, based on the needs of each community. Each community can then prioritize its own needs, and the prioritized needs can serve as a basis for Transportation Alternatives grant applications, and can be integrated with a region-wide bike/pedestrian plan.

4. **Election of Officers**

Ms. Morrison noted that as this is the first meeting of the year, the group needs to elect a new Chairman, and asked permission to add that to the agenda. The Committee added the election of officers by consent.

Mr. Morrison nominated Larry LeMond for Chair, with a second by Tim Holloway. He was elected unanimously. Ms. Morrison pointed out for the record, and for anyone who might not know, that she and Mr. Morrison are husband and wife, in case that constituted a conflict or consideration for anyone before the vote was taken.

Mr. LeMond assumed leadership of the meeting. Mr. Hogg nominated Mr. Morrison for Vice Chairman. He was elected unanimously.

Mr. Morrison nominated Ms. Morrison as Secretary. Mr. Holloway seconded the motion. Ms. Morrison was elected unanimously.

5. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

6. **Unfinished Business**

Rural Road Additions

Ms. Morrison reported that she followed-up from the last meeting with Accomack County's policy for rural road additions, which Chincoteague and Northampton had requested.

Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

She also said that in preparation for the 2017 Rural Transportation Program, the program that funds transportation planning at A-NPDC, she and Mr. Pauley had discussed what this project should look like in the coming year. Based on previous meeting minutes, it appeared that this committee was moving away from an actual inventory and towards a process for accepting these roads.

She said that VDOT was interested in having an inventory to get an idea of how many of these unpaved, unmaintained roads were out there, and how many might ultimately qualify for the VDOT Rural Addition program.

- After considerable discussion, the group decided to inventory rural roads in Accomack and Northampton counties that are private, unpaved and unmaintained. The inventor will include basic characteristics and assess roads against criteria of VDOT Rural Addition program.
- The process will be a rough inventory (note utilities, telephone poles or pedestals), first eliminating “lost causes.” (Lost causes are those that don’t meet basic definitions under Rural Addition Program, or have physical limitations on both sides that make them unworkable).
- For those that could be good candidates, the inventory will gather ownership data and estimate costs.

Amendments to Bylaws

Bylaws amendments are still on the back burner. The original resolution forming the TTAC has not been found. Although it is not required before making amendments, it was Mr. Ritter’s suggestion that the original resolution be re-visited before further amending the bylaws to ensure that the original intent was being followed.

Ms. Morrison suggested that with the next set amendments, the Committee consider adding a member from the Housing Alliance or from one of our low-income housing developments as a non-voting member to get better representation from the low income populations.

US-13 Safety Study

At the November 13 TTAC meeting, members asked Ms. Morrison to find memos recommending crossover closings from about five years ago. Mr. Hogg said there were some others not too long ago at the Northampton County Board of Supervisors, but it was suggested that they wait until after the U.S. Route 13 Study is complete.

The new study recommends some crossover closures, but many intersection modifications. Ms. Morrison asked what the Committee would like to do now. Mr. Pauley said the study would be complete by the end of the month. The Committee agreed to wait until the study is complete and issued before deciding next steps.

7. New Business

HB2

Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

The committee decided to have a subcommittee meet with Rob Bloxom and Lynwood Lewis and express concern that out of the \$1.6B, none was being allocated to the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

2017 Preliminary Rural Transportation Work Program

Ms. Morrison said this is an informational item to let the Committee know what is being contemplated for next year's work program submittal to VDOT.

Proposed Website Content

Ms. Morrison said the web site content for the TTAC was being modified as part of the A-NPDC website overhaul. She said there were some elements that would be added to ensure it is Title VI compliant. There are also some changes that will be made to the agenda to inform members of the public that they can request interpretation assistance.

8. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

9. Adjournment

With a unanimous vote, Chairman LeMond adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Next meeting: May 24, 2016 at 1:30 p.m..

Copy teste:

Date
Chairman

Date
Secretary