



Audio recordings of the Economic and Tourism Development Commission meetings can be found on the Recordings Tab.

November 10, 2021

Commission Members Present: Tracey Williams, Dick Story, Rob Thompson, Sandy Scott, and Suzanne Einstein

Commission Members Absent: Aaron Bramble and Chikki Shajwani

Also in Attendance: Jamie Williams, Director, Katie Wright, Economic Development Manager, and Shalyn Boulden, Administrative Specialist, Economic and Tourism Development; Shelley Heller, County Administrator

At 3:00 p.m., Mr. Story called the meeting to order. Mr. Story requested a motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2021, meeting. On motion by Mr. Thompson and second by Ms. Einstein, the September 8, 2021, minutes were unanimously approved. Mr. Story requested a motion to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2021, meeting. On motion by Mr. Thompson and second by Ms. Scott, the October 12, 2021, minutes were unanimously approved.

Bill Mackey, Director, Planning and Zoning shared the Comprehensive Rezoning Update Task Force held the County's third Public Forum in the Commissioners' Hearing Room on Wednesday, October 27, at 6 p.m. There were 15 members of the public who spoke either in person or over the phone, and correspondence received was read after the speakers finished. The November Task Force meeting will focus on the first draft of the condensed text and implementing the 10% rule. Beginning in November, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will move to meeting monthly. This change is being implemented to streamline the process while the Department addresses staffing shortages. It is our hope that the DPZH team will be able to continue providing a high level of service without significantly affecting the time necessary to approve new projects. The Planning Commission met and approved an application by Cliff Road Properties, LLC (Great Oak Manor) for a Site Plan Review (Final) of two proposed cottages on property located at 10568 Cliff Road in the Sixth Election District and zoned Critical Area Residential (CAR).

Ms. Jamie Williams shared the Rock Hall Enterprise Zone application had some mapping questions. Carla Gerber, Deputy Director and Allie Gorman, GIS Specialist, Planning, Housing, and Zoning worked to provide the Department of Commerce amended maps.

Ms. Williams and Ms. Carter attended the Maryland Travel and Tourism Summit hosted by the Maryland Tourism Coalition. Ms. Carter is working on editorial for Bay to Beach and What's Up and an ad in Edible Delmarva that will be focused on holiday shopping and the Dickens Festival. The Mix 106.5 promotion is moving forward with Jess Dutra coming to Chestertown for the Dickens Festival providing radio, social media, and digital promotion for Kent County. The department has been working with Information Technology on updating the

County website and making it more user friendly and would be appreciative of any feedback from the Commission members and others.

Ms. Wright shared an Economic Development newsletter sign up form has been created and has been shared on social media. Positive feedback has been received regarding the newsletters. The photo contest winners will be attending the December Commission meeting to receive their canvas prints. The first-place professional photograph winner will have their photo featured in a national publication. The first-place amateur photograph winner will have their photo featured in a regional publication.

Ms. Tracey Williams shared the YMCA is planning to open in January and will be offering tours of the new facility on November 30, 2021.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Einstein to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 3:42 p.m. The Commission agreed to meet again on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie L. Williams, CEcD, Director
Department of Economic and Tourism Development