

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
EASTERN SHORE LAND CONSERVANCY
OCTOBER 15, 2007**

Mayor Margo Bailey called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. In attendance were Morgan Ellis, Bill Susen, Marion Fry, Jim Gatto, John Seidel, Melanie Culp, Meg Bramble and Max Ruehrmund, Jennifer Stead, Stenographer, and guests.

Mayor Bailey stated that everyone received a copy of the Charrette timeline. She said that if any members saw a need for a time change, or if anyone had been left out of a meeting to let Ms. Ellis know.

Mayor Bailey stated that she would like everyone to take fliers and posters to pass around Town. She said that she would be sending out information to everyone she could think of and they would also be mass emailing. Mayor Bailey asked Mr. Heck to see what could be done at the paper to advertise.

Mayor Bailey stated that at 6:30 p.m. on November 5th the opening presentation of the Charrette would take place at the Casey Academic Center.

Mayor Bailey stated that although the Charrette meetings are open to the public, those who would receive invitations to the meetings on Tuesday, November 6th were broken up as follows:

1st Meeting: Elected Officials

- Town and County Elected Officials
- Elected Officials from the other towns in the county
- Planning Commissions both town and county
- Historic District Commission
- County Planning staff
- State Planning department

2nd Meeting: Infrastructure and Transportation

- State Highway Administration
- Bob Sipes, Chestertown Utilities Director
- Chester River Association
- Wayne Morris, Kent County Utilities
- Soil Conservation Service
- Kent County Parks and Recreation
- Chester Harbor residents

3rd Meeting: Public Services

- Hospital
- State Police
- Sheriff's Department

- Chestertown Police Department
- Hospice
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Department
- Farmer's Bureau – John Hall

4th Meeting: Community, Business and Civic Leaders

- Heron Point
- Mickey Elsburg – Affordable Housing Group
- Kent County Economic Planning
- Chamber of Commerce
- Housing Analysis Group
- Downtown Chestertown Association
- Kent County Lodging Association
- Washington College – Joe Holt
- George Beers – affordable housing developer
- bank presidents

Mayor Bailey stated that if any of the members of the advisory committee realized that a group had been overlooked they should contact Ms. Ellis so she could add them to the list.

Mayor Bailey stated that she would like as many of the advisory committee members as possible attend the Charrette.

Mayor Bailey stated that they were trying to cut down on costs of food and beverages during the Charrette. She asked that anyone who had connections with food vendors try to use them for the event. She said that she would at least like to have coffee and coolers with water and soft drinks. Mr. Seidel stated that he would ask the College if the consulting team could eat at the dining hall.

Ms. Culp asked if they could have name tags for the Charrette so the public would know that they could be asked questions.

Mayor Bailey stated that she would like members of the advisory committee whenever present try to be the host/hostess and encourage those attending to get involved.

Ms. Culp asked if there would be enough parking available on the College campus. Mr. Seidel stated that parking should be available by the stadium. Mr. Gatto suggested signs for parking.

Ms. Ellis stated that she was working with Mr. Rob Clark to confirm November 5th between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. for a site visit for the advisory committee and the consultants.

Ms. Fry stated that a sense of goodwill and community spirit should be shown throughout this process suggesting that a slogan might be helpful for that to happen. Ms. Ellis stated that she had a button maker which could be used if they did come up with a slogan. Ideas for a slogan should be forwarded to Ms. Ellis.

Ms. Fry stated that when Mr. Zonarich was present and gave his power point presentation, he called the area "new urbanism" and said she did not want Kent County to be considered as urban.

Mr. Gatto stated that the Comprehensive Plan called for a greenbelt around the Town and the Town should have control around that.

Mr. Susen stated that he did not want the planners to go into the Charrette with a blank slate. He said that he would like to have another meeting with Mr. Zonarich to explain to him that development is not necessarily progress. He said people come to live here because of how it is, not the way it will grow.

Mr. Gatto stated that for each house built and sold the resident should contribute funding towards the greenbelt.

Mayor Bailey stated that the farming community was also invited to the Charrette and they would have a chance to speak.

Mr. Seidel stated that there should be a determination of a realistic growth rate for the Town of Chestertown and a determination of what time period it should occur in.

Mayor Bailey stated that the high cost of land was going to drive what was put on it. Mr. Seidel stated that the asking price of this land was predicated upon the assumption of what the land could be used for and he said he did not know if the community should agree with that assumption.

The advisory committee decided that they would try to schedule a meeting before the Charrette with Mark Zonarich. Ms. Ellis stated that she would advise the Committee when a meeting was scheduled.

The meeting closed at 6:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Stead
Stenographer