

Bath County EDA Meeting 8 February 2023

9 February 2023

Meeting minutes from the 8 February 2023 EDA meeting: to be approved at the April meeting.

Chairman Bruce McWilliams opened the regularly scheduled meeting in the Bath County Historical Society at 5:01 pm.

Members Attending: Joe Wood, Pat Haynes, Bruce McWilliams, Stephen Hiner, Emily Ellis

Members Absent: N/A

Staff Attending: EDA Attorney Chris Singleton

Guests: Austin Hall (The Recorder), Gary Smith (Bath Co. landowner)

Pledge of Allegiance: N/A

Public Comment: None

Election of Secretary: Emily and Stephen will investigate recording apps that might transpose recordings of meetings to text. Meanwhile, Stephen will act as interim Secretary.

Presentation by Gary Smith, landowner: Gary had issues with what to do with his small parcel of land in Millboro. Who actually owns the property? Chris will review documents provided by Gary, and make recommendations at our next meeting.

Agenda: a motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Joe and seconded by Pat. The vote was unanimous.

Approval of Last Meetings Minutes: Bruce presented the December Minutes (provided by Danny, previous Secretary) and a motion to approve was made by Stephen and seconded by Pat. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman's Report: Bruce discussed contacting potential candidates to fill vacant EDA positions. Chris will also contact viable board members. Board also discussed the Conflict of Interest/Financial Disclosure statement that is required for all board members.

Stephen informed the board of contact with Fralin Associates (Roanoke, VA) on possible interest in housing development in Millboro. Bruce will contact Fralin, presenting them with a broad synopsis of EDA's vision. Later in the meeting, Pat suggested a gathering with Fralin, perhaps at Fralin's latest housing development in Allegheny Co.. Bruce will broach this idea in his communication with Fralin.

Legal Counsel Report: EDA attorney Chris reported he had not heard from the Virginia Land Company on the acquisition of their property in Bath County via a deed transfer to a nonprofit (EDA)

Treasurer's Report: EDA treasurer Pat presented his report detailing the financials as of 31 January 2023. All debts paid and interest rate on account is doing well.

Board Comment: Joe introduced the idea if no developer emerged with an interest in Bath's potential housing development, then perhaps selling the land in lots, with certain requirements, is an option. Joe expressed concern over the extended period the EDA has worked on this issue.


Emily voiced her understanding of the housing shortage in Bath.

This raised the idea of hiring a qualified entity to spearhead a housing development. Salary for such hire could come from EDA's budget.

Adjournment and Next Meeting: A motion to adjourn was made at 5:49 pm by Joe and seconded by Pat. The vote was unanimous. There will be no meeting in March. The next meeting will be held at 5:00 pm on 12 April 2023 at the Bath County Historical Society.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Hiner, Vice Chairman and Interim Secretary

X 

Bruce McWilliams, Chairman

X 