

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
GEORGE WASHINGTON REGIONAL COMMISSION**

August 16, 2010

The Robert C. Gibbons Conference Room
406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, Virginia

MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING: **Fredericksburg:** Mary Katherine Greenlaw (2nd Vice Chairman); George C. Solley; **King George:** Joseph W. Grzeika, Dale W. Sisson, Jr. (Chairman); **Spotsylvania:** Jerry I. Logan (Secretary), Benjamin T. Pitts; **Stafford:** Mark Dudenhefer, Susan Stimpson (Treasurer).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert J. Popowicz, Caroline County; David M. “Maxie” Rozell, Jr, Caroline County.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS: Anthony Romanello, Stafford County Administrator.

STAFF: Robert H. Wilson, Executive Director; Lloyd P. Robinson, Director of Transportation Planning; Kevin F. Byrnes, Director of Regional Planning; Diana Utz, GWRideConnect Director; Andy Waple, Principal Regional Planner; David J-H. Lee, Principal Regional Planner; Jane Wills, Regional Mobility Coordinator; Marti Donley, Senior Regional Planner; Laurel Hammig, Senior Regional Planner; Danny Reese, Regional Planner.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Sisson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum present, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Ms. Stimpson asked that the agenda be amended to include a new item 10.e. “Commission By Laws.” Mr. Dudenhefer then made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Grzeika to approve the meeting agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 19, 2010: Mr. Dudenhefer made a motion that was seconded by Ms. Stimpson to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 19, 2010. The motion was approved, with Mr. Pitts abstaining.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: No comments were offered from the public.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Wilson provided the Commission a summary of the financial report. Messrs. Grzeika and Sisson expressed concern about the Commission’s current financial position. Mr. Wilson indicated that he had suggested to the Chairman that a Finance Committee be appointed, or that the matter be taken up by the Executive Committee, which he asked Mr. Sisson to convene. Mr. Pitts asked Mr. Wilson to develop a set of recommendations to address the members’ concerns vis-à-vis the Commission’s financial position, and Mr. Wilson stated that he would do so. It was agreed to convene the Executive Committee on September 13th at a time to be determined.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Mr. Wilson stated that the only item he had was to request a meeting of the Executive Committee in September, which had just been discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant

Mr. Wilson stated for the record that, based on the opposition to applying for the grant expressed by several members at the July Commission meeting, he and Mr. Byrnes had not moved forward with the grant application, as Mr. Wilson had indicated in an e-mail sent to all the Commission members on July 22, 2010.

Endorsement of Staff Comments on Improving Transportation, as Requested by Governor McDonnell

Mr. Robinson directed the commissioners' attention to a set of comments developed by the staff in response to a request for comments from the Department of Rail and Public Transportation sent at the behest of Gov. McDonnell. He added that the staff comments had been endorsed by the FAMPO Technical Committee. In response to a question concerning the deadline for the submission of comments, Mr. Robinson stated that he had asked Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton in July if comments could be submitted following the September meetings of GWRC and FAMPO, and he was advised by the Secretary that it would be preferable to have them sooner than that. After additional discussion, Ms. Stimpson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Dudenhefer to defer this matter until the meeting of September 20, 2010. There was no further discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

Other Old Business

No other old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Federal Telework Center Program Update

Mr. Wilson summarized the upcoming changes to the way the U.S. General Services Administration will procure telework centers beginning in the second half of Federal Fiscal Year 2011. Although he and staff of the Commission's Telework Center Program were exploring the options presented by GSA's new approach, he said the Commission needed to move forward with the expectation that the Telework Center Program would cease operation effective April 1, 2011. He added that he would keep the members informed as events unfold.

Resolution No. 11-05, Support for the "Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010"

Because Spotsylvania Supervisor Hap Connors was unable to attend the meeting and present Resolution No. 11-05 as he had planned to do, no action was taken on this matter and there was no discussion.

Neighborhood Stabilization Program Update

Mary Anne Bryant of the Central Virginia Housing Coalition briefed the Commission on the progress to date of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report

Mr. Byrnes briefly summarized the annual report that he had prepared for the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), and which would be submitted in September. Several Commission members expressed their dissatisfaction at having only received the report on the previous Friday, for which Mr. Wilson accepted responsibility and apologized. He then explained that the submission of the annual report is a pro forma requirement of DHCD which is

essentially just a summary of the work accomplished by the Commission during the previous fiscal year as it relates to the Commission's Regional Strategic Plan. He also explained that the preparation and submittal of the Commission's annual report has historically been done without the input of the members and that it was merely being presented to the members as a courtesy. Mr. Wilson indicated that, going forward, he would ensure that the members receive annual reports no later than the July Commission meeting.

Commission By Laws

Ms. Stimpson expressed her concern about the flow of information from staff to Commission members. After a brief discussion, the Commission directed the Executive Committee to draft a set of procedures for the development and dissemination of Commission meeting agendas and present its recommendations to the full Commission. In the meantime, the Commission will follow Stafford's agenda protocol for the Board of Supervisors.

Other New Business

No other new business was discussed.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the Commission meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert H. Wilson, AICP
Executive Director

(Draft minutes prepared by Laurel Hammig, Senior Regional Planner)