

## **CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of May 28, 2024**

**Members Present:** Mike Liskey, Scott Terndrup, Rochelle Dornatt, Vito Gentile, Laura Bennett, Sarah Mauck, Mark Dotson, Bill Wine, Lemuel Hancock

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:05 by Chairman Vito Gentile.

**Agenda:** Vito asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved as is.

**Minutes:** Rochelle moved and Laura seconded a motion to approve the minutes from March 26, 2025. All agreed.

**Mission Statement:** Vito explained that the CAC mission statement has changed only once since 2006; it was done then in order to reflect changes to how many members were to be appointed from each district. He also said that the purpose of the CAC has morphed over time. In 2006 it was to update chapters in the Plan. Now it is more to review the implementation of action items in the Plan, without excluding the possibility of updating them as circumstances dictate. Mike summarized it as our role to assist and advise on implementation. Mark agreed and said it would fall to us to validate and refine those action items for implementation.

A discussion on how to relate this information to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) centered on timing, that it was important to provide the Board a review prior to the next budget cycle. Members agreed to collect community input on the new plan and any reaction to it and share that info so a report can be given for the BOS in October.

Mike moved that the new mission statement be presented to the BOS. Bill seconded. All approved. Lemuel will transmit the new statement and provide any feedback to the CAC.

**Meeting Time:** Members considered changing the monthly time for CAC meetings. Lemuel shared survey slides (attached). In the end it was decided to keep the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 5:00 as the meeting time. However, since committee business is light for the moment, we agreed to meet every other month through January 2026 when the issue will be raised again. The one exception is that key members are not available the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of July so the meeting will be July 30 instead. Thus the meeting schedule through January 2026 is

- **July 30**
- **September 24**
- **November 26 (subject to change given the Thanksgiving holiday)**
- **January 28, 2026**
- *All meetings are at 5:00 p.m.*

**Housing Study and Hamlet/Village Code Review:** Lemuel went through an explanation of how his office and the Planning Commission are trying to create a more useable and common sense code for property parcel divisions (see slides attached). Such decisions will have lasting effects on housing inventory, affordability and population density. Currently, 200 units in

Strasburg are being developed and will come on line by April 2026. These are units approved in 2006; they will have a serious impact on local schools and such community issues like traffic lights, water infrastructure and water availability. All these issues present opportunities for the CAC to monitor and review.

**Other Business:** Laura raised the issue of a possible EPA study to take place locally regarding toxic algae blooms. Homeowners may soon be notified that researchers may need access to their land to reach the river.

She also spoke about environmental impacts already being seen in the GW Forest due to Corridor H development. She pointed out that Shenandoah County is not prepared to handle the increased traffic from this new road and ignoring it is really not an option.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:31.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is July 30 at 5:00 in the BOS room.

Respectfully submitted,

Rochelle Dornatt