

## **Outer Banks Transportation Task Force Minutes July 27, 2006**

Cheryl Byrd, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. In addition to Cheryl, the following members were present: Ralph Buxton, Gwen Cruickshanks, Megan Gregory, Paul Keller, Emilie Klutz, Jack McCombs, Ken Pagurek, Chuck Poe, Tim Shearin, and Deputy County Manager of Currituck County.

The minutes of the previous meeting in May were not available and will be approved at the next meeting.

The committees that met in June or July provided reports.

Cheryl reported for the **Future Transportation Organization Committee**. NCDOT has approved \$40,087 for staff to support the OBTTF in its activities – including meetings. The Committee met on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and the minutes were distributed to all present. The major report from the committee is that the OBTTF officers – Jody, Cheryl and Willo – are working with the Executive Committee of the Outer Banks CDC (OBXCDC) for two purposes: first to engage CDC resources for staffing support when the NCDOT money becomes available; and second, to explore the possibility that the OBXCDC could extend its mission to include the transportation initiatives of the OBTTF.

The committee also drafted a mission statement for the successor to the OBTTF. That statement is being used in conversations with the OBXCDC, and follows:

*The mission of the "transportation entity" is to coordinate the business community's efforts, including developers, corporations, commercial property owners and employers to address common transportation concerns, improve accessibility and mobility, provide transportation services, and work cooperatively with local government to mitigate traffic congestion. Goals include, but are not limited to: (1) reducing traffic congestion, (2) developing bicycle and pedestrian networks, (3) providing a coordinated ride-sharing service, (4) evaluating future alternative highway corridor and intersection designs in coordination with NCDOT to improve traffic flow and safety, and (5) establishing public transportation service where and when it is viable.*

The effect of NCDOT's push for regionalization is still a concern, and committee members as well as OBTTF members believe that we may need to engage the help of both Stan White and Miriam Perry in order to work through these issues.

The **Trolley Bus and Transportation Demand Committees** met Jointly on June 15<sup>th</sup> to address the final issues raised by our consultant, Ken Hosen. The decisions of the committee are documented in the minutes and in the attached letter, which was emailed to Mr. Hosen on June 19<sup>th</sup> and to all members of the committees at the same time. Task Force members especially expressed concern about both the management and financial issues associated with starting this service. The Deputy County Manager from Currituck County was present and indicated that they are working on getting Trolley service started in Corolla next summer. Task Force

members agreed that if this happens, we will all learn from project – both what works and what doesn't. In addition, this may help move the funding issues forward in Dare County.

The **Traffic Solutions Committee** met on July 13, 2006. Jerry Jennings provided an update from NCDOT on projects that affect Dare and Currituck Counties – see minutes of committee for synopsis. This list does not include all of the plans of towns, so the committee will need to obtain those as well. Then, Suzanne Godley gave a presentation on how the **Roanoke Island Transportation Plan** was jointly developed by various State and local agencies – NCDOT; Town of Manteo; Dare County; Roanoke Island Commission; Dare County Airport Board; and UNC Coastal Studies Institute. The Plan was developed over two years with assistance from NCDOT planners and private engineers (Kimley-Horn). The Plan can be viewed on the Internet through the Town of Manteo web site ([www.townofmanteo.com](http://www.townofmanteo.com)). Committee members are hoping that the model of multi-jurisdictional collaboration used to develop the Roanoke Island Transportation Plan could be used in developing a transportation plan for the Outer Banks. Suzanne stressed the need for common goals that will hold all the stakeholders together through the long plan development and approval process.

The last order of business was to finalize the meeting schedule for the next month:

- OBTTF – August 24<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am, CoC KDH
- Future Organization (Executive Committee Only) – meet with OBXCDC on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:30 am. KDH Library
- Trolley Bus Committee – August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:30am, CoC KDH (Ken Hosen to be present)
- Transportation Demand Com. - August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8:30am, CoC KDH (Ken Hosen to be present)
- Bicycle – Pedestrian Committee – August 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am, CoC KDH
- Traffic Solutions Committee – September 7<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am, KH Town Hall

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 am.

Minutes prepared by Cheryl Byrd