

**Outer Banks Transportation Task Force**  
**August 24, 2006**  
**Minutes**

Chairman Jody Crosswhite called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Attendance: Jody Crosswhite, Willo Kelly, Paul Keller, Emilie Klutz, Kermit Skinner, Seth Lawless, Buck Thornton, Gwen Cruickshanks, Chris Layton, Ben Cahoon, Jack McCombs, Ken Pagurek, Megan Gregory

The minutes from the July meeting were accepted as presented.

Transportation Management Authority Committee Report: CDC representatives and the OBTFF Executive Committee held a joint meeting to discuss the \$40,000 staff support funding received by the OBTFF. The group discussed how the CDC could enter into a contract with the OBTFF to provide staff support and what the responsibilities would include. The OBTFF Executive Committee expressed the need for organizational support which would include keeping meeting minutes, attending sub-committee meetings and keeping minutes, posting information to the web site, assisting with the development of a mission statement, bylaws, policies, etc. A position description was to be developed by the end of the month. The OBTFF expressed concerns about competing priorities between the two organizations and accountability measures.

Bus/Trolley Committee Report: Consultant Ken Hosen would have a final report by the end of August. A meeting will be held in mid-September to review the report. Gwen Cruickshanks shared information on the Mid-Currituck Sound Bridge. She stated that a \$700,000 federal grant was released to NC DOT last year and the funding has not been transferred to ECU for their study.

Bike-Pedestrian Committee Report: Jack McCombs has been named Chairperson; Jason Weeks has been named Co-Chair. The Committee established action items and expressed several challenges that included safety issues and people not understanding the law. The Towns have been asked to submit a list of their assets/deficits and what they are currently working on. The issue of bike-pedestrian traffic/movement is more than just bricks and mortar. Members of the Task Force asked about timers at intersections; bike racks at beach accesses, solar flashing crosswalk signs. There was also discussion about grants available to the Towns through CIEE to help fund lights/helmets for foreign students. It was stated that NC DOT has a Bike/Pedestrian Division under the Division of Tourism.

Traffic Solutions Committee Report – The Committee is temporarily stalled as they wait for maps and approved capital improvement plans/items from the Towns. It was stated that if CDC is given staff funding, then one person could make the requests for the information to negate a duplication of efforts. Task Force members stated that Town's Capital Improvement Plans are mostly narrative and requests for information has to be very specific. Also suggested was, that in the effort to acquire grant, the OBTFF should not be competing with the Towns for funding.

Transportation Demand Management Committee Report – The Committee has been concentrating efforts in two areas: 1) Reduce the number of cars at given times. Involve the Real Estate/Property Management community and 2) Look at working around stop locations and zoning issues. Buck Thornton shared the success of Friday to Friday check-ins at Shipswatch in Duck. OBTFF members stated that only the real estate community can work on the check-in issue

by marketing the advantages to the property owners. It was suggested that someone from the committee attend a future Outer Banks Association of Realtors Property Managers Committee meeting and make a presentation.

In other business, Nags Head Town Manager Seth Lawless requested that the OBTF formally support the Town's efforts to have NC DOT designate a school safety zone on the bypass at the YMCA/Nags Head Elementary School intersection. A motion was made to send a resolution of support to the Town of Nags Head and to NC DOT for the designation of a school safety zone on Croatan Highway at the YMCA/Nags Head Elementary School intersection. The motion passed. Seth Lawless and Jody Crosswhite stated that they would work on drafting the resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.