

# Minutes for Outer Banks Transportation Task Force

## Date

October 26, 2006

## Location

Chamber of Commerce, KDH

## Attendees

Jody Crosswaite, Gary Perry, Willo Wintering, Randy Carlisle, Carl Classen, Gary McGee, Buck Thornton, Webb Fuller, Paul Keller, Chris Layton, Andy Szakos, and Ken Pagurek

## Staff

Jeffrey Itell

## Discussion and Decisions

Jody called the meeting to order at 8:45 am.

Jody provided the Task Force an update on the formation of a local Transportation Management Agency (TMA). The OBT Future Organization Committee passed a “Proposal for Change in Definition of Regional Transportation Entity,” which Cheryl Byrd submitted to the County Commission for approval. The Task Force members discussed the possible transportation entities for Dare County at length—TMA, RPO, etc. No official action was required and none was taken.

At Buck Thornton’s request, Jeffrey Itell will distribute and post on the web site a list of acronyms pertinent to the Task Force’s work.

Task Force members discussed whether it was necessary or important for the Task Force to seek official endorsement for its actions from the Dare County municipalities. Those in favor argued that this would be an effective way to both inform and receive buy-in from local officials for the Task Forces activities. Others argued that the Task Force, as an advisory board for the County Commissioners, does not need nor should it seek approval from municipalities.

In particular, some concern was raised about it appearing that the Task Force favors the creation of a Dare County transit/bus system. Although such a proposal was voted out of Committee, some Task Force members argued that since the Task Force never voted on such a resolution, it is not clear that one could say that the Task Force supports the idea. Jody asked the Task Force members to state whether they supported the creation of a transit system. Gary McGee noted that both start-up transit systems he helped develop worked because there was a built-in clientele and subsidy, both factors that were crucial to the operations running in the black. He noted that neither condition exists in Dare County.

Carl Classen suggested the Task Force create a document for consideration by the Board of Commissioners and the municipalities that described the nature of the transportation problem; identifies how transportation is currently addressed; identified the elements of the solution; and explains to the local officials how the Task Force is addressing these issues. The document could be used to get a general endorsement of the work of the Task Force and obtain comments that can help the Task Force refine its goals, objectives, and committee activities.

Gary Perry added that the Task Force needed to add a public advocacy component to build support for the activities of the Task Force.

Jeffrey Itell will present a PowerPoint overview presentation about Task Force activities to Task Force members at the next meeting, before the presentation is made to the County Commissioners and other municipalities.

Jody agreed to provide a “thank you” gift and note to the Chamber of Commerce in appreciation for the use of the boardroom.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.