

Minutes
Outer Banks Transportation Task Force Bus-Trolley Committee
January 18, 2007

Attending: Randy Carlisle, Andy Szakos, Cheryl Byrd, Jodi Crosswhite, Ralph Buxton, and Jeffrey Itell

Jody called the meeting to order and read the minutes from the previous meeting. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

The Committee members spent some time discussing the goals and content of the February 15 community and commissioners briefing.

Jody ran through several questions he posed to the Committee members on the meeting agenda.

In response, the Committee members agreed that there does exist a need for public transportation on the Outer Banks. In particular, the following groups of people are in most need of a public transit system—employees, the elderly and infirmed, hotel and cottage visitors, family visitors, residents, and tourists. The Committee supports the creation of a public transit system.

The Committee also supported the public transit route, as outlined in the Hosen report. This system would be geared primarily toward tourists and seasonal workers, and it would be supported by occupancy or other dedicated taxes connected to the tourist industry. The Committee acknowledged that it may be necessary to implement the Hosen plan in stages.

The Committee also supported Ralph's suggestion that the Committee present and seek the endorsement of Visitor's Bureau for the Hosen Plan.

The Committee members did not decide which type of bus to support. More information about funding options and vehicle capabilities was required to make this decision.

Further, the Committee also chose to change the name of the Committee to the Public Transit Committee, to reflect the variety of vehicles that could be used for a public transit system.

The meeting adjourned.