



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
March 19, 2024
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mr. Mize, Chair, District III
Mr. Durham, District II
Mr. Hart, District V

The Planning and Economic Development Committee met at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, as well as County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, and Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council, present.

Staff Present: James Coley / Planning and Zoning Director, Phil Shirley / PRT Director, Ken Sloan / President and CEO of Visit Oconee SC

Press Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Press Present: Dick Mangrum / 101.7 WGOG

Call to Order

Mr. Mize called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Mize asked for a moment of silence prior to the invocation.

Invocation

Mr. Root, County Attorney, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Durham led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Durham, approved 3 - 0, to approve the October 17, 2023 minutes as presented.

Mr. Root request a motion to remove item “7. Discussion Items” from the agenda due to time constraints, noting these items could be presented at a future meeting.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Durham, approved 3 – 0, to amend the agenda by removing item “7. Discussion Items”.

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Presentation

Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Tourism Economy – Mr. Phil Shirley / Mr. Ken Sloan

Mr. Phil Shirley provided an introduction of Mr. Ken Sloan, President and CEO of Visit Oconee SC, to the Committee and gave background information related to the presentation of the Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Tourism Economy.

Mr. Sloan addressed the Committee utilizing a power point presentation entitled, “Visit Oconee South Carolina Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Tourism Economy 2024-2030” [copy filed in backup], and presented details related to the strategic plan implementation, as well as the following three strategic initiatives that will benefit both Oconee County visitors and residents:

1. Smart Marketing
2. An Ever-Improving Visitor Experience
3. A Sustainable Tourism Economy

Mr. Mize, Committee Chair, extended his appreciation to Mr. Sloan for his presentation to the Committee.

Discussion & Action Regarding the Following Items

(A unanimous motion was passed at the start of this meeting to postpone the following items to a future meeting due to time constraints.)

Planning and Code Enforcement Update

Discussion regarding commercial and industrial investment in Oconee County, specifically Oconee County properties.

Discussion regarding Ordinance 2023-22 related to lighting, buffering, and open space development requirements.

Adjourn:

Mr. Hart made a motion to adjourn, approved unanimously, at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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