

**Members Present**

Randy Smith

Richard Smith

Virginia Hart

Rod Cury

**Staff Present**

Tim Taylor and Kevin Blankenship

**Members Absent**

Priscilla Russ

Gaynelle Thompson

The meeting was called to order by chairman Randy Smith. Richard Smith opened with prayer and Randy Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) Chairman Smith welcomed guest, Rick Barton, from Adventure Tourism as the commission continued the discussion from the last meeting on the Clinch River Pedestrian Walkway Extension in Richlands.
  - Tim Taylor gave a brief overview of the past plan for the extension and the original plan that had been submitted. He then led the discussion to review the new proposed route.
  - The commission members and Mr. Barton gave input and recommendations as the discussion unfolded. Mr. Barton was able to share with the commission names of several individuals and agencies as possible contacts for grant funding for projects such as this.
  - The commission decided to seek the approval of Town Council to move forward with the project; Rod Cury will take this up at the May 8, 2018 meeting and present a letter to Council at that time. If Council gives their approval, then at the next meeting the Planning Commission will begin taking a more in depth look at possible routes and funding. Mr. Barton was invited to attend the May 8<sup>th</sup> Council meeting to speak on behalf of the important impact outdoor tourism is having in other areas of SW Virginia.
- 2) In other new business, Virginia Hart asked for clarification on the historic district designation for the areas downtown. She had been asked by a citizen if that designation contained any guidelines for building paint colors. Rod Cury was able to answer the question by saying it does not.
- 3) Minutes from the April 3, 2018 meeting were distributed. Rod Cury made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Virginia Hart. All voted "aye" to approve the minutes.
- 4) There were no other new business or members' concerns. Richard Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Rod Cury seconded the motion and all members voted "aye". Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Virginia Hart, Secretary

Virginia Hart  
Presented: 5/17/18  
Rod Cury