

An adjourned meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County, Virginia, was held on November 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. This meeting was held by electronic communication means using Zoom and a telephonic connection due to the COVID-19 state of emergency. This meeting was adjourned from November 3, 2021.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Beatrice (Bea) J.S. LaPisto-Kirtley, Ms. Ann H. Mallek, Ms. Diantha H. McKeel, Ms. Liz A. Palmer, and Ms. Donna P. Price.

ABSENT: Mr. Ned Gallaway.

SCOTTSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Ron Smith, Mr. Dan Gritsko, Ms. Meredith Hynes, Mr. Zachary Bullock.

OFFICERS PRESENT: County Executive, Jeffrey B. Richardson; Deputy County Executive, Doug Walker; County Attorney, Greg Kamptner; Clerk, Claudette K. Borgersen; and Senior Deputy Clerk, Travis O. Morris.

Agenda Item No. 1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Vice Chair, Ms. Donna Price.

Ms. Price said that the Chair, Mr. Gallaway of the Rio District, was absent because he was traveling to the Governor's Housing Conference in Norfolk, VA. She said he would be participating by phone to the extent that he was able.

She said the meeting was being held pursuant to and in compliance with Ordinance No. 20-A(16), "An Ordinance to Ensure the Continuity of Government During the COVID-19 Disaster." She said the opportunities for the public to access and participate in the electronic meeting are posted on the Albemarle County website, the Board of Supervisors homepage, and the Albemarle County Calendar. She said participation would include the opportunity to comment on those matters for which comments from the public will be received (adding that public comment would not be taking place that evening).

At 6:05 p.m., Mr. Ron Smith, Mayor of Scottsville, called the meeting of the Scottsville Town Council to order and asked the Town Clerk to call the roll. Councilors Dan Gritsko, Meredith Hynes, Zachary Bullock announced their presence, and a quorum was established. It was noted that Councilor Stuart Munson may join the meeting later.

Mr. Smith asked for a vote on the consent calendar.

Mr. Gritsko **moved** to approve the consent calendar as presented. Ms. Hynes **seconded** the motion, which carried unanimously (4:0). Mr. Munson was absent from the vote.

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Agenda Item No. 2. Welcome & Introductions.

Mr. Smith formally welcomed the Board of Supervisors. He said the Council gets to see Ms. Price on a regular basis, as they meet twice a month on Thursdays, after the Board meetings on Wednesdays, and she keeps the Council apprised of everything going on with the County.

Mr. Smith said he did not know if they had anything special to note at that time other than they looked forward to seeing the presentation and listening to the Board's discussion on its Comprehensive Plan. He said unless anyone from Scottsville had something they wished to bring forth, he would turn the meeting back over to Ms. Price.

Mr. Gritsko said he wanted to thank the County for its ongoing relationship with the Town. He said he knew this meeting was the desire of the Town's former mayor, and he was thankful for the current mayor. He said the desire to have a relationship with the Board strengthened is important to them as a Town, and he thinks all Councilors are thankful for all the Board does serving citizens of both jurisdictions. He said they look forward to ways in which they ensure they are supportive of what the Board is doing and that the Board learns about Scottsville, the best part of the County.

Mr. Gritsko said the Council was excited to hear what the Board had to say and also looked forward to ways in which they can all work together as they continue to get through COVID and the end of the year to the beginning of 2022.

Mr. Smith asked if anyone else from Scottsville wished to make comments.

Mr. Bullock said he wanted to mention that his microphone was finally working and that it was nice to see everyone.

Ms. Price said she wanted to echo Mr. Gritsko's comments. She said she, too, wanted to thank former Mayor Gill and former Supervisor Randolph as well as Mayor Smith and Town Administrator Lawless for working with the County to make this annual meeting a regular occurrence. She said the relationships between the Town and County have only increased over the last year or so, and they are working together to better the overall community. She thanked the Council for taking the time to work with the Board so they can all get together that evening and talk about some of the things they can do together.

Ms. Price said she would turn over the meeting to Ms. Rachel Falkenstein from County staff to talk about the County's Comprehensive Plan project.

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Agenda Item No. 3. County Comprehensive Plan Project.

Ms. Rachel Falkenstein, Planning Manager in the County's Planning Division in Community Development, said she would talk about the Comprehensive Plan Update Project that the County is just starting.

Ms. Falkenstein said she would share the project goals and rationale for the Comprehensive Plan update, then mechanics of how they will do it. She said she would share the phasing plan and the engagement plan for the first days of work. She said the slides would be familiar to members of the Board who had work sessions in October as well as the prior week on both topics of the phasing plan and engagement plan, and who adopted a resolution of intent to begin the work.

Ms. Falkenstein said as a quick refresher on what the Comprehensive Plan is, it establishes the vision for the County's long-range planning and guides growth, development, and change for the next 20 years in the County. She said similarly, the Town of Scottsville has its own comprehensive plan that has a similar vision established. She said it will assist staff and appoint committees and boards when developing public policies that relate to land use activities and resource uses in Albemarle County. She said it also serves as the basis for land development regulations and decisions as well as capital improvement planning and distribution of budget dollars.

Ms. Falkenstein said before sharing the phasing and engagement plans, she thought it would be helpful to share more detail on the rationale on why they decided to do a Comprehensive Plan update now and why this is an appropriate time to do a review and update of the plan.

Ms. Falkenstein said first is alignment with recent work and initiatives within the County. She said that since the last update in 2015, the County has undertaken some substantial planning and policy initiatives across the County, and these efforts are currently not integrated into the existing Comprehensive Plan from 2015. She said a few examples were listed on the slide such as the Strategic Plan that the Board adopted in 2018 that includes climate action planning, economic development, infrastructure planning, revitalizing aging neighborhoods, and expanding broadband – all topics which are relevant to the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Falkenstein said additionally, there have been several planning and policy efforts that have been adopted by the Board since 2015, including Project ENABLE (the County's Economic Development plan), a recently approved Climate Action Plan, and a new Housing Policy.

Ms. Falkenstein said lastly, to further the County's commitment to providing the highest level of public service and enhancing the quality of life for all residents, the Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) was created for the County in 2018. She said subsequently, the Board has adopted a new value of "Community," which was listed on the slide, and they expect diversity, equity, and inclusion to be integrated into how they live the mission.

Ms. Falkenstein said that since 2015, the County has also experienced significant growth. She said that in the decade from 2010 to 2019, the County's population increased by approximately 10%. She said not all of this growth has been experienced uniformly across the County, however. She said that as shown in recent data from the Albemarle County Equity Profile, which was co-authored by the Office of Equity and Inclusion and the UVA Equity Center, over 37% of Albemarle County households were ALICE (Asset-Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households. She said an additional 9% of County households were living in poverty.

Ms. Falkenstein said that alongside this growth, there has been an increasing demand for urban services and infrastructure within the County. She said especially within the context of the pandemic, they have seen an increased use of County parks and demand for broadband to support students attending remote school.

Ms. Falkenstein said the last two slides were intended to provide a summary of the changing context for the community since the last Comprehensive Plan update. She said the slide on the screen, as well as a couple that would follow, considered content of the existing plan and why an update would be appropriate at this time.

Ms. Falkenstein said the existing Implementation chapter in the 2015 plan includes 70 priorities, and there is not clear prioritization of these 70 items. She said in addition to that, the current plan has 80 indicators of progress that are intended to be checked annually, and tracking this data has proven to be unsustainable for County staff. She said the sheer number of these indicators also makes it unclear for community members to understand what success looks like.

Ms. Falkenstein said the Comprehensive Plan also includes some inconsistencies and, at times, conflicting recommendations. She said they have seen some examples recently across land use categories and different master plans, as well as language in master plans that have conflicting language with the Comprehensive Plan overall. She said these inconsistencies can make it difficult for staff to evaluate development proposals when making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Falkenstein said next was consistency with state code. She said the County is in need of undertaking a multimodal systems planning effort for the Virginia Department of Transportation to allow urban street types to be constructed in the County. She said two areas where this has recently come up for the community are Downtown Crozet streets and streets that are outlined in the Rio29 Form-Based Code that was recently adopted. She said the state code provision requires coordinating transportation planning and land use planning and will allow for more urban streets, once approved.

Ms. Falkenstein said next is the concept of leveraging best practices. She said this moment provides an opportunity for the community to look at best practices from the recently adopted County policies she previously mentioned such as Housing Albemarle, but also to look across other communities and successful award-winning planning efforts that they can learn from. She said a couple of those were cited on the slide, which staff spent some time researching and reading about. She said plans from Minneapolis, Richmond, and Memphis all integrated these different measures to align with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan update, which staff will be looking at and learning from.

Ms. Falkenstein said the County's Comprehensive Plan, alongside the County's other work, is in support of the County's mission statement: to enhance the wellbeing and quality of life of all community members through the provision of the highest level of service.

Ms. Falkenstein said she would share the project goals that were drafted. She said these were the initial project goals, and she expected that more may be added, or these may be revised as they go along. She said the first is to update the plan content to reflect recent countywide strategic initiatives that she previously spoke about. She said the second is to ensure that equity is integrated into the engagement process and the updated plan content. She said the third is to improve the plan usability by articulating clear priorities and incorporating metrics that are easy for tracking progress.

Ms. Falkenstein said she would talk about the phasing plan. She said the Board has spent a couple of work sessions working through how to best achieve these goals and has settled on a four-phase process. She said this phasing plan is anticipated to start in the fourth quarter of 2021 and though it already has started, it is estimated to last until about the second quarter of 2024. She said it will also include concurrent Zoning Ordinance updates, as shown along the bottom of the slide and which also contains four phases, but more work is still needed to scope that project. She said there was more to come in terms of what those phases will look like.

Ms. Falkenstein said she would go into each phase in more detail. She said the first phase, Growth Management Policy and Framework, has already begun. She said this will include reviewing, evaluating, and updating the Growth Management Policy if needed, using the lenses of equity and climate action as well as capacity projections. She said staff is doing a capacity analysis for housing and economic development in the County, which is currently underway. She said they will look at projected growth and determine if there is ample capacity within the Development Area to accommodate the projected growth.

Ms. Falkenstein said this will also align the Comprehensive Plan's vision and value to the County's updated values that were previously mentioned. She said they will identify the level of detail to be included in the plan and develop a framework approach. She said this will also be an opportunity to identify the content and level of detail that should be included in the Comprehensive Plan. She said as mentioned, with the 70 priorities, staff is finding that there is a bit too much detail in the plan, so this will be an opportunity to identify what the right level of detail is for the subsequent phases.

Ms. Falkenstein said Phase 2 is Policy Review and Framework Design. She said the goal of this phase is to identify major topics of the Comprehensive Plan, evaluate existing conditions for each major topic, and update policy statements and framework through the lenses of equity and climate action. She said the anticipated major topics would include transportation, economic development, land use, and resource and Rural Area planning. She said topics could be adjusted based on the feedback staff receives in Phase 1.

Ms. Falkenstein said Phase 3 is Strategy Development and in this phase, they will review and update the County's action steps and implementation approach. She said action steps will be used to implement the policy goals from each major topic that would be identified in Phase 2. She said that in the current Comprehensive Plan, these action steps are referred to as "strategies." She said also in this phase, they plan to identify priorities and metrics for each topic area to allow for more clear tracking of progress and success moving forward.

Ms. Falkenstein said Phase 4 is Final Draft Review, which is where the whole draft document will be pulled together based on the work from the previous phases. She said they will focus efforts on identifying and eliminating plan inconsistencies across the content, and staff will engage the community and decisionmakers on the overall plan priorities once all of the content is considered as a whole. She said this process will conclude with a public hearing and adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Falkenstein said she would go into the engagement plan in terms of how this work will be done, how members of the community will be engaged, and how staff will receive feedback on the plan content itself. She said they plan to revisit the engagement planning at the beginning of each phase, which will allow staff to hopefully be responsive to what they are hearing from the community about what is working well and what adjustments they may need to make for subsequent phases of work.

Ms. Falkenstein said keeping in mind the updated organizational value of Community, staff has drafted three initial engagement goals for the project. She said the first is to conduct outreach and collaborate with community members whose perspectives have not been historically represented in County processes and would be in demographic considerations such as age, race, place, income, or other factors.

Ms. Falkenstein said a goal is to develop and implement a transparent community engagement and decision-making process so that people have a clear understanding of how staff is using the feedback they are hearing.

Ms. Falkenstein said lastly is to provide a consistent variety of opportunities for community input throughout the update process.

Ms. Falkenstein said to inform their engagement planning effort, they have looked at examples of processes from other localities who have had recent comprehensive planning efforts, especially those that align with the stated goals and have looked at research and guidance. She said a couple of planning efforts that were cited were Minneapolis 2040, where a comprehensive plan update was completed in 2019 and at the beginning of their process, they developed engagement goals which allowed them to take an intentional approach towards the design of their engagement activities. She said staff is taking that approach of adopting goals as well to inform engagement.

Ms. Falkenstein said staff also looked at Richmond 300, which is a comprehensive plan update for the City of Richmond that they recently completed. She said one aspect of their planning effort that staff likes is that they created an advisory council to assist in the shaping and reviewing of the content of their plan. She said they had an application process for members of the community who were interested in serving on the council, and they selected members who achieve the diversity and perspectives based on age, ethnicity, race, and place of residence. She said they also were seeking a diverse range of professional expertise, including those who did not have a planning background.

Ms. Falkenstein said lastly, the Professional Association for Urban Planners has a code of ethics and guidance about how to ensure that processes are equitable and that all voices are represented. She said staff has been reading this and taking trainings as well.

Ms. Falkenstein said the engagement approach for Phase 1 was summarized on the slide. She said the flowchart on the left of the slide was meant to represent an iterative planning process where they will seek feedback and use this on content creation. She said this approach focuses on four different streams of engagement: internal staff, a working group, broad outreach and public engagement, and legislative review. She said she would go through each of those in more detail on the next slide. She said they will support this work of outreach and engagement with a mix of online and in-person opportunities.

Ms. Falkenstein said the first group that they will engage with is internal staff, which will entail engagement with staff across various departments and divisions. She said it includes creating a team of departmental leaders with the purpose to coordinate planning efforts across County local government and gathering input on existing Comprehensive Plan and draft content.

Ms. Falkenstein said they will also conduct outreach with external partners, and this would include the Town of Scottsville as well as Charlottesville, UVA, VDOT, and other partners such as local utility providers.

Ms. Falkenstein said lastly, they will prepare several work products in the first phase of work which will include a background report, some case study and precedent research, and a draft Growth Management Policy (which will be drafted with partners).

Ms. Falkenstein said the next aspect of the engagement approach is a working group, which would be comprised of an approximately 8- to 12-person group of community members whose role would be to advise County staff on plan recommendations and engagement approaches, and to help support outreach efforts by sharing information with their networks and neighborhoods. She said they expect that working group meetings would occur monthly and include staff-led trainings on fundamentals of urban planning and community development before discussing potential recommendations and policy options, with the goal of integrating new trainings to ensure that members have a shared understanding and background to inform their decisions.

Ms. Falkenstein said for the working group criteria and selection process, in alignment with the engagement goals for the Comprehensive Plan update, they will work with staff in the Planning Department, the Office of Equity and Inclusion, and Communications and Public Engagement and use data from the equity profile to design an application and selection process to achieve representation on the working group. She said they have accessed resources from other localities that have done similar efforts that they will use to help inform the process.

Ms. Falkenstein said the next aspect of the community engagement approach would be community workshops, and they will provide a variety of opportunities for all members of the community to actively participate in the planning process through these workshops. She said these will provide opportunities to learn about existing conditions within the County and planning practices as well as to provide input on potential policies and conception plans and to review draft policies and plans.

Ms. Falkenstein said formats and methods for the community workshops would include a variety of formats, depending on the content, topics, and engagement goals. She said some examples would be virtual and in-person events and presentations, pop-ups or road shows at various locations throughout the County, online or paper questionnaires, artist or collaborator-led engagement events, and in-person or virtual meetings geared toward specific topics.

Ms. Falkenstein said finally, County staff will facilitate work sessions with the Planning Commission to review policy and planning options, existing conditions, community engagement summaries and draft planning concepts and policies. She said they will hold work sessions with the Board of Supervisors at the start and end of each phase to review draft content and the scope of work for the upcoming phase. She said Planning staff will also complete summary reports for the Board on consent agendas.

Ms. Falkenstein said all of this work will be supported by communications, outreach, and internal and external engagement, including an online website hub that is consistently updated with plan progress, upcoming events, and opportunities. She said County staff will use existing County outreach and communication tools, such as the Albemarle County newsletter and social media accounts. She said materials and engagement opportunities will also be provided in both English and Spanish, with translation services for other languages made available as is possible and needed. She said lastly, County staff will be regularly available for one-on-one discussions and community outreach at recurring pop-ups at various locations throughout the County.

Ms. Falkenstein said she wanted to spend a few minutes talking about the rationale for the engagement approach. She said as she mentioned, it integrates their new organizational value of Community, which states that they expect diversity, equity, and inclusion to be integrated into how they live their mission. She said the engagement plan also aligns with staff capacity and resources that the Board has agreed to allocate to the project. She said lastly, the Board has stated a desire for a strategic update to the Comprehensive Plan with a phased approach and based on that feedback, staff has designed an engagement plan that offers the appropriate level of engagement to support the goals of the Comprehensive Plan update project and the engagement goals.

Ms. Falkenstein concluded her presentation and offered to answer questions about the process or anything she did not cover.

Ms. Price thanked Ms. Falkenstein for the presentation. She turned the meeting over to Mr. Smith and the Town Council for any questions.

Mr. Smith said that before he would ask for any questions from the Council, he would also thank Ms. Falkenstein for her presentation. He said they will be facing this dilemma starting in 2022 as their comprehensive plan comes up for revision in 2023. He said they will be watching closely at how Albemarle is working on their plan and see what good hints they can gather from that work when they are getting ready to do theirs.

Mr. Smith asked the Councilors if they had any questions regarding Albemarle County's Comprehensive Plan update.

Mr. Gritsko asked what staff sees in the southern part of the County in terms of what the Council can do to help in that process and what they need to understand. He said one reason he asked is that he knows they are all thinking about the changing dynamics as they both progress through and come out of COVID, whenever that may be. He said there are a lot of sociological changes happening that it would be wise they understand. He said he believed their Supervisor (Ms. Price) did a good job as she helped them understand as they first went into this.

Mr. Gritsko said what he was asking was what staff needs from the Council to help through the process, either from them or from citizens; and secondarily, what types of things they are thinking about as a County, where he often thinks of where the County is positioned related to tourism and where they are located in proximity to Washington, D.C. He said he is interested to see how this plays out in the County and what role the Town may play in that.

Ms. Price asked Ms. Falkenstein if she could address any of those comments as they relate to the Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Falkenstein replied that in terms of the first question on what they need from the Council and how they can work together, two aspects of the engagement approach would be appropriate to engage with Scottsville town staff. She said on a technical level, they are thinking about a group of local partners that they would want to convene, including Scottsville, UVA, and the City of Charlottesville. She said she would think they would have regular check-ins with staff to make sure they are aligning what they are doing.

Ms. Falkenstein said that more broadly, they would love for Scottsville community members to participate in the broad engagement to help spread the word when there are events open to the public or questionnaires online. She said she would appreciate the Council spreading the word to the community when they do the outreach.

Ms. Falkenstein said as far as content or what they anticipate might change, she did not think that they were far enough along for her to respond to that, though she would share that transportation would

be a big part of the update, and this is a topic where it is very important to coordinate with neighboring localities. She said she thinks this is something they will put a lot of effort towards. She said as far as tourism, this was something she had not spent a lot of time thinking about yet, but she imagines that when they get into the content, there will be more to say about that.

Ms. Price said to follow up on the latter point, she would mention the Charlottesville Albemarle County Visitors Bureau (CACVB) as it relates to tourism, which does have its mobile van at the Scottsville Farmers Market at least every other weekend. She mentioned the Economic Development Office and Economic Development Authority, noting that Mr. Munson is the Scottsville representative on the authority and that Mr. Roger Johnson and his office can help to work within the desires of the Town of Scottsville to try to help identify the local businesses in particular, but other businesses they may be able to locate and expand down in the Scottsville area.

Ms. Price asked if there were other questions from the Council.

Mr. Bullock asked the Supervisors how they see the southern part of the County, or Scottsville itself as a town, in relation to the Comprehensive Plan in terms of the overall vision.

Ms. Price replied that as the Supervisor for the district, she would be happy to start off. She said she sees Scottsville as such an integral part of not only the County, but of the entire community. She said Scottsville carries over into Buckingham and Fluvanna Counties, and they get influences coming in from Nelson County and Albemarle influencing them as well. She said it is a central hub, and there are opportunities and proposals coming up before the Town Council for a couple of developments there.

Ms. Price said in conjunction with everyone working together, and a question she will ask later, is that there has been discussion as to whether the Town of Scottsville should be a designated development area. She said she thinks part of the conversation should be about this as they go through the process in order to identify and determine what the Town of Scottsville desires, what the County of Albemarle desires, and where they can find alignment towards improving the overall quality of life consistent with the goals of the County and the Town.

Ms. Price asked the other Supervisors if they had comments on this before turning it back over to Mr. Bullock.

Ms. Palmer commented that there are several chapters in the Comprehensive Plan they are looking at that include housing, natural resource protection, and the integration of climate change into the plan. She said there are a lot of Rural Area and more urban Development Area aspects in this Comprehensive Plan. She said Southern Albemarle comes into play in each one of those chapters, except for possibly some of the Development Area matters unless they end up making it a development area.

Ms. Palmer said Southern Albemarle is completely integrated, and she does not see it as separate. She said it was hard for her see it as separate.

Mr. Bullock said this was exciting, and he was glad that Ms. Palmer raised natural resources. He said this is the kind of information he believes would be good to have logged with the County in some way. He said in terms of Scottsville's own riverfront and the last time they talked about CSX and the issues related to that, CSX has done an okay job of at least being tidy, but in their own efforts as a town, they now have a protected easement on the wetlands on the western side of town that is going through, which they worked with various state agencies to get. He said they have also worked with a local organization, Green Infrastructure Center, to try to restore the bank of the James and the top of the horseshoe bend that is starting to face erosion, in cooperation with the Department of Wildlife Resources. He said it cannot be accessible, but it could be uninvitingly inviting.

Mr. Bullock said he believed this was good for the Board to know in terms of the forward motion that the Council is making. He said the Board has providence over the river into the middle of the river, and the Council just goes to the bank. He said he thinks it is important for them to work together on that particular resource due to the mutual jurisdiction and interest in the wellbeing of the river.

Ms. Palmer said this was very good information and that she had not heard the follow-up since the last time they met.

Ms. McKeel said she wanted to piggyback on what Ms. Price mentioned about having a discussion about Scottsville and the Development Area. She said she thinks this would be a great discussion for the two boards.

Ms. McKeel said she would appreciate seeing a copy of Scottsville's comprehensive plan, as she had never seen a copy. She said this was probably her fault as she had not searched it out. She said recognizing they would be changing it in a couple of years, she wondered if there was a way the Council could send the Board an electronic copy of their plan for their review.

Mr. Smith replied yes and that they would send this to the Board the following day.

Ms. Mallek said as others had mentioned, there are many chapters in the Comprehensive Plan that everyone will be interested in, and historic preservation is another which she thinks will be very important for the Scottsville area to study since they were the first county seat and has lots of historic

properties. She encouraged everyone to give this some attention.

Mr. Gritsko asked Ms. Price if he could ask a follow-up question. He said he believed her comment about the southern part of the County and Scottsville becoming part of the County's growth zone was worth clarifying for the Council in terms of what this means.

Ms. Price replied that she thinks this is what the conversation would have to be about – not for her as an individual Supervisor to say. She said she has heard people ask about it, and she thinks it is part of what the conversation needs to be – what they are looking at or envision. She said obviously, the Council has jurisdiction over the Town and its land, but the County's decisions affect the Town just as the Town decisions will affect the County. She said she thinks this needs to be a part of the conversation.

Mr. Gritsko said to follow up on Ms. Price's and Ms. McKeel's comments, he was not sure how many in the County know of a very significant historic asset that is not in the Town, but nearby, which is the site called Pine Knot. He asked the Board if they were aware of the Pine Knot, adding that the Supervisors probably were, but he was not sure about staff. He said the reason he mentioned it is that this site that was visited by President Roosevelt eight times during his presidency is something where whenever they have tours around Scottsville, Pine Knot is always the most exciting place they go to. He said that while it is a beautiful site, it the best-kept secret of Southern Albemarle as no one knows about it.

Mr. Gritsko said that the site is very valuable and great, but it is that no one knows about, and he suggested the County and Town work together. He said anything they could do would only add to what is already amazing at Monticello or Highlands.

Ms. Price said she had the pleasure and good fortune to visit Pine Knot several times and of course, they will also want to work with the Foundation.

Ms. LaPisto-Kirtley said she agreed with many of the other Supervisors regarding the historic value of Scottsville, and she thinks the development aspect came about because last year, when the Board met with the Council, there was an interest in increasing the population of Scottsville. She said this is where that probably came from, and perhaps the Board can help out in that area with their Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. LaPisto-Kirtley said she does believe that the Visitors Bureau should be made more aware of what is happening in Scottsville as it is a gem of a town, with the river and things that happen there. She said there is a lot there that can be emphasized by the Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Bullock said he appreciated Ms. LaPisto-Kirtley bringing up the Visitors Bureau. He said he picked up a map of County parks recently, which is a guide to parks in the County, and he wondered if this was another place of alignment that they can hit together. He said in town, there is the Van Clief Nature Area, which Mr. Gritsko has been instrumental in building over the last 10-15 years. He said they also have a larger vision of their town as connected walking trails from the Van Clief Nature Area to the levy walk. He said he wondered if there was a way they could get a similar kind of map integrated with those that the County puts out.

Ms. Price replied absolutely. She said the best thing was to make sure all of this was in writing and recorded so that they can follow up on it.

Ms. Palmer said she wanted to add that when Ms. McKeel asked for the comprehensive plan for Scottsville, the County's new Comprehensive Plan will not be completed for a couple of years, and she wondered if the Council had seen the County's Comprehensive Plan. She said it is actually difficult to look at in electronic form because it is so long, but they may at least want to send a link or a printed copy to anyone on the Council who may want one.

Ms. Price said this was an easy thing to do.

Ms. McKeel said to add to the tourism discussion, she and Ms. Mallek currently represent the County on the CACVB, though this could change in January. She said it may be interesting for the Council to think about coming to the CACVB board and making a presentation to inform the board about Scottsville. She said this probably would not happen until after the first of the year, but an agenda item with the CACVB board might be very informative.

Ms. Price asked Mr. Smith if there were any other questions or comments from the Council.

Mr. Gallaway said he had a question. He asked if along the lines of the Town Council with the comprehensive plan, the Council has a strategic plan or Council priorities. He said he was embarrassed to say he did not know the answer to this but if so, this may be something interesting to send over along with the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Lawless to answer this question.

Mr. Lawless replied that the Council does not have an annual strategic plan update. He said the last one followed their comprehensive plan adoption a couple of years ago, and they made progress on it. He said more recently, the American Rescue Plan was very hands-on and specific for Town Council, and it came up at a good time in their budget. He said some of the quicker-hit or big-picture action items were

picked up in the course of ARP planning.

Mr. Lawless said he may include this presentation as a recent example of how Town Council set priorities with some discretionary funds and what they thought of as the most important projects such as riverfront improvements, beefing up public safety, and investing in pedestrian infrastructure.

Ms. Price asked Mr. Gallaway if he had other questions or comments.

Mr. Gaffney replied that he did not at that time. He said he had one that he would follow up on during the round table.

Ms. Price addressed the Supervisors, reminding them that they had had a chance to comment, but that she would ask them to raise their hands if they had any further questions about the Comprehensive Plan project.

Ms. Mallek said she would like to give Ms. Falkenstein a chance to explain more about the term "iterative," as this is used a lot in discussions about planning, and perhaps others as well as herself would like to know what staff means by this.

Ms. Falkenstein apologized for not explaining this better. She said it means that the content will evolve as it is worked through the engagement process. She said typically, staff will come out to the community with a question about their vision for the area. She said staff will get feedback and turn it into a draft recommendation, bring it to internal staff for recommendations and issues, go back to the drawing board, make edits, bring it to the working group for feedback, make edits, go to the community, make edits, go back to the working board with a revised draft, make edits, then work its way through the Planning Commission and Board.

Ms. Falkenstein said essentially, this is a feedback loop. She said they start with a draft concept and work it through engagement, and it is revised as they work it along the process.

Mr. Gallaway said he had been thinking about this since the last Comprehensive Plan update, and they mentioned the strategic priorities. He said there was not a right or wrong, but he was curious as to how staff wrestles with the strategic priorities and how they weave through the Comprehensive Plan, especially since the plan has a longer shelf life than the strategic priorities. He said they update the priorities more regularly than they would the Comprehensive Plan, and they would have gone through their own update had they not extended it a year before going through this Comprehensive Plan. He said they will go through a strategic priorities update during the same process. He asked how staff will wrestle with this as priorities can change through the process or what the Comprehensive Plan has established.

Ms. Falkenstein said this was a great question. She said it was something that staff has had quite a bit of conversation about internally, and it is something that she would like to work through and be more intentional about on this update. She said when she mentioned the level of detail in the Comprehensive Plan, this is something she would like to be more intentional about and get the right level of detail so that the Strategic Plan can perhaps be more detailed and specific than some of the broad goal statements that they have in the Comprehensive Plan so that with every two-year Strategic Plan update, it does not necessarily put them in a position where the Comprehensive Plan is no longer consistent with the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Falkenstein said this is something she wanted to think about. She said she could not answer the question at that time, as she had not spent much time engaging with others about it yet, but she would like the Board's thoughts on it as well as to how they can make sure they are aligning with the processes moving forward and what the right level of detail is in both of these planning efforts.

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#### Agenda Item No. 4. Roundtable Discussion.

Ms. Price said this was an opportunity for the Councilors to bring up any other subjects they wanted to speak about.

Mr. Smith addressed the Councilors to say that this was open to any topic they wished to discuss. He said if anyone had anything on their mind that they wanted to discuss with the County, this was the time to do so.

Mr. Gritsko said he would speak to the big picture again. He said one thing he thinks a lot about, working in tourism, is that he thinks about where the County is in relation to the state, in relation to tourism. He said he knows they compete with places like Colonial Williamsburg, the Metro Richmond area, or Northern Virginia, and he would like to hear from the perspective from any Supervisor or staff as to how they see themselves as a County. He said he knows that all across the country, for example, they are struggling with the issue of employment and how this plays out. He asked if there are things they can do as a County or Town that will aid in that in the next six months or year.

Mr. Gritsko said as they all think about them specifically differing from other counties in the state, he would ask what their priorities are or what they see as things they can do to address the needs collectively of all the citizens of the County as they relate to those issues.

Ms. Price said she would look for a show of hands of any Supervisors that would want to



respond, but she also wanted to give the County leadership team (Mr. Richardson and Mr. Walker) a chance to weigh in on that.

Ms. Mallek said as one example, people in tourism have said that the most important thing a community can do is to be welcoming and kind to its visitors, and to help them learn the special things about their place that make it unique and different than Anyplace USA, but also to answer questions when people are lost. She said these are the kinds of experiences that people never forget.

Ms. Mallek said that in the last two weeks on her farm, they have had two different hot air balloons land in a hurry in her pastures at 5:00 p.m. as dark was coming, with the airport nearby. She said people could not have been more grateful to have been rescued in this way, and she thinks they will never forget the fact that her cows come up to see what is going on.

Ms. Mallek said the area has so many unique experiences, whether it is its history, outdoors, or universities. She expressed that working together to tell the stories of the area poise them to compete with RVA and Northern Virginia. She said it is a different experience completely from Williamsburg, and she thinks they need to give themselves credit that they can do their very best to tell their story, words and all, with people who come to visit.

Ms. Price agreed. She said they are better situated than most other areas because they offer everything those areas do, in their own way, without the congestion and expense that they have.

Mr. Richardson said he wanted to ask Mr. Roger Johnson, Economic Development Director, to speak. He said specifically regarding travel and tourism, Mr. Johnson has served for the last two years as the chair of the CACVB. He said he believed it would be great if Mr. Johnson could talk a bit about the travel and tourism aspect in the broader context of economic development.

Mr. Roger Johnson, Director of Economic Development, said that as Mr. Richardson noted, he serves as the CACVB chair, and it may be of interest to the group that there is a new branding initiative associated with the community, which is built on the lure of the wineries, which is an indisputable attraction into the community. He said the thing that would be most exciting to the group is that those vans that were discussed earlier, as well as the plans of the CACVB, are to make sure that when visitors get here, they spend time and energy exploring the myriad of opportunities within the County, including the Scottsville area and things to do on the James River.

Mr. Johnson said that while Scottsville may not be top of mind in the information that the CACVB sends out as they try to bring in people from Washington, D.C., Charlotte, Raleigh, or internationally, once they get those people into the community, the CACVB works hard to make sure that they explore all parts of the County.

Ms. Price brought the meeting back to the Councilors for the round table.

Mr. Smith asked the Councilors if they had any questions, concerns, or comments to bring up to the Board and heard none. He noted that Mr. Lawless has many friends in Albemarle County government, and he gets help from them when he has a problem. He said he imagines the County staff call Mr. Lawless as well sometimes if they have a question. He said they have a good relationship in that area and hope to keep it that way, but if there is anything more they can do such as recruiting someone to serve on certain committees with the County, the Supervisors should have Ms. Price let him know, and they will see what they can do.

Ms. Price said she would turn it over to the Supervisors for their round table.

Ms. McKeel asked Ms. Price if she was asking for questions and comments.

Ms. Price replied yes. She said this was the last opportunity to go around.

Ms. McKeel said she looked forward to more meetings like this. She said she thinks they are very beneficial, and she would love to see something for Scottsville scheduled on the CACVB board agenda. She said Mr. Johnson was present, which was a good sign in that he knows about that request.

Ms. Mallek said continuing to work together will be great. She said a couple of years ago, there was a big bicycle race that was supposed to happen, and she believed COVID may have taken care of that. She said there are many ways in which the Board and Council can encourage each other and hold and sponsor events that bring the community together with all sorts of people and levels of interest. She said she is a fan of festivals with tents and things to do, and she hoped they could work together on those in the future.

Ms. LaPisto-Kirtley said she enjoyed meeting the Councilors last year as well as new Councilors this year. She said she hopes they do continue this meeting every year because she thinks their strength lies in working together, both for the County and for the Town of Scottsville. She said when she was in Scottsville that weekend and went over the bridge, it looked as if on the left side, much of that had been cleaned up from years past. She said she did not know who did that, but she would thank them. She mentioned train equipment and said it looked much better from when it did 14 years ago when she first moved into the area. She said she loves the town.

Ms. Palmer said she was going back to the comment about helping find people for committees

and commissions. She said many of their committees are based on the magisterial district that one lives in, so this is Ms. Price's bailiwick in finding people from the district to fill those. She said there is a handful of commissions that are not strictly based on the magisterial district, and she wondered if it would be a good idea, when those openings come up, to send them to Town Council, and they may be able to distribute to help find people to apply for those.

Ms. Palmer said she knows Ms. Price recently worked hard to review all of those boards and commissions, and this might be something that the Board can look at going forward to get some information to Town Council for more participation on some of the boards and commissions that are not necessarily magisterial based. She thanked the Council, expressing that she enjoyed the meeting and thinks they will continue to work well together.

Mr. Gallaway addressed Mr. Lawless, noting that he believed it was the Regional Housing Partnership meeting in which Mr. Lawless talked about interests of the Town with regard to the topic of affordable housing as well as density and the Growth Management Policy. He asked Mr. Lawless if he could share and expand on his thoughts with the Board and open up an invitation so that they may have further conversation about that in the near future.

Mr. Lawless replied that he had the opportunity to comment on the County Housing Policy when it was updated a few months ago, and he appreciated this. He said it was a good example of how those policies do align, and he could cite the Town's comprehensive plan, which calls for measured growth, mixed use, and mixed-income development within the historic district in the town limits. He said the Housing Policy lines up with Town goals very well – that they create affordability by stabilizing historic buildings, and they look for infill opportunities where there is appropriate infrastructure (water, sewer, sidewalks, and parks). He said he saw a lot of alignment in those plans, but it did not call out Scottsville as a good place for those strategies to be deployed.

Mr. Lawless said that with the update and an edit, this worked just fine. He said the Town has had some zoning updates done and development proposals now and in place, so the Town Council has the opportunity to scope this right, which gets at the development goals that the Board was speaking to. He said generally speaking, they are able to do a lot of the same things on housing policy, and they can work well together on affordability – not least because of the Town's age and the historic housing stock does tend to be affordable. He said the Town contributes their fair share of workforce affordable housing in the area.

Ms. Price asked Mr. Gallaway if he had any other comments.

Mr. Gallaway replied no. He thanked Mr. Lawless, adding that it was an excellent area, along with others mentioned, for the Town and County to partner on.

Ms. Price said that before getting a wrap-up from Mr. Lawless and Mr. Richardson, she wanted to make a roundup. She said she wanted to thank former Mayor Gill, current Mayor Smith, former Supervisor Randolph, County Executive, Clerk's Office, and Mr. Gallaway for last year in getting this meeting started. She said last year, what seemed to be more complicated, appeared seamless this year to arrange the joint meeting, which she believed was very beneficial not only substantively, but also so that the community can see how they are working together for the betterment of the County.

Ms. Price said she just received an email that afternoon from Erin Root that the Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature was granted and is the recipient of a \$25,000 grant from the Virginia Outdoor Association. She said this will be great for them to be able to improve their facilities there.

Ms. Price said she wanted to give a shoutout to Albemarle County Parks and Recreation and Mr. Bob Crickenberger. She said she has been working with the Town to get some dangerous holes filled near the entrance to Dorrier Park, and as soon as Mr. Crickenberger's office found out about this, they filled it the same day, removing a hazard from that area.

Ms. Price said she also saw that Mr. Michael Culp from the Albemarle Broadband Office was online and just yesterday, Mr. Culp and Mr. Trevor Henry (Assistant County Executive) met with her to continue to seek actions they can take to help to improve and resolve the issues with broadband through CenturyLink in the southern part of the County. She said they are hopeful and optimistic that they will have another message on the efforts they have been able to take there in the near term.

Ms. Price thanked all County staff who were present. She noted that on the screen, one could see that the offices of Finance, Budget, Broadband, Clerks, County Attorney, and Albemarle County Police Department were present. She said there were many people from County staff that were ready to answer any questions that the Councilors may have had, and so she believed this was a good meeting. She thanked everyone for their participation.

Ms. Price turned the meeting over to Mr. Lawless for a final wrap-up, then to Mr. Richardson.

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Agenda Item No. 5. Wrap-up/Next Steps.

Agenda Item No. 6. Closing Remarks.

Mr. Lawless said Ms. Price was exactly right about the impressive lineup of staff on the screen.

He said he appreciated everyone working with him, as it makes everything they do in the Town easier. He said he hoped he could carry some of their work and represent things in his area as well.

Mr. Lawless said he wanted to recognize Mr. Ed Brooks, who was not on the call. He said Mr. Brooks is doing a fantastic job of community organizing at the Yancey School. He said Mr. Brooks has been a wonderful neighbor, from food security to disaster cleanup. He said they work well nearby there, and the community center is doing wonderful things that ripple out to the Scottsville area as well.

Mr. Lawless asked Mr. Greg Jenkins if he wanted to say hello. He said this is another unique example of this cooperation where, as he moves over into his County retirement and starting work as the Town's Police Chief, he knows they will be able to cooperate very well on public safety. He asked Mr. Jenkins if he wanted to say anything more about police work.

Mr. Jenkins said he was honored to have the opportunity to serve the community and the Town of Scottsville. He said he has had a wonderful career with the Albemarle County Police Department, and he will be hanging up his cleats at the Deputy Chief for the police department but, in turn, coming to the Town of Scottsville, where he and his wife have lived with their two girls for the past 23 years. He said he will be able to serve in the Town of Scottsville as the next Police Chief starting on January 1. He said he was honored and thrilled to start this new chapter of his career.

Ms. Price said she wanted to express the County's appreciation for Mr. Jenkins' dedicated service. She said if he is going to leave the County, it's okay if he is moving down into Scottsville, so they are happy with that.

Ms. Price also thanked Mr. Lawless for mentioning Mr. Brooks, as this was an oversight on her part. She said the things Mr. Brooks has been doing there have been incredible, and he has been such a voice and connection for planning in the different districts and Town, recognizing that the mention of some is always at the risk of the exclusion of others, which is unintentional.

Mr. Richardson thanked the Town Council of Scottsville for their time and leadership in helping the community be all it can be for the wonderful community members and citizens throughout the County.

Mr. Richardson said he had the opportunity several weeks ago to be at Simpson Park for a Saturday event, and it was packed. He said there were a lot of County services and partnerships down beside Yancey. He said several Board members made it down, and they had the Albemarle County Police Department and several departments there all afternoon. He said it was a wonderful event, and they saw so many people from Southern Albemarle County that were out on a gorgeous Saturday.

Mr. Richardson thanked Mr. Lawless for recognizing County staff and Mr. Brooks. He said the Board is gracious to the staff, which he appreciates. He said Ms. Falkenstein, as always, did a wonderful job.

Mr. Richardson said if he had to close with one person particularly on his mind, it would be Ms. Lori Allshouse. He said Ms. Allshouse is the Deputy Chief Finance Officer for Albemarle County, and she will also be retiring at the end of November. He said they will be recognizing her next week at the Board meeting, and they were thrilled to recognize her as she takes the next step in her career. He said most recently as the Deputy CFO for the County, Ms. Allshouse has been focused on policy partnerships and working with Scottsville. He said it does not matter what Ms. Allshouse does, she does it well. He said she is a public servant in the truest sense, and they will miss her greatly.

Mr. Richardson said this would be her last opportunity as an Albemarle County employee to be with Scottsville in this way, and he wanted to have an opportunity to thank her publicly and to have the Town Council and those in Scottsville to know that Ms. Allshouse will be moving onto retirement with her family and wonderful kids. He said he and Mr. Walker from the County Executive's Office wanted to wish her the best, as she has made them so much better than they otherwise would have been.

Ms. Price said these were well-deserved remarks to Ms. Allshouse.

Mr. Smith said he had been looking forward to this meeting since the prior year, and he wanted to thank former Mayor Gill, who was spending some well-deserved rest and relaxation time in New England. He said he talked to her earlier that evening. He said she played a critical role for this meeting to happen, and it did, twice now. He said all he wished for is that next year, they can all get together in the same room and actually see one another in person.

Mr. Smith said the Council is here for the Board, as they know the Board was there for them. He said they appreciate everything their Supervisor does, and he knows the other residents of the County feel the same way about their Supervisors.

Mr. Smith said there are a couple of new restaurants that were getting ready to open in Scottsville, as well as a new bakery, which makes the best cupcakes he has ever had. He said there was no reason not to come to Scottsville on a free weekend, and they are not far away.

At 7:13 p.m., Mr. Bullock moved to adjourn the meeting of the Town Council. Mr. Gritsko seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (4-0). Mr. Munson was absent.

Mr. Smith thanked the Board for meeting with them.

Ms. Price said that in preparation for this meeting, County staff provided a multipage document to her that highlighted the communications with Town Council, the direct support, staff collaboration, community outreach and engagement, and COVID-19 mutual support. She said it has been a great year since last year and, as with everyone else, she thanked everyone for participating.

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Agenda Item No. 7. Adjourn to November 17, 2021, 1:00 p.m. electronic meeting pursuant to Ordinance No. 20-A(16).

At 7:14 p.m., Ms. Price stated that the Board would adjourn to November 17, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. She said it would be an electronic meeting held pursuant to Ordinance No. 20-A(16), "An Ordinance to Ensure the Continuity of Government During the COVID-19 Disaster," and information on how to participate in the meeting will be posted on the Albemarle County website Board of Supervisors homepage.

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Chair

Approved by Board
Date: 08/16/2023
Initials: CKB