

Down East Council regular meeting; December 5, 2017 at the Williston UMC.

There was 10 members present.

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Chairman Barbara Blake.

The Secretary's report was accepted as given.

The Treasurer's reports were accepted as given.

OLD BUSINESS:

The elections were postponed until the January meeting.

Richard Lowdermilk reported on the recent meeting of the County Scenic By-Way Committee that was held on Ocracoke. The Scenic By-Way signs that are going to be in each community are nearing completion and should be installed by spring. A short bit of history and a recipe from each community will be on each sign. All the sign locations have been chosen. Publicity will be coming out soon. The BY-Way Kiosk at the Southern Gateway to the Scenic By-Way is to be built on County property near the North River Bridge. The County Commissioners' have approved the site and are awaiting the permit from CAMA. Funding for the building will come from the Federal Government for the building and the signs.

The new passenger only ferry from Hatteras to Ocracoke should go into service next year.

There will be a tram service from the ferry dock from Hatteras to the village of Ocracoke.

An electronic recycling container has been approved for the site in Otway and citizens may recycle their electronic pieces there.

There needs to be more work done on obtaining land for the Mountain to the Sea hiking trail.

NEW BUSINESS:

There has been a large number of complaints about trash being tossed out on our roads. A discussion was held to see about how to stop or slow down this problem. It was decided to try and locate a plan to educate people to stop throwing trash along the roads. This should also go into the schools. Maybe we could get some letters out in public places and sponsor some highway cleanups.

The County has contracted a new Strategic Development Plan to help in deciding what things will be helpful to the County. The status of the people in the County is getting older, whiter and richer. Our location on the coast is good and bad for further development. The study can be downloaded for use, contact Barbara Blake.

We need to get a list of the people that responded to the Community Survey and contact those that responded and invite them to join the Council. We need to get more new members to participate.

Thanks to those that set up the tables and those that provided the treats and drinks.

The next meeting will be January 2, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.