

Minutes from the work session of the Planning Commission of the County of Henrico held in the County Manager's Conference Room, County Administration Building in the Government Center at Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, beginning at 4:30 p.m., April 11, 2024.

Members Present: Mr. William M. Mackey, Jr. Chair (Varina)  
Mr. Robert H. Witte, Jr. Vice-Chair (Brookland)  
Mr. Brian Winterhoff, (Tuckahoe)  
Mr. Bob Shippee, (Three Chopt)  
Mr. Jaron N. Dandridge, (Fairfield)  
Mr. Tyrone E. Nelson (Varina)  
Board of Supervisors Representative  
Mr. R. Joseph Emerson, Jr., AICP, Director of Planning,  
Secretary

Also Present: Ms. Jean M. Moore, Assistant Director of Planning  
Mr. Ben Sehl, Senior Principal Planner  
Mr. Ben Blankinship, Zoning Division Manager

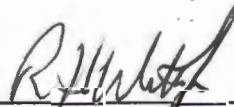
**The Commission convened a work session in the Manager's Conference Room at 4:41 p.m.**

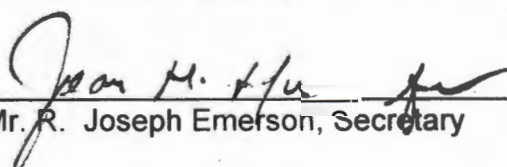
Mr. William Mackey brought the meeting to order by introducing the evening's topic, Regulating the Location of Vaping Shops. He then turned the meeting over to Mr. Joe Emerson.

Mr. Emerson explained vaping shops had become a concern in the fall of 2023 for the Board of Supervisors. The Board requested county assistance invoking shop location regulations in an effort to address the problem. A group composed of the Planning Department, the County Attorney's Office, the Police Division and Henrico County Schools met to discuss regulating future vape shop locations through Zoning Ordinance amendments. Mr. Emerson then turned the meeting over to Mr. Ben Blankinship, Zoning Division Manager.

The evening's focus was vaping shops and how their proximity to schools may result in adverse health impacts for minors and others and consideration could therefore be given to additional regulation. Mr. Blankinship shared a presentation that defined vaping; explained what constitutes a vape shop; looked at shop locations within the county; examined how similar localities have responded; described potential Zoning Ordinance amendments; and reviewed a timeline mapping out next steps. The conversation continued with the commissioners expressing support for the proposed amendment.

The Commission then discussed an overview of the regular meeting agenda before adjourning at 5:30 p.m.

  
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Mr. William M. Mackey, Jr., Chairperson

  
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Mr. R. Joseph Emerson, Secretary