

Equally if not more important are the reasons cited by Consensus Committee members for selecting these tools. (For details, see Appendix E.) Based on the information contained in their assessments of the tools, committee members believe that the use of the specific tools they have recommended will result in:

- provision of a future for agriculture in the Valley by allowing landowners to obtain equity from the land while continuing to farm and by preserving prime farmland for farming;
- protection of open and rural character while maintaining moderate growth: preventing sprawl; reducing the visual “footprint” and environmental impact of development;
- preservation of real estate values in a way that offers landowners a variety of options;
- use of a mix of tools, including market-based alternatives that are supported with adequate funding (e.g. TDRs, PDRs, etc.) that will help define how and where development can occur in a manner that is sustainable over a long period of time;
- direction of growth to designated areas supported by infrastructure, in coordination with the towns; and
- preservation and protection of the county’s historic and natural resources and scenic, cultural, and archeological assets, all of which support commercial and tourist enterprises.

THE END OF THE DIALOGUE PROCESS AND NEXT STEPS

The Consensus Committee was pleased to learn of the county’s initiative to hire a planning consultant to assist with the revision and update of its ordinances. In light of this development, the committee decided to suspend its work and to present to the Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission a written report of the project’s goals and the committee’s recommendations for tools worthy of consideration.

Consensus Committee members will continue to follow the progress of the county’s efforts and, should the county find it helpful, the committee and Shenandoah Forum are willing to provide logistical support for public meetings, use of the Forum website to disseminate meeting schedules and other information, identification of human and informational resources that advance the process, and other support as appropriate.

APPENDIX A

CONSENSUS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

John Adamson (Strasburg)

Citizens Advisory Committee on the Comprehensive Plan

Also associated with:

Shenandoah County Historical Society (board member)

Strasburg Museum (President)

Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River (member)

Hometown Strasburg (board member)

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District–Signal Knob Cluster Group

Strasburg Rotary Club

Belle Grove Plantation (board member)

Mike Beasley (Woodstock)

Massanutten Association of Realtors

Jane Bohlander (Basye)

Shenandoah Forum

Rick Christ (New Market)

Developer

David Ferguson (Edinburg)

Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors

Marian French (Woodstock)

Farming family

Valley Conservation Council

Bonnie Good (Mt. Jackson)

Mt. Jackson Planning Commission

Conrad Helsley (Strasburg)

Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors

John D. Hutchinson V, AICP (Staunton)

Planner

Abbe Kennedy (Woodstock)

Farming family

Former member Shenandoah County Planning Commission

Gary Lantz (Mt. Jackson)

Organic farmer

Shenandoah County Planning Commission

Laura Long (Edinburg)

Farming family

Terry Martin (Maurertown)

Shenandoah County Farm Bureau
Farming family

Sarah Mauck (Strasburg)

Town of Strasburg Representative

Also associated with:

Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park Federal Advisory Commission
Strasburg Town Council
Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District—Signal Knob Cluster Group
Strasburg Recreation Committee
Sierra Club, Local Chapter

George Swecker (Woodstock)

Soil scientist

Elizabeth Stern (Strasburg)

town and county resident

Also associated with:

Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation (staff)
Valley Conservation Council (member)

Walt Talbott (Edinburg)

Town of Edinburg representative

Deb Truban (Woodstock)

Citizens Advisory Committee on the Comprehensive Plan
Farming family

Rosemary Wallinger (Mt. Jackson)

Shenandoah Forum

Citizens Advisory Committee for the Comprehensive Plan

Also associated with:

Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Program (2003)
Friends of the North Fork
Valley Conservation Council (board member)

Leslie Watson (Woodstock)

Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River

Kim Woodwell (Maurertown)

Shenandoah Forum staff

Facilitator:

Tanya Denckla-Cobb

Institute for Environmental Negotiation, University of Virginia

APPENDIX B

DONORS TO THE DIALOGUE PROJECT

Organizations

Edinburg Heritage Foundation
Rockingham Cooperative
Shenandoah Community Foundation
Shenandoah County Farm Bureau
Shenandoah County Historical Society
Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation
Town of Edinburg
Virginia Department of Forestry

Individuals

Tanya Denckla-Cobb
The F. Douglas French Family
Dee Hockman
Chuck Maddox
Patricia Shelton
Marsha Shruntz
Rosemary Wallinger
Kim Woodwell
Anonymous Landowner

All participants in the Dialogue donated their time, energy and gifts in kind when needed throughout the process.

APPENDIX C

COMMITTEE PROCESS AND MEETINGS

TYPE OF MEETING	DATE	DESCRIPTION
PHASE I		
Organization, Identification of concerns and needed information.		
Committee	2/9/2007	Committee introductions, members concerns and interests, and ways that IEN could work with the Committee.
Committee	3/29/2007	Developing joint goals for the Committee's work, and identifying who else should be on the Committee.
Committee	4/23/2007	Developing Committee ground rules, process and structure.
Public meeting	5/21/2007	County-sponsored workshop: Guest speaker Dr. Michael Chandler discussed the county's comprehensive plan and its zoning ordinance, and noted there was a gap between the two.
Committee	6/4/2007	Discussed Chandler's presentation; identified potential gaps; identified informational needs and questions.
PHASE II		
Education about Existing Conditions and Ordinances, Build-Out Scenarios; and Innovative tools for Managing Growth and Preserving Rural Character.		
Committee	8/20/2007	Presentations that addressed informational needs/questions; Developed a schedule and process for the remainder of its work
Public Workshop #1	10/22/2007	Presentation by Chris Boies on the County's comprehensive plan and current zoning ordinance; Presentation by Jenny Marone (UVA) on build-out analysis looking at the implications of current policies.
Public Workshop #2	10/30/2007	Presentation by Dr. Michael Chandler on the disconnect between Shenandoah County's comprehensive plan and its zoning ordinances.
Public Workshop #3	11/28/2007	Presentation by Dr. Michael Chandler on the range of tools for addressing the disconnect between the comprehensive plan and the zoning ordinances.
PHASE III		
Assessing and Narrowing The Tools That Would Best Manage Growth and Preserve Rural Character		
Committee	1/24/2008	Committee discussion on the planning tools. Discussion of next steps and decision to continue discussions at the next meeting small groups.
Committee	3/20/2008	Presentation of county initiative to develop ordinances to implement the comprehensive plan (announced 1/31/08) and possible implications for this project. Small group discussion of planning tools, to identify tools that merit further consideration by the County
Joint BOS & Planning Commission	6/5/2008	Tentatively scheduled as the time for the final presentation and Dialogue report to the county.