



# Durham County

200 E. Main Street  
Durham, NC 27701  
(919) 560-0025

## Meeting Minutes

### Board of County Commissioners

*Wendy Jacobs, Chair*  
*James Hill, Vice Chair*  
*Heidi Carter, Commissioner*  
*Brenda A. Howerton, Commissioner*  
*Ellen W. Reckhow, Commissioner*

Monday, November 27, 2017

7:00 PM

Commissioners' Chambers

### Regular Session

#### Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance

#### Agenda Adjustments

Chair Jacobs announced there were no agenda adjustments.

#### Announcements

Chair Jacobs read the following announcements:

- 1) On Tuesday, December 12, Durham Parks and Recreation (DPR) will host its 46th Annual Senior Holiday Party for mature adults ages 55 or better. The celebration will be held at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center (4700 Emperor Boulevard) from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Transportation is available upon request and must be reserved by November 30.
- 2) Heating, holiday decorations, winter storms and candles all contribute to an increased risk of fire during the winter months. Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, Be Fire Smart. Heaters, fireplaces and woodstoves require extra care and maintenance. Keep anything that can burn at least 3-feet from any heat source. Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney every year before regular use. If you use fireplaces, woodstoves or gas heaters, we recommend the installation of Carbon Monoxide detectors in your home. Finally, the Fire Marshal encourages the use of electric, or LED, candles instead of traditional open-flame candles. It only takes one accident to cause a deadly fire.
- 3) The ACA Open Enrollment Period is November 1 until December 15, 2017. Consumers who are not eligible for Medicare or Medicaid and do not have other health insurance coverage can enroll in or change health plans during open enrollment. New coverage begins January 1, 2018. MDC, Durham County Department of Social Services and the Lincoln Community

Health Center have navigators available to help individuals enroll in ACA. For a full list of local ACA assistance, visit <https://localhelp.healthcare.gov>. North Carolina consumers can also call 855-755-3711 to schedule an appointment with an ACA Navigator.

- 4) Beginning today, LimeBike and Spin will begin deploying 300 bikes for public use throughout the Bull City with additional operators and bikes to soon follow. The bikes work best for short trips, such as going to lunch, the bus stop, or getting someplace faster than walking. The bikes have a GPS and built-in lock, so residents can ride them anywhere in the city. When users get to their destination, they simply park the bike upright, lock it, and make sure it's not blocking driveways, sidewalks, crosswalks, loading zones, accessible parking spaces, bus stops or street corners. For more information about Durham's new dockless bike share program, contact Bryan Poole at (919)-560-4366, extension 36423 or [Bryan.Poole@DurhamNC.gov](mailto:Bryan.Poole@DurhamNC.gov).

Commissioner Reckhow stated a smartphone was the main platform for using the bike share program, but there was an alternate approach. She noted that citizens could pay in advance at the Transit Center for a certain allotted time.

- 5) These announcements can be found on the Commissioners' Webpage or you may call the Clerk's Office at 919-560-0025.

Chair Jacobs announced a dedication was held for the Dr. John H. Franklin Highway with a marker placed on I-85 between the Cole Mill Road exit and U.S. 70 Bypass. She mentioned there were dignitaries in Durham for this honor and provided background information for the citizens who were not able to attend.

Commissioner Howerton highlighted the significance of this event, adding that Dr. Franklin stood for diversity, equality and equal rights for everyone.

Commissioner Reckhow also highlighted the successes of Dr. Franklin and recalled how active he was in assisting citizens at the Durham Literacy Center.

## **Minutes**

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to approve the November 13, 2017 Regular Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Ceremonial Items**

### **Durham Soil and Water District Receives Grant from Duke Energy Foundation**

Kacie Fore, Community Relations Manager for Duke Energy, stated it was an honor to congratulate and award the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District with the Water Resources Grant in the amount of \$26,500.00.

Danielle Adams, Vice Chair Durham Soil and Water Conservation, thanked Ms. Fore and explained what the grant would be used towards.

Mike Dupree, Agribusiness and Environmental Service Manager, described the six-week program and added the money would be used towards transportation and materials needed for the students/staff to install up to six (6) sites in the community. He continued to say students would earn money and develop as individuals and learn community engagement. Mr. Dupree also described a typical day during the program. He lastly stated once the timeline was set and sites were identified, he would like to share the information with the Board.

Commissioner Reckhow stated she had the opportunity to see the “green team” in action and was very impressed. She commended the Soil and Water team on how students were excited, ready to work and enjoyed learning about the environment in a hands-on way. Commissioner Reckhow thanked Duke Energy for recognizing the project and for their partnership. She also thanked the Soil and Water team and all others involved for creating such high quality programs for the youth.

Chair Jacobs mentioned how amazed she was to see the program’s growth along with the partnerships established. She stated the youth were learning and the focus was on giving them an opportunity to work, earn money, and learn real life experiences.

Commissioner Howerton thanked the Soil and Water team for the work they continue to do and Duke Energy for their partnership. She emphasized the importance of teaching the basics to the youth so that they would continue to learn and obtain the knowledge about soil and water conservation.

Commissioner Carter expressed how much she loved the program and recalled how hard it was to get it off the ground and get partnerships established. She added there were also opportunities for replication at other schools.

## **Consent Agenda**

Chair Jacobs asked the Board if they requested to comment or pull an item from the Consent Agenda. Hearing none, she asked to entertain a motion for approval.

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

\*17-0512 Property Tax Releases and Refunds for October 2017

17-0537 Appointments to Go Triangle Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board

17-0543 Appointment to Durham County Community Child Protection/Child Fatality Prevention Team

The motion carried unanimously.

### Consent Agenda Item #17-0512

Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings, and clerical errors, etc. the attached report details releases and refunds for the month of October 2017.

Releases and Refunds – October 2017

#### 2017 Taxes

Real Property \$ 4,758.68

Personal Property	\$ 105,159.37
Solid Waste Fees	\$ 635.24
VTS Refunds	\$ <u>17,493.93</u>
Total	\$ 138,047.16

Prior Years Refunds  
2015----2016

Personal Property	\$ 1,933.13
Solid Waste	\$ <u>558.81</u>
Total	\$ 2,491.94

Grand Total \$ 130,539.10

## Board and Commission Appointments

Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board, distributed ballots to the Board to make appointments to the boards and commissions.

The Board made the following appointments (incumbents are identified with an (i). Individuals who are recommended by a board are underlined.) Individuals listed in bold print were appointed.

### Farmland Protection Advisory Board

**Kenyon Browning** (Carter, Hill, Howerton, Jacobs)

**Nicole Connelly** (Carter, Hill, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

### Women's Commission

Jessica Jones (Howerton)

**Tamika McRae** (Carter, Hill, Jacobs, Reckhow)

**Brianna Van Stekelenburg** (Carter, Hill, Howerton, Jacobs, Reckhow)

## Closed Session

Chair Jacobs stated the Board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee pursuant to (G.S.143-318.11(a)(6).

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Vice Chair Hill to adjourn into Closed Session.

The motion carried unanimously.

## Reconvene to Open Session

Chair Jacobs announced the Board met in Closed Session and the following action was taken.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Vice Chair Hill to extend the retirement health benefits to George Quick, Chief Financial Officer.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to adjourn the Regular Session meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Monica Toomer".

Monica W. Toomer  
Deputy Clerk to the Board