

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Monday, November 5, 2012

9:00 A.M. Worksession

MINUTES

Place: Commissioners' Room, second floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 E. Main Street, Durham, NC

Present: Chairman Michael D. Page, Vice-Chairman Ellen W. Reckhow and Commissioners Phillip R. Cousin, Jr., Brenda A. Howerton, and Pam Karriker

Absent: None

Presider: Chairman Page

Citizen Comments

The Board of County Commissioners provided a comment period at the beginning of the Worksession to allow any citizen of Durham County the opportunity to speak.

Commissioner Cousin moved, seconded by Commissioner Karriker to suspend the rules to extend the time of the citizen comment period.

The motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Cousin moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to accept comments made during citizen comment period.

The motion unanimously carried.

Ray Eurquhart endorsed the proposal for the revitalization of the Whitted School. He reiterated the three goals of what the community wanted to have done with the space. Mr. Eurquhart stressed affordable housing.

Steve Chalmers also spoke about the Whitted School redevelopment. He expressed a need for a preschool program and housing for senior citizens. Mr. Chalmers endorsed the proposal before the Board and asked them to give it their full consideration.

Joseph Haenn made comments to the Board regarding the Rougemont water issue. He addressed three issues:

- 1) Duct pipe contamination;
- 2) Maximizing commercial development; and
- 3) Determining which homes will be included in the water mitigation process.

Karen Walker spoke about the Rougemont water issue. She also inquired whether the Board was approving actions or only approving funding vehicles.

Hallie Mangum Bass expressed concern for the Rougemont community regarding the water issue. She stated that because the number of affected people is unknown, that better communication is needed to identify the issues and needs of all before moving forward.

John Mininger requested provisions from Durham County for all of the properties in the Rougemont area that could be exposed to water contamination in the future.

LaToya McCrimmon expressed the need for more pre-kindergarten classes due to long waiting lists. She stated that the Whitted School proposal would be an asset to the community.

John Tarantino provided a political satire (song/poem) for the Commissioners consideration.

George Roberson representing Dads Against Dependency Services, Inc. stated that the building [Whitted School] should be used for delinquency prevention and at-risk families. Mr. Roberson provided the Board with a brief PowerPoint presentation.

Victoria Peterson representing Triangle Citizens Rebuilding Communities spoke in support of a “Jobs, Not Jail” program in the Whitted School space. She requested that staff renovate and perform outreach at the Durham County Detention Center.

Kristy Moore also expressed a need for more pre-kindergarten classes in Durham and requested that the Board support the Whitted School proposal before them.

Update on the James A. Whitted School RFP Process (RFP Number 12-019)

Lee Worsley, Deputy County Manager, introduced this item. He stated that the proposal continues the legacy of the school and that the proposal accomplishes what is being sought in community. Deputy Worsley provided a PowerPoint presentation that addressed the following:

- a) Background
- b) Request for Proposals (RFP) Process
- c) RFP Review
- d) Recommendation
- e) Next Steps

Commissioners held a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed project funding sources and amounts, community needs, site utilization, design, and program staffing.

Deputy County Manager, Lee Worsley; Dr. Eric J. Becoats, Superintendent of Durham Public Schools (DPS); Mr. Carl Webb of Forty AM; Mr. Daryl Jones of Integral Development LLC; and Mr. Eddie Belk of Belk Architecture replied to questions asked by the Board.

Vice-Chairman Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Karriker to suspend the rules.

The motion unanimously carried.

Vice-Chairman Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Karriker to approve the proposal in concept for the senior housing development, pre-kindergarten center and gymnasium.

The motion unanimously carried.

Rougemont Groundwater Pollution

Drew Cummings, Assistant County Manager, led this item by providing a PowerPoint presentation that addressed the following:

- a) History of the Issue
- b) Waterline Options
- c) Community Well System
- d) Remaining Questions
- e) Decision Point (including County Manager's Recommendations)

Commissioners held a discussion about community input regarding the pollution issue, the methods presented to provide water for residents and further site studies that must be conducted to reconcile the water pollution issue.

Assistant Manager Cummings and Vance Jackson of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources responded to questions asked by the Board.

Chairman Page expressed his belief that the Board be present at the next citizen input meeting regarding the Rougemont water pollution issue. Chairman Page questioned the Board and members of the audience as to the most appropriate date, time, and location. The Board and community members collectively decided to meet on November 20, 2012 at 5:45 p.m. at the Rougemont Ruritan Club.

Vice-Chairman Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to suspend the rules.

The motion unanimously carried.

Vice-Chairman Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to commit to the project concept presented.

The motion unanimously carried.

Due to time constraints, the Board elected to defer agenda items #4, #5, and #6 until the Board of County Commissioners Regular Session meeting on November 12, 2012.

Closed Session

Vice-Chairman Reckhow moved, seconded by Commissioner Karriker to adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to G. S. 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of a business or industry.

The motion unanimously carried.

Reconvene to Open Session

Chairman Page announced that the Board met in closed session; directives were given to staff; no action was taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Page adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James N. Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James N. Jackson
Administrative Assistant II
Clerk to the Board's Office