

October 5, 1998

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

Monday, October 5, 1998

9:00 A.M. Worksession

MINUTES

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

Present: Chairman MaryAnn E. Black and Commissioners William V. Bell, Joe W.
Bowser, Becky M. Heron, and Ellen W. Reckhow

Absent: None

Presider: Chairman Black

Chairman Black opened the Worksession.

Closed Session

The Board was requested to adjourn to Closed Session to consult with an attorney and to preserve the attorney-client privilege regarding *Edinborough at the Park v. County*, 98 CVS 3626 and 98 CVS 3627.

Commissioner Bowser moved, seconded by Vice-Chairman Reckhow, to adjourn into Closed Session to consult with an attorney and to preserve the attorney-client privilege regarding *Edinborough at the Park v. County*, 98 CVS 3626 and CVS 3627.

The motion carried unanimously.

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Reconvene Into Public Session

Chairman Black reported that during the Closed Session, the Board instructed County Attorney Chuck Kitchen regarding a litigation matter.

Citizen Comment—Ralph McKinney

Mr. Ralph McKinney requested time on the agenda to make comments to the Commissioners.

Mr. McKinney was not present to make comments.

Child Day Care Subsidy Design Project

An update on the design of a unified subsidy system for child day care was provided by the following five partner agencies: the Durham Partnership for Children, the Durham County Department of Social Services, Operation Breakthrough, the Durham Day Care Council, and the Triangle United Way. Representatives of these organizations reported on progress to date in coordinating efforts to meet more effectively the needs of families for quality subsidized child care. A target date of October 1, 1999 was established for the consolidation of the child care functions from these agencies into a single location that will be more accessible for families seeking child care subsidy and to work more effectively with child care providers.

Resource person: Dan Hudgins, Director of Social Services, provided an overview and introduced the following presenters from the partner agencies:

Susan Ruth--Durham Partnership for Children
Arnold Dennis--Durham County Department of Social Services
Frank Johnson--Operation Breakthrough
Chris Clark Perry--Durham Day Care Council
Anita Daniels--Triangle United Way

County Manager's Recommendation: Accept as information.

Mr. Hudgins asked Vice-Chairman Reckhow to introduce the new Executive Director of the Durham Partnership.

Vice-Chairman Reckhow introduced Ms. Susan Ruth who joined the partnership last week.

Ms. Perry began her presentation with a discussion on quality child care.

Ms. Ruth explained the partnership's role in developing a comprehensive system to address the needs of all children.

Mr. Hudgins discussed this year's shortfall on child care funds.

Mr. Dennis reviewed the program's accomplishments over the last two years. He also discussed program plans for the current year.

The Commissioners asked several questions and made comments about the program.

No official action was taken on this agenda item. The presentation was for information only.

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Falls Lake Normal Pool

At its August worksession, the Board discussed a proposal to fund a survey of the Falls Lake normal pool location on Ellerbee Creek. The Board expressed concern that this survey would establish an undesirable precedent for other community groups or property owners to request a similar effort on other tributaries. The Board asked staff to invite Mr. Linwood Rogers, US Army Corps of Engineers, to speak to the Board about the methodology used to determine the location of the normal pool on Falls Lake tributary streams. The Board wanted to explore whether the methodology proposed for the Ellerbee Creek tributary was the same as that used for other tributaries. Mr. Rogers could not attend the September worksession due to flooding created by the hurricane season.

The Board had instructed staff to receive written confirmation of this methodology from Mr. Rogers prior to beginning the survey. A letter was sent out to Mr. Rogers on this issue. In addition to this inquiry, County Manager Thompson instructed staff to send a letter to Mr. Steve Zoufaly of the Division of Water Quality to request guidance if the survey is authorized and completed. Staff was not waiting on Mr. Rogers' presentation to the Board to authorize the survey, but rather a written response to the letter as directed by the County Commissioners.

Keith Luck of the Planning Department (staff person working on this project) was present at the meeting.

Mr. Luck said Mr. Rogers was unable to attend this meeting.

Mr. Peter Haines said there is a possibility that two-foot contour maps exist for Ellerbee Creek.

Mr. Thompson said the Board has the following three options: use the two-foot contour maps if they exist and if the Corps states they have used the maps for other tributaries; use the KCI survey if it meets the needs of the Corps of Engineers; or proceed with the survey. The option should be decided upon based on Mr. Rogers' opinion of the best match to the methodology used on the other tributaries.

Staff would continue to follow up with Mr. Rogers.

The Commissioners requested that staff obtain the two-foot contour maps if they exist, study them, and send them to the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Chairman Black asked the Manager to call the US Geological Survey in Washington to determine if the two-foot contour maps for Ellerbee Creek exist.

Durham County Utility Fee Schedule--Fee Study

A fee study was completed by The Raftelis Environmental Consulting Group. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the sewer connection fees contained in the County's utility fee schedule, and if necessary, to assist the County in developing a cost justified set of connection fees.

The report recommended the development of a cost justified set of connection fees, and included a proposed set of capital recovery charges for County consideration.

The Environmental Engineering Office agreed with the recommendations contained in the report.

Glen Whisler, Environmental Engineering Office, and George Raftelis, The Raftelis Environmental Consulting Group, presented the report, discussed the recommendations, and answered questions raised by the Board.

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County Manager's Recommendation: Receive the report prepared by The Raftelis Environmental Consulting Group.

Chairman Black requested a public hearing date be set regarding the utility fee schedule.

The Commissioners concurred to set the public hearing for the Monday, October 26, 1998 Regular Session.

Chairman Black requested that staff advertise for the public hearing.

School Budget Document Agreement

Commissioner Bell, liaison to Durham Public Schools, said when the FY 1998-99 schools budget was adopted, the schools agreed to come back to the Board with a budget process and format by October 1, 1998. A committee comprising the school superintendent, the chairman of the school board, the County Manager, and Commissioner Bell met one time to outline how to proceed to meet the objective. Staff was given basic directions and has proposed a plan to bring to the committee on October 12, 1998. After the October 12, 1998 meeting, the committee wishes to bring the proposal to the Commissioners and the Board of Education.

The Commissioners concurred to have the joint meeting with the Board of Education on Monday, October 26, 1998 at 5:00 p.m.

Schools Budget Committee

Chairman Black stated that the Commissioners concurred to ask Commissioner Bell to serve on the schools budget committee with the County Manager and Superintendent Denlinger to prepare the schools budget for FY 1999-2000.

Adjournment

Chairman Black adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Garry E. Umstead, CMC
Clerk to the Board

GEU:VCS