# THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Saturday, April 21, 2012

9:30 A.M. Partners Against Crime / District 1

## **MINUTES**

Place: Holton Career & Resource Center, 401 North Driver Street, Durham, NC 27703

Present: Vice-Chairman Ellen W. Reckhow, and Commissioners Joe W. Bowser, Brenda

A. Howerton, Pam Karriker; Deputy County Manager Marqueta Welton; Pam Meyer, Director of Budget & Management Services; and Angela Pinnix,

Administrative Assistant I, Clerk to the Board's Office

Absent: Chairman Page

## Welcome

Co-Facilitator James Chavis welcomed everyone to the PAC 1 meeting. He observed a moment of silence.

## **Law Enforcement Update**

Keith Johnson, Supervisor of Investigations, Durham Police Department (DPD), provided a brief update on departmental operations carried out for the month of April. He addressed the following concerns asked by members of the community:

- Shots being fired near vacant homes
- Unlicensed group homes
- Ticketing cars parked on sidewalks
- ATV's speeding through neighborhoods
- Warrant squad

Officer Chris Shepard gave a presentation on gang activity. He informed everyone about Operation Knock-Knock. He responded to the following:

- Monitoring illegal activity in Sherwood Park
- Patrolling neighborhoods near Southern High School

## **Introduction**

Co-Facilitator Vivian McCoy introduced the County Commissioners. She opened the forum for questions from co facilitators and citizens.

The Commissioners responded to the following:

- The number of charter schools in Durham County; County funding for charter schools; and Negative impact of charter schools
- Collaboration with Durham Public Schools (DPS) and Commissioners and meeting regularly
- Awareness of Academic Readiness Center
- Support of placing Animal Control under the Sheriff's Department
- Do funds go back to DPS if a student leaves the charter school?
- High concentration of unlicensed group homes and creative ways to regulate group homes.
- Guidelines for group homes

Ralphele Reels, CZO, Senior Planner, replied to the following concerns:

- ➤ Lack of response from City-County Planning Department in regards to unlicensed group homes
- Regulating the licensing process
- ➤ What can be done to prevent homeowners renting to group homes?

## **Durham County Gang Initiative**

Jim Stuit, Gang-Reduction Strategy Manager, provided a brief overview of the gang initiative. He discussed the timeline of reduction efforts in Durham as well as the current status and challenges. He responded to questions asked by citizens.

#### **Directives**

- 1. Deputy County Manager Marqueta Welton to follow up regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between DPS and County Commissioners.
- 2. PAC 1 to consider inviting Durham County Sheriff's Office to attend future PAC meetings to address any concerns and/or questions pertaining to animal control or safety.
- 3. Have a discussion at the Joint City-County Committee meeting about the need for additional zoning inspectors.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Ms. McCoy adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Agela M. Pinnix

Angela M. Pinnix Administrative Assistant Clerk to the Board's office