

MARCH 16, 2016

**MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Informal Session in the Meeting Chamber Conference Room of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center located at 600 East Fourth Street, Charlotte, North Carolina at 5:00 p.m. and in Formal Session in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16, 2016.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Trevor M. Fuller and Commissioners
Dumont Clarke, Patricia "Pat" Cotham, George Dunlap,
Bill James, Vilma D. Leake, Jim Puckett,
Matthew Ridenhour and Ella B. Scarborough
County Manager Dena R. Diorio
County Attorney Marvin A. Bethune
Clerk to the Board Janice S. Paige

Absent: None

-INFORMAL SESSION-

Commissioner Ridenhour was absent when the meeting was called to order and until noted in the minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fuller, after which the matters below were addressed.

REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT

The Board identified items 16-3167, 16-3175, 16-3179, and 16-3180 to be removed from Consent and voted upon separately.

Motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Leake and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, and Scarborough voting yes, to move Items 16-3167 - Proclamation Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and 16-3175 - Proclamation Child Abuse Prevention Month from Consent to the Awards/Recognition section of the agenda.

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STAFF BRIEFINGS – NONE

CLOSED SESSION

16-3159 CONSULT WITH ATTORNEY

16-3160 LAND ACQUISITION

Prior to going into Closed Session County Attorney Bethune noted the following Land Acquisition matters to be discussed in Closed Session: Tax Parcels # 013-041-02, 027-141-03, 211-011-15, and 123-062-09.

It was noted there was no Consult with Attorney matter to be discussed in Closed Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Leake and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, and Scarborough voting yes, to go into Closed Session for the following purpose: Land Acquisition.

The Board went into Closed Session at 5:20 p.m. and came back into Open Session at 5:51 p.m.

Commissioner Ridenhour was present when the Board came back into Open Session. He entered the meeting during Closed Session.

The Board then proceeded to the Meeting Chamber for the remainder of the meeting.

-FORMAL SESSION-

Chairman Fuller called this portion of the meeting to order which was followed by introductions, invocation by Commissioner Dunlap, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; after which, the matters below were addressed.

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Commissioner Ridenhour left the dais and was away until noted in the minutes.

16-3167 COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, and

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Scarborough voting yes, to adopt a proclamation designating March 2016 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in Mecklenburg County.

The proclamation was read by Commissioner Puckett and received by Rebecca Cowens-Alvarado, Vice President, Health Systems, American Cancer Society, Southeast Division and Nadine Malpass, Community Engagement Director for the American Cancer Society of Charlotte.

The County was presented an award from the American Cancer Society for its leadership in the state of N.C. with respect to providing funding for various cancer screenings via the Health Department.

Chairman Fuller thanked Ms. Cowens-Alvarado and Ms. Malpass for the award.

**Mecklenburg County
North Carolina
Proclamation**

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer deaths for men and women in the United States; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer affects both men and women equally; and

WHEREAS, every 3 minutes, someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer and every 10 minutes someone dies from colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of colon cancer deaths can be prevented through proper screening and early detection; and

WHEREAS, the survival rate of individuals who have colorectal cancer is 90 percent when detected in the early stages, versus only a 13 percent survival rate when colorectal cancer is diagnosed after it has spread to other organs; and

WHEREAS, the national goal established by the National Colorectal Roundtable is 80 percent of Americans ages 50 and older be screened by the year 2018; and

WHEREAS, if the majority of people in the United States, ages 50 and older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from this disease could be reduced up to 70 percent; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Whites; and

WHEREAS, greater awareness of this cancer and the means to prevent it could save the lives of tens

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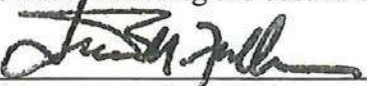
of thousands of people in the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, observing a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March would provide a special opportunity to offer education on the importance of early detection and screening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim March 2016 as

"COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

in Mecklenburg County and encourage all Mecklenburg County citizens to help raise awareness towards reducing the burden of this devastating disease.


Trevor M. Fuller, Chairman
Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners



Commissioner Ridenhour returned to the meeting.

16-3175 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to adopt a Joint Proclamation declaring April 2016 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Mecklenburg County and the City of Charlotte.

The proclamation was read by Commissioner Leake and received by Dana Frady, District Administrator, Guardian Ad Litem Program. Ms. Frady also serves on the Mecklenburg Child Abuse Prevention Collaborative Team. Ms. Frady invited the Board, as well as, the community to attend the 2016 Child Abuse Prevention Month Press Conference on March 31, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Courthouse.

PROCLAMATION
City of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County

WHEREAS, children are vital to our state's future success, prosperity, and quality of life as well as being our most vulnerable assets; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to have safe, stable, nurturing, and healthy homes and communities that foster their well-being; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a public responsibility affecting both the current and future quality of life of a state; and

WHEREAS, parents need support and resources to cope with stress and nurture their children to grow to their full potential; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention strategies succeed because of partnerships created among citizens, human service agencies, schools, faith communities, health care providers, civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Jennifer Watson Roberts, Mayor of Charlotte, and Trevor M. Fuller, Chairman of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, April 2016 as

"CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH"

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.


Jennifer Watson Roberts, Mayor
City of Charlotte




Trevor M. Fuller, Chairman
Mecklenburg Board of
County Commissioners



PUBLIC APPEARANCE

16-3157 PUBLIC APPEARANCE

The following persons appeared to speak during the Public Appearance portion of the agenda:

Rett Liles with Teen Health Connection and student representatives from Butler High School, East Mecklenburg High School, Providence High School, and Northwest School of the Arts, invited the Board to attend a play entitled The Big Picture at the McGlohon Theater at Spirit Square on April 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. The Big Picture is a “dynamic multimedia play, written and performed by adolescents, that addresses the most pressing and relevant issues facing our community’s youth today.”

Ralph Gettings, a resident of Cornelius, addressed a proposed swimming beach at Ramsey Creek Park. Mr. Gettings said the Board did not fulfill its promise to have a swimming beach at Ramsey Creek Park in 2015.

Commissioner Puckett said a presentation would be made by County Park and Recreation regarding Ramsey Creek Park at the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce building on Friday, March 18, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. Commissioner Puckett invited Mr. Gettings, as well as, other interested residents to attend.

APPOINTMENTS

16-3171 NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

BICYCLE COMMITTEE

The following persons were nominated for appointment consideration to the Bicycle Committee:

Julie Chandler	by Commissioner Ridenhour
Paul DuPont	by Commissioner Leake
Debra Franklin	by Chairman Fuller and Commissioner Cotham
Jerry Mann	by Commissioners Dunlap and Leake
Heather Seagle	by Commissioner Ridenhour
Jeffrey Wells	by Commissioner Puckett

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Note: An appointment will occur on April 5, 2016.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW (BER)

Motion was made by Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Leake, to reappoint Kathy Davis, Nobie Thrasher, Nick Vilord, and Robert “Bruce” Miller to the Board of Equalization and Review for a three-year term expiring April 16, 2019.

Commissioner Dunlap addressed the current make-up of the Board of Equalization and Review (BER). He said there were no minorities on the BER.

Commissioner Dunlap suggested the Board take advantage of the reappointment opportunity, for diversity purposes, and not reappoint everyone that was eligible for reappointment; and instead, nominate and interview qualified minority applicants to fill some or all of the upcoming available slots.

Substitute motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough, to interview all nominated applicants.

Commissioner Ridenhour questioned the Board not following its normal process of reappointing those that were eligible for reappointment.

Commissioner Puckett said he concurred about the need for diversity on the BER, as well as, on other advisory boards. Commissioner Puckett said per his review of the applicants, however, he would recommend the Board seek additional applications to ensure applicants meet the qualifications.

Commissioner Dunlap said per his review, there were applicants that would add diversity, as well as, meet the requirements.

Commissioner Cotham concurred that diversity was needed on the BER, as well as, on other advisory boards. Commissioner Cotham said the BER, however, required a specific skill set. She said it was important that anyone nominated and appointed have that needed skill set.

Commissioner James said it was the Board’s responsibility to ensure diversity on its advisory boards. He said the question before the Board was how to fix that issue with respect to the BER.

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Commissioner James said the Board would not want to send the wrong message to those that were eligible for reappointment. He noted that if those eligible for reappointment were reappointed, there was still one slot that would need to be filled by a new applicant. He said

diversity could be addressed in filling the open slot, as well as, other open slots as they became available.

Commissioner Scarborough concurred that diversity was needed on the BER. Commissioner Scarborough volunteered to serve on the Board's Ad Hoc Interview Committee.

Commissioner Leake concurred that diversity was needed on the BER. Commissioner Leake said achieving that diversity would be based on one's qualifications, which was always the case.

County Manager Diorio noted an error on the membership roster for the Board of Equalization and Review, which was, Cleve Daniels was African American and not Caucasian as indicated on the report provided to the Board.

County Attorney Bethune addressed the substitute motion and the original motion for clarity purposes.

After hearing from County Attorney Bethune, Commissioner Dunlap withdrew his substitute motion.

The vote was then taken on the original motion as follows:

Motion was made by Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Leake and failed 5-4 with Commissioners Clarke, Fuller, Dunlap, Leake, and Scarborough voting no and Commissioners Cotham, James, Puckett, and Ridenhour voting yes, to reappoint Kathy Davis, Nobie Thrasher, Nick Vilord, and Robert "Bruce" Miller to the Board of Equalization and Review for a three-year term expiring April 16, 2019.

Note: Per Board policy, it takes a unanimous vote for persons to be reappointed.

Commissioner James nominated all applicants, including those that were eligible for reappointment: Kathy Davis, Nobie Thrasher, Nick Vilord, and Robert "Bruce" Miller, Fela Babb, Steven Kessler, Irving Schwiebel, Tina Whittaker, and Sy'Donia Williams.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett,

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Ridenhour and Scarborough voting yes, to interview all nominees, including those eligible for reappointment.

The following Commissioners volunteered to serve on the Board's Ad Hoc Interview Committee for appointment considerations to the BER: Commissioners Cotham, Leake, Ridenhour, and Scarborough.

CENTRALINA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Ridenhour, seconded by Commissioner Leake and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to reappoint Commissioner Dunlap as the Board's public sector representative on the Centralina Economic Development Commission and Robert Hillman as the Board's private sector representative for three-year terms expiring March 31, 2019.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVISORY BOARD

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Neil T. Bloomfield to the Domestic Violence Advisory Board to fill an unexpired term, expiring April 30, 2018. Secondly, to direct staff to continue to advertise for the remaining vacancies.

Note: He replaced Roslyn Stitt who resigned due to increased work responsibilities.

FIRE COMMISSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Puckett and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to reappoint Harley Cook to the Fire Commission for a three-year term expiring January 30, 2019; and to reappoint Kevin Fox, Joseph Labovitz, and Don Monteith for three-year terms expiring January 30, 2019. *Note: They have served two consecutive terms, but were willing to continue since there were no applications of interest on file.*

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WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

Motion was made by Commissioner Puckett, seconded by Commissioner Leake and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to reappoint Louis Watts to the Waste Management Advisory Board for a three-year term expiring March 31, 2019.

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Clarke and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to reappoint Connie Harris and Rita Plyler to the Waste Management Advisory Board for three-year terms, expiring March 31, 2019. *Note: They have served two consecutive terms, but were willing to continue since there were no applications of interest on file.*

ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL ADVISORY COUNCILS

District One Representative

Motion was made by Commissioner Puckett, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Corie Pauling to the Arts and Science Council North/West Advisory Council as a District One representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

District Two Representative

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Tamara Butler to the Arts and Science Council North/West Advisory Council as a District Two representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

District Three Representative

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Jordan Jones to the Arts and Science Council Central Advisory Council as a District Three representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

District Four Representative

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Shannon Hoff to the Arts and Science Council Central Advisory Council as a District Four representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

District Five Representative

Motion was made by Commissioner Ridenhour, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Kathryn Price to the Arts and Science Council South/East Advisory Council as a District Five representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

District Six Representative

Motion was made by Commissioner James, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Howard Labiner to the Arts and Science Council South/East Advisory Council as a District Six representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

At-Large Representatives

North/West Advisory Council

The following persons were nominated for appointment consideration to the Arts and Science Council North/West Advisory Council, Districts 1 and 2, as an At-Large representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018:

Khary Brown	by Commissioner Scarborough
Tyler Starr	by Commissioner Puckett
Donald Nagel	by Commissioner Leake

Note: An appointment will occur on April 5, 2016.

Central Advisory Council

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Jane Dalton to the Arts and Science Council's Central Advisory Council for Districts 3 and 4, as an At-Large representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

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Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Vonnie Brown to the Arts and Science Council's Central Advisory Council for Districts 3 and 4, as an At-Large representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

South/East Advisory Council

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to nominate and appoint Sabrina Brown to the Arts and Science Council's South/East Advisory Council for Districts 5 and 6, as an At-Large representative for a two-year term, expiring June 30, 2018.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS – NONE

MANAGER'S REPORT

16-3170 UPDATE ON CENTER CITY REAL ESTATE DISPOSITION PROCESS

The Board received information from Senior Assistant to the County Manager Dennis LaCaria on the status of the disposition process related to the Brooklyn Village assemblage.

A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Comments

County Manager Diorio said the evaluation committee would do their work and upon completion, make a recommendation to her. County Manager Diorio said she would then present an analysis, as well as, the pros and cons of each proposal to the Board and not a recommendation. County Manager Diorio said the final decision would be made by the Board and not staff.

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Chairman Fuller asked would a special meeting be held to receive that information and take action. *County Manager Diorio said that would be something for the Board to decide, taking into consideration, the Board's existing Budget/Public Policy Meeting schedule.*

Commissioner Dunlap asked was the reference to Park and Recreation listed in the update, the Park and Recreation Commission or staff. *County Manager Diorio said it was staff.*

Commissioner Dunlap questioned the non-involvement of the Park and Recreation Commission, since they represented the public. *County Manager Diorio said at some point there would be community engagement. She said the Board represented the public as well.*

Chairman Fuller asked was it possible for staff to consult with the Park and Recreation Commission and bring forth any ideas they had. *County Manager Diorio said the park was only one component of the project. County Manager Diorio explained that the project was not being driven by the park component.*

County Manager Diorio said she was confident that Park and Recreation staff had the community's best interest in mind.

Commissioner Cotham addressed the need for affordable housing in the community. She said this project was a good opportunity for the County to assist in that area of need via the development of the property. *Senior Assistant LaCaria said the proposals received showed a commitment to affordable housing.*

Commissioner Leake said the "flavor" of old Second Ward should be remembered in the development of the property. She also said jobs associated with the development of the property should be filled locally to whatever extent possible.

Commissioner Clarke said he would like the proposals ranked by staff.

Commissioner Ridenhour said his preference would be that the proposals not be ranked.

Commissioner Clarke said he was okay with them not being ranked, but he would like to see the pros and cons of each.

Commissioner Scarborough said she would like to see some acknowledgement of what was in the area years ago. She addressed the need for affordable housing. Commissioner Scarborough said she would like to see mix-use housing. She acknowledged that housing was not a County function.

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Commissioner Puckett said he hoped the Board was not requesting too much. He said it should be kept in mind that this was an urban area.

Commissioner James said the County was not in the housing business. He said it would not be fair to use funds generated from the project for affordable housing, in light of needs in other areas that were a function of the County.

Commissioner James said his hope was that the County would come up with a “reasonable proposal that maximizes the money and use of the property, so that the County would receive a lot of extra tax revenue, which could then be spent on what the County does best.”

Chairman Fuller said it should be kept in mind that the County was in partnership with other entities with respect to the development of this property.

Chairman Fuller commented on the positive economic impact of having mixed-use housing.

This concluded the discussion. The above is not inclusive of every comment but is a summary.

16-3186 PARK AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN PROJECTS

The Board received an overview from Park and Recreation Director Jim Garges regarding the guiding principles utilized to determine the prioritization and selection of projects in the Park and Recreation Master Plan.

A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Comments

Commissioner Dunlap asked about the initial development of Eastway Park. *Director Garges said the Master Plan was done in 2003 and development began in 2007.*

Commissioner Dunlap asked Director Garges to comment on parks that had been conceived and developed since 2003. *Director Garges noted First Ward Park and Romare Bearden Park. He also said a number of neighborhood parks and greenways would fall in that category, as well as, around 30 recreation center projects that were underway currently. He said the first phase of Eastway Park was done in 2007.*

Director Garges addressed what’s involved in the development of a master plan for a large regional park. He said development was done in phases, in light of other recreational needs.

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Commissioner Dunlap said the point he wanted to make was that there were a lot of other projects conceived and developed before the completion of Eastway Park, which was started prior to those projects, but to date, still had not been completed.

Commissioner Dunlap asked when was the next opportunity to get a project in line for development.

County Manager Diorio said currently there was a four-year capital plan extending out to FY2018. She said there were plans, however, to start a new capital planning process in FY2017, which would allow the County to start additional projects in FY2018.

Commissioner Dunlap said there were about 19 communities that fell into the category of being left behind. He said those communities would like for the Board to “make it right.”

Chairman Fuller asked if the Board moved Eastway Park up, what that would look like and what were the consequences of doing that. *Director Garges said there was the issue of how much funding was available for capital projects and being able to stay within the guidelines of the debt policy.*

Director Garges said there were a lot of nuisances to this because when you do a master plan in 2003 and now it’s 2016, you would have to go back to the community to see if what was proposed originally still what the community wanted.

Director Garges said he would not recommend doing anything at the expense of other projects.

Commissioner Cotham said she would like to see Eastway Park moved up. Commissioner Cotham said it seemed as if the development of Eastway had been put off at the expense of other projects.

Commissioner Scarborough asked about the bond referendum that included Eastway Park, which Director Garges addressed. She also asked about park rangers, which was addressed.

This concluded the discussion. The above is not inclusive of every comment but is a summary.

16-3187 FY2016 RESTRICTED CONTINGENCY: SENIOR ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES

The Board received a status update on the Senior Activities Services agency from Management and Budget Director Michael Bryant.

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Note: The Senior Activities and Services agency, formerly known as the Levine Senior Center, provides activities to help keep seniors healthy, improve their fitness and assist them to complete the tasks needed to maintain independent living. As part of the FY2016 Adopted Budget, the Board placed \$70,000 for the Senior Activities and Services agency in restricted contingency, pending the outcome of discussions with the Town of Mathews, the Leon Levine Foundation, and the development of a viable business model that would ensure long-term sustainability.

It was noted that the requirements to release funds from restricted contingency had been met.

Comments

Commissioner Leake asked about the receipt of the next audit as it related this program, which was addressed.

Chairman Fuller expressed thanks to the Town of Matthews for working with the County on this matter.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap, seconded by Commissioner Leake and unanimously carried with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, James, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to release the \$70,000 placed in restricted contingency for the Senior Activities and Services Agency.

A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Commissioner James left the meeting and was absent for the remainder of the meeting.

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS

16-3184 FEATURE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION: CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY

The Board received as information a report from Lee Keesler, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library CEO regarding the Library's contributions to three community initiatives: 1) Impact on Third Grade Reading, 2) Impact on Digital Inclusion, and 3) Impact on Economic Opportunity.

A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Comments

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Commissioner Ridenhour asked for an update on the Morrison Library, which was addressed.

It was noted that the Morrison Library would temporarily close on August 1, 2016 for renovations and because of the extent of the renovations, it would be closed for about a year.

Commissioner Leake thanked Mr. Keesler for the Library's work in District 2.

Commissioner Cotham asked about the impact of temporarily closing the Morrison Library, which was a voting precinct, in light of the upcoming election in November. *Mr. Keesler said the Board of Elections was aware of the closing. He said he was sure the Board of Elections would have a plan for going forward. Mr. Keesler said he would follow-up with the Board of Elections to see if a decision had been made regarding the relocation that precinct.*

Chairman Fuller thanked Mr. Keesler for the report.

16-3185 DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

The Board received as information monthly departmental management reports for March 2016.

Note: The County Manager has requested department directors develop department management monthly reports highlighting key activities and initiatives within the departments, and show relevant performance indicators of departmental activity.

A copy of the reports is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS

16-3166 PRESENTATION – CHARLOTTE WATER, DRINKING WATER QUALITY

The Board received an update from Barry Gullet, Director of Charlotte Water, regarding the quality of the drinking water provided by Charlotte Water.

Note: The water quality problems in Flint, Michigan generated concerns over the drinking water quality in Mecklenburg County. Charlotte Water is a City agency that provides water and sewer service throughout most of Mecklenburg County. Charlotte Water wanted the public to be assured that the drinking water they treat and distribute was safe.

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A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

Comments

Commissioner Leake thanked Director Gullet for attending a recent forum in District Two regarding this issue.

Commissioner Dunlap asked Director Gullet to comment on the following: 1) the value of having a watershed, 2) the continued availability of water, in light of increases in population, and 3) the placement of fluoride in drinking water. *Director Gullet addressed each of these.*

Commissioner Cotham asked Director Gullet to comment on private company water sources, which he addressed.

Commissioner Clarke commented on water quality. He said the biggest risk to the County's water supply was the unregulated or "poorly regulated" development of land and uses of land upstream from Mecklenburg County that border the Catawba River.

Commissioner Clarke asked had any thought been given to the possibility of using some of the revenue generated from selling water to protect the watershed upstream. *Director Gullet said that was being done, not so much upstream, but locally. He said utility funds had been used to purchase hundreds of acres of "critical" areas on Mountain Island Lake.*

Commissioner Scarborough asked about the process for responding to citizen requests. *Director Gullet encouraged the Board to forward any complaints and/or requests they receive to his office.*

Chairman Fuller thanked Director Gullet for his report.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS & REQUESTS

16-3177 MECKLENBURG COUNTY EMPLOYMENT APPLICATION MODIFICATION (COMMISSIONERS COTHAM, LEAKE, PUCKETT, AND SCARBOROUGH)

At the request of Commissioner Cotham, the Board received information regarding the proposed removal, known as "Ban the Box," of the question related to criminal convictions from the County's application for employment.

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Commissioner Cotham said a better term would be “delay the box,” because it didn’t mean a person’s background would not be checked, but the removal on the front end would give people an opportunity not to be readily disqualified, because they indicated on their application that they had a criminal record.

Note: The current application for employment with the County includes a question which asks about the applicant’s criminal convictions. While it is legally permissible to ask this question on the application, the timing of this conviction information could create an unnecessary bias on the part of the hiring manager and potentially create an additional barrier to employment for the applicant. Under the current process, initial offers of employment are made to the selected candidate contingent upon the successful completion of a drug screening, education and reference checks, as well as a review of the candidate’s criminal history. If something is found in the criminal history, the information is then discussed with the candidate to determine if it is relevant to the job requirements and whether or not it would disqualify them from serving in the position offered. Since the review of the criminal history is completed prior to beginning employment, the removal of the question from the application will not create any additional hiring risk to the County.

The following persons appeared to speak in support of the “Ban the Box” proposal: Shanriqua Henderson, who would benefit from the removal, Corine Mack, President of the Mecklenburg County NAACP, and Melissa Mummert, a teacher at the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Comments

Commissioner Cotham addressed how this action would benefit so many. She noted her experience working with individuals who had a criminal record(s) and the difficulty they had in finding employment.

Commissioner Cotham said she hoped this action by the County would generate conversation in the community around this issue. She said her hope was that large and small businesses would follow suit.

Commissioner Scarborough spoke in support of the proposal. She noted a personal experience encountered, having been arrested in 1963 and placed in jail for seven days because of her support of civil rights. She said following that occurrence, she applied to work during the summer for the IRS but was denied the opportunity because of her arrest record. Commissioner Scarborough said if “ban the box” was around at that time, she would not have had that experience. She said she was fortunate enough that because her arrest was civil rights related, it was later removed.

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Note: Commissioner Scarborough was arrested in 1963 for going into the Sumter Theatre, which at that time, did not allow African Americans to enter.

Commissioner Scarborough said when a person had served their time, they should not be denied the opportunity to move forward.

Commissioner Puckett spoke in support of the proposal. He said it was not about “not asking about your past but rather, having the opportunity to explain your past.” Commissioner Puckett said he, too, liked the term “delay the box.”

Commissioner Leake spoke in support of the proposal. Commissioner Leake asked how the process would work once approved. *County Manager Diorio explained what steps HR would take.*

Commissioner Clarke spoke in support of the proposal.

Commissioner Dunlap spoke in support of the proposal.

Chairman Fuller spoke in support of the proposal. He said this was also about affording people economic opportunity.

Commissioner Puckett asked was staff prohibited from asking about criminal records during the interview process. *Deputy County Manager/Chief of Staff Chris Peek said no, but because interview panels were used, the question would not be asked at that time. He said the question would be asked by the Recruitment Manager of the final candidate, one on one, versus in a group setting.*

Commissioner Dunlap suggested the Board’s action with respect to this matter be well publicized, in the hope that other companies would follow suit, as noted by Commissioner Cotham.

Chairman Fuller said at some point, perhaps there could be discussion regarding whether the County could require those it contracted with to do this also with respect to their recruitment of applicants.

Commissioner Ridenhour expressed support of the proposal.

Motion was made by Commissioner Cotham, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and

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Scarborough voting yes, to direct the County Manager to modify the County's application for employment by removing the question related to criminal convictions.

16-3160 CLOSED SESSION-LAND ACQUISITION COWAN'S FORD WILDLIFE REFUGE

Motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Leake and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for acquisition of a portion of Tax Parcel 013-041-02 (+- 10 acres) from Roger D. Parks in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the Town of Huntersville for \$245,000.

Note: The acquisition is for the expansion of the Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge.

16-3160 CLOSED SESSION-LAND ACQUISITION MALLARD CREEK GREENWAY

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for acquisition of Tax Parcel 027-141-03 (+- 3.9 acres) from the George RB Moore Revocable Trust along Mallard Creek Greenway in the City of Charlotte for \$60,000.

Note: The acquisition is for the expansion of the Mallard Creek Greenway.

16-3160 CLOSED SESSION-LAND ACQUISITION MCALPINE CREEK GREENWAY

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Dunlap and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisition of a portion of Tax Parcel 211-011-15 (+- 4.915 acres) for \$31,000 from Providence Landing Atrium Homes Association.

Note: The acquisition is for the expansion of the McAlpine Creek Greenway.

Commissioner Dunlap left the dais and was away for the remainder of the meeting.

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**16-3160 CLOSED SESSION-LAND ACQUISITION WILMORE CENTENNIAL PARK AT SOUTH
END**

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and carried 5-2 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Dunlap, Fuller, Leake, and Scarborough voting yes and

Commissioners Puckett and Ridenhour voting no, to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute all documents necessary for the acquisition of Tax Parcel #123-062-09 (+- .124 acres) from David Nelson Matthews in the City of Charlotte for a purchase price of \$351,000.

Note: The acquisition is for the expansion of the Wilmore Centennial Park at South End.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Scarborough, seconded by Commissioner Leake and carried 7-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to approve the following items:

16-3151 AUCTION FOR DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Approve the list of property, (Exhibit A), as surplus, and adopt Resolution authorizing the sale of personal property by public auction on April 16, 2016 at 10:00 am, 5550 Wilkinson Boulevard, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Resolution and Exhibit A recorded in full in Minute Book _____ Document # _____.

16-3152 HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM – FY16 FLOODPLAIN ACQUISITION

Accept the Offer of Sale of Real Estate from Call Me First, LLC, owner of property at 5012 Addison Drive (Tax Parcel 185-071-05), for \$395,000, and authorize the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police and Fire Departments to utilize the structure for training exercises.

Note: This acquisition is being done through the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services' Engineering & Mitigation Program. The goal of the Program is to minimize the risk of potential loss of life and property damage from flooding while enhancing the natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain (creating open space, expanding greenways, constructing wetlands, etc.).

16-3156 INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENTS

Recognize, receive and appropriate insurance reimbursement funds of \$19,547 for Asset and Facility Management.

Note: The County received insurance proceeds based on claims for stolen and damaged items in the department identified. This Board action provides authority to use the funds for replacement of these items.

16-3158 MINUTES

Approve Minutes of Regular meeting held March 1, 2016 and Closed Session held February 16, 2016 and March 1, 2016.

16-3162 LAND DONATION – MALLARD CREEK GREENWAY

Accept the donation of a portion of Tax Parcel 051-411-09 (\pm 23.65 acres) for the future construction of a portion of Mallard Creek Greenway trail from Pavilion Village, LLC.

16-3165 CAPITAL RESERVE REQUEST – RECREATION CENTERS

Authorize expenditure of up to \$51,000 from the Recreation Centers Capital Reserve Fund to complete the following:

- 1) Fitness Equipment for West Charlotte Recreation Center \$15,000
- 2) Front Desk Counter/Office Furniture at Naomi Drenan Recreation Center \$6,000
- 3) Front Desk Counter for Hickory Grove Recreation Center \$6,000
- 4) Wireless Scoreboard for Albemarle Road Recreation Center \$5,000
- 5) Wireless Scoreboard remote for Berewick Recreation Center \$3,000
- 6) Window Tint for Hickory Grove Recreation Center \$3,660
- 7) Gym Lockers for Tuckaseegee Recreation Center \$3,080
- 8) Gym Lockers for Naomi Drenan Recreation Center \$3,080
- 9) Gym Lockers for Arbor Glen Outreach Center \$3,080
- 10) Gym Lockers for Ivory/Baker Recreation Center \$3,080

16-3168 TAX REFUNDS

Approve refunds in the amount of \$138,005.30 and interest as statutorily required to be paid as requested by the County Assessor.

Note: This Board action is necessary to approve tax refunds resulting from clerical errors, audits and other amendments, including revaluation appeals. Accrued interest is estimated to be \$4,540.55.

A list of the refund recipients is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

16-3169 CONSULTANT SELECTION – ROOF REPLACEMENT OF 715 E. 4TH STREET

Authorize the County Manager to negotiate fees and execute a contract with Terracon Consultants, Inc. for design services for the roof replacement on the Former Intake Center (715 E. 4th St.). In the event negotiations with Terracon Consultants, Inc. are unsuccessful, authorize the County Manager to negotiate with REI Engineers, Inc. for this project.

THIS CONCLUDED ITEMS APPROVED BY CONSENT

16-3179 GRANT APPLICATION – NCDPS ALTERNATIVES TO COMMITMENT PROGRAM (CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES)

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and carried 7-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to approve the submission of a grant application for funding in the amount of \$100,000 during FY 2016-17 from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, Division of Adult Corrections and Juvenile Justice; and if awarded, recognize, receive and appropriate such funds for the grant period; and if awarded, establish one Criminal Justice Case Manager position in Criminal Justice Services beginning July 1, 2016.

Commissioner Leake removed this item from Consent for more public awareness.

16-3180 GRANT APPLICATION – MECKLENBURG ABC BOARD GRANT (CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES)

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Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Scarborough and carried 7-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour, and Scarborough voting yes, to approve the submission of a grant application for funding in the amount of \$50,000 from the Mecklenburg Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Grant Program; and if awarded, recognize, receive and appropriate such funds; and if awarded, establish one Peer

Support Specialist position in Criminal Justice Services, Re-Entry Services Program beginning July 1, 2016.

Commissioner Leake removed this item from Consent for more public awareness.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Leake, seconded by Commissioner Ridenhour and carried 7-0 with Commissioners Clarke, Cotham, Fuller, Leake, Puckett, Ridenhour and Scarborough voting yes, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 11:26 p.m.

Janice S. Paige, Clerk

Trevor M. Fuller, Chairman