

**MINUTES OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1, 2016 AT 4:30 P.M.**

BE IT REMEMBERED: That the Board of Commissioners met in regular session on November 1, 2016, in the Commission Chambers, 200 College Street, Room 326 in downtown Asheville, North Carolina at 4:30 p.m. where and when the following business was transacted:

The Chairman called the meeting to order with the following members present:

David Gantt, Chairman
Brownie Newman, Vice Chair
Joe Belcher, Commissioner
Ellen Frost, Commissioner
Mike Fryar, Commissioner
Holly Jones, Commissioner
Tim Moffitt, Commissioner

Staff present was: Wanda Greene, County Manager; Mandy Stone, Assistant County Manager/HHS Director; Tim Flora, Finance Director; Robert Deutsch, County Attorney; Kathy Hughes, Clerk to the Board.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Lane asked that African Americans be included on the committee to choose art for downtown display. He referenced ways that African Americans had contributed including the building of railroads into Asheville and the history of Stephens Lee High School.

Eleanor Lane asked that African Americans be included in the art wall to reflect their history. She asked that the process be redone to get more input.

Keith Young asked that African Americans be included in the selection process for the history and art projects.

Bill Murdock spoke on behalf of Eblen Charities thanking the County for their work to support needy families. He said that the teacher housing project was going well and should be open for business by April of 2017

Sasha Mitchell with the African American Heritage Commission thanked the Board for welcoming their input into the art project.

Jerry Rice criticized the Board for the handling of non-profit funding and asked for transparency.

DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL TO FOLLOW AGENDA

Commissioner Frost moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Moffitt seconded the motion and it passed 7-0.

- **Approval of the Minutes of the October 18, 2016 Regular Meeting**
- **Grant Projects Ordinance**
- **Capital Projects Ordinance**
- **Budget Amendment: Fund 10 – Community Health Promotion Nurse Family Partnerships; Fnding to Fight HepC**
- **Resolution Authorizing the Chairman to Execute Non-Warranty Deed**
- **Release Report**

GOOD NEWS

- **Adoption Awareness Month**

Commissioner Belcher read the proclamation and moved for its approval. The motion passed 7-0. Commissioner Belcher said he had an adopted grandson and he encouraged everyone to learn more about adoption opportunities. Angie Gardner with County Health and Human Services said that there were lots of children in foster care looking for a forever family through adoption.

PUBLIC HEARING

- **Text Amendment to Chapter 58, Article III, Farmland Preservation Program**

Debbie Truempy, County Zoning Administrator, said that the text amendment would provide clarification on the Farmland Preservation Program procedures and clarify statute changes. By clarifying the ordinance, the County would be eligible for USDA funding. The Planning Board had approved the changes.

The Chairman opened the public hearing at 4:56 p.m.

David Lee, Chairman of the Farmland Preservation Board, spoke on behalf of the Board in support of the changes to the ordinance.

No other comments were taken and the hearing was closed at 4:58 p.m.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the amendments as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Text Amendment to Chapter 78 Zoning Ordinance**

Debbie Truempy, County Zoning Administrator, said that these text amendments were a result of changes in state statutes regarding decisions of the Board of Adjustment. The Planning Board held a public hearing and no comments were taken. They found this amendment consistent with the Land Use Plan, reasonable and in the public interest.

The Chairman opened the hearing at 5:02 p.m.

No comments were taken and the hearing was closed at 5:03 p.m.

Commissioner Moffitt moved to approve the text amendment as presented. Commissioner Fryar seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Moffitt moved to approve the resolution of consistency as presented. Commissioner Frost seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Text Amendment to Chapter 70 Subdivisions**

Debbie Truempy, Zoning Administrator, said that these amendments involved clarifying the variance procedures and bringing them into compliance with the state statutes. The Planning Board held a public hearing and unanimously approved the changes.

The Chairman opened the public hearing at 5:05 p.m.

No comments were taken and the hearing was closed at 5:06 p.m.

Commissioner Jones suggested that the Planning Board minutes be clarified as to who was in attendance and who was absent from the meetings as recorded.

Commissioner Belcher moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Text Amendment to Chapter 58 – Planning & Development**

Debbie Truempy, Zoning Administrator, explained these changes would bring the ordinance in line with state requirements. The Planning Board held a public hearing and the changes were unanimously approved.

The Chairman opened the public hearing at 5:12 p.m.

No comments were taken and the hearing was closed at 5:13 p.m.

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Frost seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Art Project – History Wall**

The Chair summarized the discussion held at the October 18 meeting when the Board decided to table the matter for further review before taking any action on the art projects. He said that there was concern that there was not sufficient inclusion of the African American community in the planning.

Gigi Francis, Chair of the Art Project Committee, reviewed the projects submitted as she had previously presented at the last meeting. She said that the history wall would need input from the community and had \$25,000 budgeted for the project.

Jerry Rice wanted a rotating history wall that could be changed. He suggested that the community pay for or donate to the wall. He did not want the County to have to pay for the project.

Joy McConnell wanted African Americans included and suggested support of the final proposal.

Commissioner Frost moved to postpone any activity on the wall until the whole community has had a chance to have input in the process.

Commissioner Belcher said that the history wall should be able to change and the faith community should be included.

Commissioner Moffitt asked for clarification as to whether the bids needed to be accepted or rejected at this point.

Commissioner Frost moved to reject all the bids and take no action on the wall at this point. Vice Chair Newman seconded the motion stating that the proposals that came to the Board were good but the process was flawed and he hoped to move forward at a later date.

Commissioner Jones said that this is about the process to get to the final product. A broader inclusion for the process was as important with the final outcome.

The Chairman agreed it should be delayed until more work could be done.

The motion passed 7-0.

Gigi Frances, Art Project Chair, reviewed the proposals for the outdoor kinetic sculpture project.

Jerry Rice said that these projects did not represent the County and did not belong in front of the courthouse and should represent the people.

Commissioner Jones moved to reject the bids due to a flawed process and that future bids be open to all types of art. Commissioner Fryar seconded the motion. *The County Manager asked and the Board agreed that other locations be considered for placement of the art in the future.* The motion passed 7-0.

- **Resolution Amending Resolution 13-05-01 Setting Guidelines for the Funding of Non-Profit Agencies**

Rachel Nygaard, HHS Department, reviewed the grant submission process as it currently exists and gave an overview of the changes proposed.

Jerry Rice asked about the analysis of the non-profits and if they were properly based on outcome goals. He said that the outcomes were not achieving the goals.

Referring to one of the proposed changes requiring all funding go to County residents, Commissioner Frost asked if people from other counties would be able to be served at the Family Justice Center. April Burgess Johnson from Helpmate said that they cannot discriminate based on where someone resides; however, this funding change would not prevent service. Commissioner Moffitt clarified that these organizations get funding from other organizations and this would allow Buncombe funding to be dedicated to Buncombe residents.

The Chairman said that he was happy with the way the County partners with the community and was not in support of the proposed changes.

Commissioner Moffitt moved to remove the resolution from the agenda for further consideration at a later date. Commissioner Newman seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

- **Resolution of Intent to Solicit Bids for the Sale of Buncombe County Property**

The County Manager said that the County owned the property at 125 S. Lexington Avenue that was formerly occupied by Handmade in America and now housed WNC Air Quality. She said that the property was not very accessible to the public and would like the County to sell the property.

Commissioner Fryar moved to approve this resolution. Commissioner Frost seconded and the motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Jones commended the Board of Elections, Election employees and Director, Trena Parker for their work on early voting. They had done an outstanding job with a great number of sites and had voted over 80,000 citizens.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcement:

- **November 8 – Election Day**
- **November 15 – New Commissioners’ Orientation – First Floor Conference Room @ 200 College Street in downtown Asheville @ 8 a.m.**
- **November 15 - Regular Meeting beginning at 4:30 p.m. at 200 College Street, Room 326**
- **November 24 & 25 – Thanksgiving Holiday**

Commissioner Belcher moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded and the motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

KATHY HUGHES, CLERK TO THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DAVID GANTT, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS