

GREENVILLE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

January 4, 2013
Greenville, NC

The Greenville Redevelopment Commission met on the above date for a meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the City Hall Building located at 200 West Fifth Street.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeremy King, Vice Chair
Angela Marshall

Sharif Hatoum
Mark Woodson, Chair

Richard Patterson
Judy Siguaw

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Edwards, Audio; Merrill Flood, Director of Community Development; Tiana Keith, Secretary; Tom Wisemiller, Economic Development Project Coordinator; Carl Rees, Economic Development Manager; and Kandie Smith, City Council member.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF September 3, 2013

Judy Siguaw- On the second page there is a typo in the comment by Mr. Tyson. I believe the second "to" should be "two".

Motion was made by Ms. Judy Siguaw and seconded by Mr. Jeremy King to approve the December 3, 2013 minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Review of the Redevelopment Commission Charge

Mr. Rees discussed authority and charge of the Redevelopment Commission.

Election of Officers

Mr. Woodson- The floor is open for nominations for Chair of the Redevelopment Commission.

Motion was made by Mr. Jeremy King and seconded by Ms. Angela Marshall to nominate Mark Woodson as Chair for the Redevelopment Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Jeremy King and seconded by Ms. Angela Marshall to close the nominations for Chair of the Redevelopment Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Woodson- The floor is open for nominations for Vice Chair of the Redevelopment Commission.

Motion was made by Ms. Judy Siguaw and seconded by Ms. Angela Marshall to nominate Jeremy King as Vice Chair for the Redevelopment Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Ms. Judy Siguaw and seconded by Ms. Angela Marshall to close the nominations for Vice Chair of the Redevelopment Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Town Common work item

Mr. Woodson addressed and revisited the RDC's role and responsibilities as related to the Town Common.

Mr. Woodson- I am asking the board, until we have a chance understand the impact of all the related issues and formalize its own plan of action, to: 1. Authorize the Chair to draft a letter to the media addressing our mission, the Town Common work item and other items and elements of our plan and 2. Postpone until our March 18th workshop any further activities directly involving the Town Common Master Plan.

Mr. King- Our main goal is to facilitate discussion. I think it is prudent that this board waits to see how this river study develops. I support moving any discussion of the Town Common Master Plan to after our March meeting.

Ms. Siguaw- I want to make sure we are being inclusive as we move forward.

Ms. Marshall- I think it is important that we let the public understand these are two different things. The general consensus seems to be that the river and Town Common are the same and they are not.

Mr. Patterson- I think we should meet with City Council and then with everyone else to better understand and clear up any confusion.

Motion was made by Mr. Jeremy King and seconded by Ms. Angela Marshall to authorize the Chair to write a letter to the media stating the RDC position and work plan regarding Town Common. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Jeremy King and seconded by Mr. Sharif Hatoum to postpone

any discussion of meetings until the workshop in March. Motion carried with five in favor and one opposed (Patterson).

Mr. Woodson- There is some confusion about the Tar River Study and the Town Common Master Plan. The same groups are involved.

Ms. Marshall- I received an email and was requested to be on a focus group for the Tar River Study.

Mr. Rees- These are totally different studies.

Commission members discussed involvement in the Tar River study.

Mr. Woodson- We can participate in the river study as informed citizens or as individual members.

Mr. Rees- It is extremely common to create a study or steering committee that includes appointed members of various boards or commissions. We believe that these are appropriate invitations for the Redevelopment Commission to be a part of that.

Motion was made by Ms. Angela Marshall and seconded by Mr. Jeremy King to create a subcommittee to represent the Redevelopment Commission for the Tar River study. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Woodson- Are there any volunteers? I will volunteer.

Ms. Marshall- I will volunteer.

Mr. Hatoum- I will volunteer.

Update on Parking Deck Area Site Design

Mr. Rees discussed updates on the Uptown Parking Deck.

Mr. Rees- It would be great if the Commission would endorse the site plan and then also if you agree we will instruct River's and Associates to construct a rotating art site.

Mr. King- Does City Council pay for the art or does the Redevelopment Commission pay for this?

Mr. Rees- That has been coming out of economic development funds.

Motion was made by Mr. Jeremy King and seconded by Mr. Richard Patterson to

approve the Uptown Parking Deck site plan with public art. Motion carried with five in favor and one opposed.

Update on Dickinson Corridor Planning Process

Mr. Wisemiller gave an update on the Dickinson Corridor planning process.

Mr. King- The initial public meeting went really well. Tom, you have worked very hard. This is not just a study to do a study. We have the right team and I believe our money will be well spent.

Mid Year Budget Update

Mr. Rees provided an updated budget for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

Mr. Rees- We wanted to give you a mid-year picture. We are required to expend these dollars by the end of the year. We want to be fiscally responsible and we are now in a situation where we need to finish up these expenditures.

REPORT FROM SECRETARY

Monthly Financial Report

Mr. Flood: The expenditure reports for West Greenville and the Center City have been submitted for review by the Commission.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mr. Flood introduced Councilmember Kandie Smith to the Redevelopment Commission.

Ms. Siguaw and Ms. Marshall gave an overview of the Small Business Plan Competition.

Ms. Siguaw- I do not think we should wait too long after our meeting in March to move forward.

Ms. Marshall- I agree.

Ms. Siguaw- Richard and I will be attending the Main Street Conference this month.

Mr. Woodson- I want to thank the Commission for electing me as Chair and for your input. We work well together.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Richard Patterson and seconded by Ms. Judy Siguaw to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl J. Rees". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Carl J. Rees, Economic Development Manager
The City of Greenville Community Development Department