



Town of Carrboro

Town Hall

301 W. Main St.

Carrboro, NC 27510

Meeting Minutes Board of Aldermen

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

7:30 PM

Board Chambers - Room 110

Present: Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Alderman Damon Seils, Alderman Sammy Slade, Alderman Bethany Chaney, and Alderman Michelle Johnson, Alderman Jacquelyn Gist, Alderman Randee Haven-O'Donnell

Also Present: David Andrews, Town Manager, Catherine Dorando, Town Clerk, Nick Herman, Town Attorney

A RESOLUTION HONORING RETIRING ATTORNEY MIKE BROUGH

A motion was made by Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, seconded by Alderman Slade to approve the resolution below.

RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION OF MIKE BROUGH

WHEREAS, Michael B. Brough was first appointed Carrboro Town Attorney effective August 1, 1976; and

WHEREAS, we are sure that in 1976, the Town of Carrboro had no idea that Mike would serve the Town very well in that capacity for nearly forty years; and

WHEREAS, by way of sharing a little background about Mike, he received his bachelors of arts degree with highest honors from Georgetown University, his juris doctor degree with honors from the University of Michigan School of Law; and a master's degree in public administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, where he was a Governor Herbert H. Lehman Fellow; and

WHEREAS, Mike founded the Brough Law Firm in 1988, and over the years has served as general counsel for many towns in addition to Carrboro, including Tarboro, Aberdeen, Whispering Pines and Cameron; and

WHEREAS, Mike has authored several articles and books in the fields of land use law, and state and local governmental law, and has presented and taught courses in these fields at various CLE programs and institutions over the years, including the (then) Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and

WHEREAS, his work with Carrboro included the writing of the Town of Carrboro Land Use Ordinance; in fact, from this work, Mike authored a seminal book based on the ordinance entitled A Unified Development Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, this book informed scores of ordinances around the country, and was published as a model by the American Planning Association in 1985; and

WHEREAS, Mike also co-authored another important text, this one aiding the Board of Adjustment, entitled the Zoning Board of Adjustment in North Carolina which was published by the Institute of Government in 1984; and

WHEREAS, Planning Director Patricia McGuire, who worked with Mike for twenty years, said that Mike is one of the most humble, creative, open-minded persons she has had the privilege of working with; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Jacquie Gist, who served during twenty-five years of Mike's tenure as Carrboro's Town Attorney, said that she would "miss Mike's insights, in-depth understanding of our ordinance and the values it reflects, and his institutional knowledge and love of our town. Mostly, though, I will miss Mike's sense of humor. During twenty-five years of meetings we have shared hundreds of laughs, not all of which have been appropriate;" and

WHEREAS, Mike has decided that it is time to re-claim his Tuesday nights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carrboro Board of Aldermen expresses its extreme gratitude to Michael B. Brough for his many years of service to our town, his unparalleled knowledge of local governmental law, and his tremendous his patience with our Board over the years as we constantly challenged him to think "outside the box" – and which he did very well; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Carrboro Board of Aldermen wants Mike to know that while we will miss him, we nonetheless wish him good luck, health, and happiness, and that as he enters this next phase of his life, we hope that he still thinks of us occasionally on Tuesday nights.

This the 2nd day of February, 2016

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Lavelle, Alderman Gist, Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, Alderman Slade, Alderman Chaney, Alderman Seils, and Alderman Johnson

RECREATION AND PARKS "LITERACY IN THE PARK EVENTS"

Kendra Van Pelt, a member of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board talked to the Board about "Literacy in the Park" events and requested folks to sign-up to be volunteers or that may need help with reading skills. Interested persons can contact Recreation and Parks for more information.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN HAVEN-O'DONNELL, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GIST, THAT THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 19TH, 2016 BE APPROVED, AS AMENDED. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL

A RESOLUTION SETTING THE DATE FOR THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST FOR THE SHORT SESSION

The purpose of this item was to request that the Board of Aldermen set the date for the 2016 Legislative Breakfast.

A motion was made by Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, seconded by Alderman Gist, that this resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

This the 2nd day of February, 2016

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Lavelle, Alderman Gist, Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, Alderman Slade, Alderman Chaney, Alderman Seils, and Alderman Johnson

REQUEST TO RESCHEDULE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR LAND USE ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS THAT WOULD CLARIFY REGULATIONS FOR SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES

The purpose of this item was for the Board of Aldermen to change the schedule for the public hearing on text amendments to the Land Use Ordinance to clarify the existing provisions relating to short-term rentals.

A motion was made by Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, seconded by Alderman Gist, that this resolution be approved.

A RESOLUTION CANCELLING THE PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CARRBORO LAND USE ORDINANCE TO CLARIFY THE REGULATIONS FOR SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES

WHEREAS, additional time is needed to prepare revisions to the draft ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen cancels the public hearing scheduled for February 23, 2016 on "An Ordinance Amending the Carrboro Land Use Ordinance to Clarify the Regulations for Short-Term Rentals in Single-Family and other Residences."

This the 2nd day of February, 2016

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Lavelle, Alderman Gist, Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, Alderman Slade, Alderman Chaney, Alderman Seils, and Alderman Johnson

UPDATE ON SOUTHERN BRANCH LIBRARY

The purpose of this item was to update the Board of Aldermen on the Town and County efforts related to possible siting of the Southern Branch Library and the status of communication related to the 203 S. Greensboro property.

Trish McGuire, the Town's Planning Director, made the staff report to the Board.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked if a teen center could be considered as a use in the project. Staff stated that it could be explored but that currently, it is dependent upon what the site is capable of hosting. Alderman Haven-O'Donnell stated that the number one goal is to keep the project going and to get it done but asked for the interest of the teen center to be kept in mind.

Alderman Gist asked for future parking studies to be completed when UNC classes are still in session.

David Andrews, Town Manager, stated that he thinks that in late fall or early winter that the County should be pretty far down the road with the project.

Alderman Chaney asked staff to look into ways to fast track the Town's approval process. She also asked for staff to develop a timeline that will allow the Town to move as quickly forward as possible.

Alderman Slade asked what the timeframe is to get the information in for the any added uses and to let folks know a date when no other use ideas could be accepted.

Alderman Johnson asked for collaboration efforts to be made available regarding Kidzu and the ArtsCenter.

Alderman Gist stated that the community spoke against using any public funds for Kidzu or the ArtsCenter project.

An unidentified speaker stated that that the library process has been taking place for well over twenty years and to focus on the library for the timeline.

Melva Fager Okun stated that it has taken twenty-seven years to get to this point and asked the Board to place priority on the development on the library.

PRESENTATION OF THE ADVISORY BOARDS' TECHNICAL REVIEW OF CARRBORO VISION2020

The purpose of this item was for the Board of Aldermen to receive a brief presentation on the advisory boards' technical review of the Carrboro Vision2020 document.

Tina Moon, the Town's Planning Administrator, made the staff report and introduced Planning Board member, Jack Haggarty.

Jack Haggarty explained the process to the Board.

Mayor Lavelle stated that the Appearance Commission didn't have comments added and asked if it was too late to have them added. Mr. Haggarty stated that he would be happy to accept comments from all advisory boards; including those that were unable to review the document before today's meeting.

Alderman Chaney asked where the Board should be going, considering the visioning process that was undertaken. Mr. Haggarty stated that the Vision2020 document should be a living document that can be amended and include new visions, as time changes and brings new ideas. He suggested that the document continued to be revisited.

Alderman Johnson stated that the Board should consider a process of responding to the advisory boards regarding their comments.

Mayor Lavelle stated that this item be scheduled for a future work session to allow the Board to discuss this item in more detail.

Linda Haac, the chair of the Transportation Advisory Board, suggested that the Board turn the document back to the advisory boards to allow them to provide additional comments after considering the comments from other boards.

Patrick McDonough stated that the Town Code is dated in comparison to the Vision Document. He also stated that an updated code could allow future projects to go more smoothly and be more aligned with a vision document.

Alderman Seils stated that he would like to see the Human Services Commission Appearance Commission to comment on the plan. He also questioned the purpose of developing a new vision document if the document is not going to lead to changes in policy.

A motion was made by Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, seconded by Alderman Gist, that this resolution be approved.

A RESOLUTION RECEIVING THE PRESENTATION ON THE ADVISORY BOARDS' TECHNICAL REVIEW OF CARRBORO VISION2020

WHEREAS, for the past three years, the Planning Board has organized a series of three outreach sessions in October to help support National Community Planning Month; and

WHEREAS, for October of 2015, the Planning Board called on the collective knowledge of all of the Town's advisory boards to provide a technical review of Carrboro Vision2020, to evaluate the Town's progress toward the goals and directions outlined in that document, to note where goals have been accomplished, where more effort is needed and where goals should be revised or even abandoned; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has presented the technical review to the Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Carrboro Board of Aldermen that the Board receives the presentation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board requests that the document be sent back to all advisory boards including the Human Services Advisory Commission and Appearance Commission. The Board also requests that the item be brought back for the Board's discussion at a work session for the Board to provide feedback to the advisory board comments. Staff should include color coded comments to distinguish the latest additions and comments from the Board when the item is returned to the Board.

This the 2nd day of February, 2016

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Lavelle, Alderman Gist, Alderman Haven-O'Donnell, Alderman Slade, Alderman Chaney, Alderman Seils, and Alderman Johnson

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARK DESIGN UPDATE

The purpose of this agenda item was to update the Board of Aldermen on the proposed park layout before moving forward with the design phase of the park.

Anita Jones-McNair made the staff presentation to the Board.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell stated that an environmental consultant should weigh in on the constructed wetlands. She asked that a demonstration hive be considered for the southeastern end of the park. She asked that the senior activity area be separated from the children's natural playground and to consider spreading the equipment along the trail. She asked that the shelter be moved from the back edge of the park since it is so close to homes.

Mayor Lavelle asked that the location of the amphitheater be located where there would be room for folks to sit around and spread blankets.

Alderman Seils noted that the staff had previously confirmed that at least one of the two open areas would be graded level to serve as a multipurpose playfield. Anita Jones-McNair confirmed that this was in the plan.

Alderman Slade suggested that if the amphitheater has amplified sound, that it would be pointed away from the homes. He also suggested that a pond be developed for recreational purposes.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell responded that the pond idea should not go forward due to the concerns over standing water and safety issues due to the proximity of the water to neighborhoods and small children.

Alderman Chaney asked that the Town consider liability regarding the demonstration hive. She asked that staff check with the NAACP Youth Council regarding the ideas how to honor Dr. King. She stated that she wants the park to honor Dr. King in very big ways and also stated that she wants more feedback from the African-American Community. She asked staff to ensure that there are open fields that can be used for useful purposes, including ultimate Frisbee, since people have stated they are running out of space to practice.

Mayor Lavelle stated that there could be quotes throughout the parkway path from Dr. King.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked that staff add doggy poop bags as soon as possible.

Alderman Slade stated that a group has been working on a food policy council and that he can request a presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN JOHNSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN SEILS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL