



Town of Carrboro

Town Hall
301 W. Main St.
Carrboro, NC 27510

Meeting Minutes Board of Aldermen

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

7:30 PM

Board Chambers - Room 110

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

Also Present: David Andrews, Town Manager, Catherine Dorando, Town Clerk, Bob Hornik, Town Attorney

ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

Catherine Dorando, Town Clerk, announced the upcoming public meetings.

READING OF POEM BY GARY PHILLIPS

Gary Phillips, Carrboro's poet laureate, read a poem called "The Morning After" by Ellen Bass.

REPORT FROM OWASA REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE FEBRUARY 2017 EMERGENCY EVENT

Ed Kerwin, the Executive Director of OWASA, presented a report related to the emergency event that occurred on February 3rd and 4th.

Susanna Williams, Fire Chief, addressed the Board and explained the mutual aid assistance and response from the level of the Orange County Emergency Operations Center.

Alderman Seils stated that he did not receive an emergency notification from the Town of Carrboro directly and asked that direct messaging be considered for future events. Ed Kerwin suggested that citizens sign up for the OC Alerts System that is handled by Orange County.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked if OWASA is exploring the question of whether the addition of fluoride is necessary.

Bob Morgan, Carrboro's representative on the OWASA Board of Directors, stated that the Board is reviewing recommendations and plan to have a future conversation regarding fluoride use but that there has not been any data that suggests the fluoride policy will be changed. Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked for the OWASA Board to consider the impact of fluoride on the thyroid before reinitiating the fluoride.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked about how the response is going to play out in the future. Ed Kerwin stated that they are reviewing the response to examine what worked and what could be changed for the better.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked how the community can store a baseline of bottled water to meet the needs of citizenry. Chief Williams stated that Orange County has the ability to request water that is brought into a warehouse for distribution.

Alderman Slade asked if OWASA could link their meetings that are related to the emergency to their water situation webpage. He also suggested that OWASA consider distributing rain barrels or discounting them for the use in emergencies.

Mayor Lavelle suggested that someone from the town be available at future emergency press conferences so that the public is aware that all entities are working together. She also requested language options in the phone calls. She asked if there was any follow-up for Small Business Loans available for businesses that were impacted by the event. She asked about the availability of flushing toilets with other water and if that was ok to do. Ed Kerwin stated that it was ok for toilets to be flushed with other water.

Alderman Gist stated that there was some misinformation regarding the safety of the water and stated that there could be a way to communicate more clearly exactly what the issue is with the water.

Alderman Slade suggested that the message regarding businesses that are not regulated by the Health Department be considered.

BIAS FREE POLICING REPORT

The purpose of this item was to provide an update on the Carrboro Police Department's efforts toward Bias-free policing.

Walter Horton, Carrboro Police Chief, introduced the item and Sara Owens, the Police Department's Crime Analyst.

Sara Owens provided the presentation and answered questions from the Board.

Alderman Seils asked for a copy of the PowerPoint. He asked that a lot of attention be placed on gathering community information from the proper respondents in the community for the community survey. He also asked for more information on the RTI data. He asked how far into implicit bias training the Police Department has gotten. Chief Horton stated that there is another training coming up in 2017 that will get all new officers trained.

Alderman Gist stated that there are residents that are Islamic and she asked if there was a way to gather any bias related to Islam. She stated that it would be hard to measure. She also stated that she has been getting questions related to the screening or rounding up of immigrants. Chief Horton stated that

immigration is not a priority of local governments and that they have not received any federal orders related to immigration.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell asked for more information on the RTI program and future updates on the "veil of darkness" statistics. She also asked how the "Coffee with a Cop" events are going. Chief Horton stated that those sessions seem to be going very well and that he will provide further data. She stated that she supports the future survey of the Student Resource Officers.

Alderman Chaney asked how we can make sure to communicate and test the quality of the data independently. She asked if there could be a slide created to show white/Hispanic and white/non-Hispanic as a separate data breakout set.

Alderman Slade requested the annual report be included in advance to the BOA in the packet as it is hard to digest all the information during the presentation only. He also requested that fonts and information in presentation slides be made more legible. He requested that the police report include definitions of some of the terms (i.e. types of stops). Alderman Slade requested of staff to find out if the D.A. responds to ICE detention requests and how the local criminal justice system functions generally on immigration, he stated that it is the town's responsibility to accurately assure the public; if we are saying that they are safe we need to find out if this is the case. Alderman Slade asked if drops in searches are a consequence of the newly written consent searches. Alderman Slade requested that in the annual report Hispanic population ethnicity be separated out from the white. He requested that more information about the 5 citizen complaints be included in the annual report. He commented on the "Other Metrics-Marijuana" slide and said that like the other slides it shows a lot of disparity between the races, and that the veil of darkness theory cannot explain it as these are likely not all traffic stops. He questioned the Veil of Darkness theory, needing more information about the theory, there is still disparity happening if it is racism is it systemic or institutional, if it is not racism, what is it? He requested more information about what school resource officers do.

Mayor Lavelle stated that she will be interested in reviewing data on residence information as it pertains to traffic stops.

CARRBORO VISION2020

The purpose of this agenda item was to provide the Mayor and Board members an opportunity to discuss Carrboro Vision2020, the recently completed advisory board review and other related matters.

Trish McGuire, the Town's Planning Director provided the staff presentation.

Alderman Chaney stated that she would like to see a much more organized and exhaustive evaluation of the progress made from the goals of Vision2020 and that next steps could be focused on the items that have not been achieved. She stated that she would like a document that is more than a visioning document and is leaning toward a planning document. She noted that the document is not about the long-term finances of the community and would like to see the Board have a candid conversation on what they value in terms of sustainability while dealing with fiscal realities.

Alderman Gist stated that she was pleased to see that a lot of the goals for the arts and recreation have

been met and should be celebrated. She stated that Vision2020 is a goals document and not a policy document.

Alderman Haven-O'Donnell stated that one of the options for updating the document could be leaving the goals that have been met while noting that it was completed. She stated that Vision2020 was never meant to be used as a planning document. She stated that if Vision2020 is updated as a first step to the creation of a planning document that she supports that but that the two are completely distinct.

Alderman Seils stated that the Board should have a discussion on if they are going to update the document then to address the why they are updating the document. He stated that the ordinance compels them to review how projects relate to Vision2020 and that it would be a good discussion for the future to discuss how it is intended to be used. He stated that one possible goal of a re-visioning exercise would be to develop something more formal than a vision document, such as a comprehensive plan or a small area plan. He stated that the Jones Ferry Road corridor, for example, would be a good candidate for a small area or corridor plan. He stated that a re-visioning exercise would be a necessary step in any comprehensive or small area planning process. He suggested including the historical perspective in future documents.

Mayor Lavelle stated that she hears a consensus for reviewing the document. She stated that at future work sessions there could be a roundtable setup devoted to review of the plan.

CLOSED SESSION NCGS 143-318.11 (A)(4)

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN SEILS, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HAVEN-O'DONNELL TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. 143.318.11 (a) (4). VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE SIX, ABSENT ONE (JOHNSON)

OPEN SESSION

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN SEILS, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN CHANEY TO ENTER INTO OPEN SESSION. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE SIX, ABSENT ONE (JOHNSON)

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY ALDERMAN CHANEY, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN GIST TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE SIX, ABSENT ONE (JOHNSON)