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**Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB)  
MINUTES**

Thurs. September 21, 2017, 6:00PM  
City Hall Conf. Rm. 337

200 West Fifth Street  
Greenville, NC 27835-7207

**BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Attendance is denoted by an "\*" and absentees are denoted by an "x"

<b>NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS</b>			
<b>NAME</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>
Carolyn Glast - *	1	Charlotte Smith - *	1
Betty Hines, Chair - *	2	Joyce Williams - x	2
Ann Maxwell - *	3	Ann Hamze - *	3
Blythe Tennent Vice Chair - x	4	Judy Bernhardt - *	4
Sharon Stang - *	5	Brenda Diggs - *	5
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD ALTERNATE MEMBERS</b>			
<b>NAME</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DISTRICT</b>
Margaret Hrushesky - x	1	Jim Brown - *	4
David Douglas - *	2	Misun Hur - x	5
Laura McKenna - x	3		

City Staff Present: *Community Development Department:* Christi Williamson and Gwen Turnage

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Brenda Diggs is Chairing the meeting because Chairperson Betty Hines will be late. Brenda Diggs opened the meeting with a moment of silence to lift up Betty Hines mother who is in the hospital. It is Betty's last meeting as Chair and she is hoping that she will be able to attend some of the meeting and speaker presentation. Brenda Diggs also gave an Inspirational Quote. Margaret Mead. "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

**2. ROLL CALL – Gwen Turnage**

Jim Brown sat in the absence of Blythe Tennent, district #4  
David Douglas sat in the absence of Betty Hines, district #2

**3. MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA**

Motion: Sharon Stang      Second: Ann Maxwell  
Motion approved

#### **4. MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 17, 2017 MINUTES**

Motion: Ann Maxwell                      Second: Carolyn Glast

Motion approved

Brenda acknowledged guests at the meeting. Two guests were present. Monica Daniels from Countryside Estates and Dr. Vince Bellis. Gwen Turnage let everyone know that Monica Daniels is her sister.

#### **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Limit 3 minutes each**

- THREE (3) MINUTES ALLOTTED PER SPEAKER
- FIFTEEN (15) MINUTES ALLOTTED FOR THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comments

#### **6. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. 2017/2018 Strategic Work Plan Approval**

Motion: Ann Maxwell                      Second: Carolyn Glast

Motion approved

Everyone received a bound copy of the 2017/18 Work Plan. Brenda Diggs thanked everyone for their hard work in completing the plan.

##### **B. RACE Update**

Ann Maxwell gave a brief update of the RACE Exhibit. RACE are we so different? She reported that several members of the NAB attended the exhibit on Sunday August 20, 2017. They had lunch at the Daily Planet Café before entering the RACE Exhibit. After viewing the exhibit for two hours, the NAB Members participated in a 90 minute facilitated discussion where they shared their personal experiences with race.

Are we so different? They learned that they have had different experiences that have shaped their view of the world, but we are not really different. They learned that we all started in the same area of the world, we have the same bones and the same DNA. Yet race has been used all over the world to create inequality.

After looking at all of the things that have been done to use race as a divider, Ann said that she believes that it is our challenge to work to close the divide. The conversation must continue. In the discussion session, they heard people share their personal experiences that have shaped their views. One thought provoking discussion was, "Please share one time in your life where you experienced racism." Each of us sees the world and the people in it differently based on our own experiences. Ann stated that through our work on the

Neighborhood Advisory Board, we must continue to listen to one another and help close the racial divide in our city.

Ann reported that it is World Peace Day and felt that it was appropriate to talk about closing the racial divide on this day. She also said that traveling to the RACE Exhibit together was a positive experience. Ann said that she traveled with Brenda and Betty and they had a lot of fun. The exhibit will be going on until October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The dialogue ended the weekend of the 20<sup>th</sup>. Brenda Diggs highly recommends all aspects of the exhibit.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Christmas Parade Entry:** Brenda Diggs stated that the idea of entering the Christmas Parade came from Betty Hines. Betty and the NAB members want to get the word out in the community about the Neighborhood Advisory Board. Brenda wants to find out if there is anyone interested in forming an Ad Hoc Committee to see if this would be something the NAB would be interested in. The parade is usually the first week of December. She said we could possibly have a vehicle with a NAB banner and Ann Maxwell brought up the idea of having music playing "It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" with NAB members in the vehicle. Brenda asked if there was any interest and if anyone can lead the Ad Hoc committee. Several said that they thought it was a great idea. Judy Bernhardt stated that she would not be in town for the parade. Judy asked what would be involved. Ann Maxwell stated that Betty Hines contacted the head of the JC's and could not give out the date yet but Betty has the contact number. City staff will help with ordering the NAB banner and anything else that may involve a cost. Ann said she would serve on the committee if someone else can head it up. Jim said that he can chair the committee but does not know if he will be there for the parade due to his work schedule.

Ann made a motion to form an Ad Hoc Committee to find out what is necessary to be a part of the Christmas Parade. Judy second. All were in favor. Those on the committee are Ann Hamze, Ann Maxwell, Brenda Diggs, Monica Daniels and Jim Brown as the Committee Chair. Jim provided his email so that those on the committee can send him their information.

**B. Retreat for 2018/19 Work Plan:** Brenda Diggs said that the suggestion is not that we leave town for a retreat but that we have a half day set aside from the regular board meeting to formulate the work plan. She stated that it is not yet planned when or where but hopes all will agree that we need time next year to come up with the work plan. Ann Maxwell stated that she talked to Betty Hines this week she said that instead of retreat it should be called a

strategic planning session. Ann stated that the NAB would bring all Neighborhood Liaisons to a meeting for input and schedule the strategic planning session immediately afterward. Ann motioned that the Executive Committee will develop a plan for an annual strategic planning session for 2018/19. Judy stated that we should leave out annual. The motion by Ann is changed so that the Executive Committee will develop a plan for a strategic planning session for 2018/19. Judy second. All were in favor.

- C. Chair and Vice Chair Elections:** Brenda turned the meeting over to City Staff Christi Williamson for Chair and Vice Chair Elections. Christi stated that the newly elected Chair and Vice Chair will start in October of 2017 and Betty Hines will serve her term through the end of September. Christi requested nominations for Chair. Brenda Diggs nominated Ann Maxwell for Chair. Jim Brown seconds the motion. There were no other nominations. Christi closed the nominations for Chair. Nomination passed unanimously with all in favor. Ann Maxwell is the new Chairperson for the NAB starting October 1, 2017. Christi then requested nominations for Vice Chair elections. Ann Maxwell nominated Judy Bernhardt. Carolyn seconds. There were no other nominations. The nomination passed unanimously with all in favor. Judy Bernhardt is the new Vice Chairperson starting October 1, 2017.

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Christi Williamson has several announcements. The first was sent out by Mike Dail who is the Interim Chief Planner for the City of Greenville. It is in reference to October 3<sup>rd</sup> when they are having a student and market rate housing analysis public input meeting. They would like members of the community to attend. Tuesday October 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:30-7:30 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Gallery of City Hall. The City has a consultant coming in and the purpose is for the consultant to gather feedback on issues and opportunities through active engagement with the general public in reference to the issue of student and market rate housing. Ann Maxwell stated that the City Council voted to have this analysis after so much feedback from citizens about how there is too much student housing. The city council directed the Planning Department to conduct this study.

The second announcement is that the Greenville Police Department and the Police Community Relations Committee is having a presentation with Lt. Bowen and Sgt. Munguia from the East Zone. The topic is: Safety 24 Hours a Day for You and Your Family. This will be on Wednesday September 27<sup>th</sup> 6:30 - 7:45 and will be at the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Gallery in City Hall.

Please invite your community members. There will be a question and answer session after the presentation.

Brenda Diggs has several special announcements. This will be the last meeting for Gwen Turnage. Brenda stated that the NAB wanted to show their appreciation for all of her years of service. Gwen thanked everyone and said that she will be focusing all her time and efforts on her position as Administrative Assistant to the Community Development Department Head. Gwen said that she is very appreciative and has been with the board from day one. She knows the dedication and passion that all the members have for this board. Gwen encouraged them to keep doing what they are doing and fight for their neighborhoods. She stated that if she can, she will help in anyway and will still participate in some of the NAB activities. Ann Maxwell said that Gwen has a real gift for making people feel good and always had a sweet response either by email or phone. Brenda also acknowledged that it is Christi Williamson's birthday. Ann Brought mums as a gift for both Gwen and Christi. Gwen Turnage also had a written presentation for Betty Hines from Mayor Kandi Smith to acknowledge the City's appreciation to Betty for serving as Chair of the NAB from October 2015 through September 2017. Brenda Diggs read the letter to the Board. The letter thanked her for her service and leadership. Betty Hines was able to attend the end of the meeting and accept her certificate. She also presented a certificate to Gwen Turnage for all of her years of dedicated service.

## 9. ADJOURN

### Motion to Adjourn

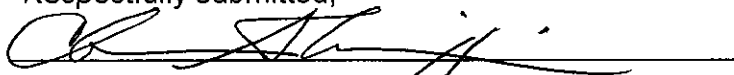
Motion: Carolyn Glast      Second: Ann Maxwell

Motion Passed

The meeting adjourned early for the speaker Dr. Stanley R. Riggs. ECU Department of Geological Sciences. Topic: "Greenville and Storms: Why Do We Flood?"

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:34PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Christi Williamson, Neighborhood Liaison

CW