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Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB) MINUTES

Thurs. October 19, 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"

NEIGHBO	RHOOD ADVIS	ORY BOARD MEMBERS	
NAME	DISTRICT	NAME	DISTRICT
Carolyn Glast - *	1	Charlotte Smith - x	1
Betty Hines - x	2	Joyce Williams - *	2
Ann Maxwell, Chair - *	3	Ann Hamze - *	3
Blythe Tennent - x	4	Judy Bernhardt-Vice Chair *	4
Sharon Stang - *	5	Brenda Diggs - *	5
NEIGHBORHOO	D ADVISORY B	OARD ALTERNATE MEMBERS	S
NAME	DISTRICT	NAME	DISTRICT
Margaret Hrushesky - x	1	Jim Brown - *	4
David Douglas - *	2	Misun Hur - *	5
Laura McKenna - x	3	4 (4)	

<u>City Staff Present</u>: Community Development Department: Christi Williamson. Greenville Police Department: Sgt. J. Wooten & Devinder Culver

- 1. CALL TO ORDER Ann Maxwell
- 2. ROLL CALL Christi Williamson

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:

Carolyn Glast

Motion approved

4. MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 MINUTES

Motion:

Brenda Diggs

Second:

Judy Bernhardt

Motion approved

Ann Maxwell read a quote by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: "All I insist on, and nothing else, is that you should show the whole world that you are not afraid. Be silent, if you choose; but when it is necessary, speak – and speak in such a way that people will remember it." Ann said that she thought about this particularly in reference to what we included in our work plan to make a difference in the community. Ann said we all need to speak in a way that people will remember. We need to guide each other in that process.

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. INTRODUCTION OF NAB POLICE LIAISON - Lt. Mike Montanye was unable to attend due to an earlier obligation. Attending in his place is Sgt. Justin Wooten. Sgt. Wooten has been with the Police Department for about seven years. He has been on the Gang Unit and is the Community Liaison for the Brook Valley Neighborhood Association. Currently he is a supervisor for the East Zone. The substation for East Zone is on 10th Street.

Ann Maxwell asked about ECU students coming by the houses on 5th Street to get a permission form signed for the Homecoming Parade. She said that she has lived there for many years and has never had that happen. She wondered if it is a new policy since the Charlottesville incident. The Sgt. has not heard of anything about signing a form for the parade but will ask Lt. Montanye. Sgt. Wooten stated that their next big event is Halloween.

Brenda Diggs asked a question about loud mufflers on cars and if they can be ticketed. Sgt. Wooten said that they can get a ticket if they have an aftermarket exhaust. The officer must be able to witness it. If you call in the plate, it is possible to follow up but a lot of the plates are registered out of town. Judy Bernhardt asked about motorcycles. The same applies to motorcycles. Sgt. Wooten will get Lt. Montanye to address these issues.

Joyce Williams stated that she lives in the Cambridge Neighborhood and has a problem with people pushing shopping carts and leaving them in the neighborhood at the end of the road. Sgt. Wooten said that it is larceny if it is taken off of the property. Sgt. Wooten will get the Zone Commander to contact Joyce Williams about the issue.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of the Presentation by Stanley R. Riggs: Greenville and Storms: Why Do We Flood? Judy Bernhardt said that it was well received. At some point we may need to have area meetings for more detail and for a question and answer session with Dr. Riggs.

Carolyn Glast said that she really enjoyed the presentation and some of the things he talked about helped her understand flooding in her area. She said that she now knows that most of the North Side is below sea level. She said it makes you wonder why the city lets developers build in flood plains. Houston doesn't have any regulations and look at what happened. If they hadn't developed so much they wouldn't be where they are. Judy said after Floyd Greenville passed a resolution that they would not build in the 100 year flood plain and six months later they reversed it. She gave an example of North Campus Crossing. Ann Maxwell said there is not actually a 100 year flood plan. Everything changes as the weather changes. She said that the developers on 10th street may have built up the construction site but now there will be more runoff and all of that sand is going into the stream and then into the rivers. Sediment is what raises the bottom of the river and causing more flooding. Jim Brown said that he thought that if an area was in a flood plain, you couldn't build but it seems that there is really nothing that can be done. Ann Maxwell said that there is something that can be done. She said that we live in a democracy and can vote. This is a critical election. The only place you cannot build in Greenville is in the flood way which is where the water is. There are rules to building near the river like building on stilts. The thing that concerns Ann is there is a taxpayer cost and an environmental cost. A good example is Hurricane Matthew last year where the city had to pay for off duty officers that had to sit and guard these flooded houses because they were evacuated. The developers have already made their money but the tax payers continue to pay. There are lawn mowers, garbage cans and gas cans that wash into the rivers that cost the taxpayers long after the water recedes.

B. Discussion of Excerpts from the Horizons 2026 Plan and preparation of questions for the City Engineers for next month's meeting: Ann Maxwell said to think about questions for Lisa and Daryl for November's meeting. Ann Maxwell has a handout from the Horizons 2026 Plan and pulled everything in reference to flooding and housing. She said that she doesn't' want to take time to read the whole thing but this is information that everyone needs to read. The Horizon Plan 2026 was a 2 year process. Brenda Diggs represented the NAB and Ann Maxwell was appointed by Marion Blackburn to represent her district. It was voted on and unanimously passed. NCAPA also gave the plan honorable mention at this year's conference. Ann said since its adoption she never hears it mentioned by the City Council. She thinks it is good that the NAB is going to try and have some of it implemented. Ann read several excerpts from the Horizon 2026 Plan. She said that nobody is talking about any of these issues. Brenda Diggs said that there would not be an issue if ordinances were in

place. What do we need to be doing to protect the watershed? Green Mill Run's water quality is already in question. The 10th street development is a problem. The part that is missing is how to make it happen with ordinance or action. Ann said that the Horizon 2026 Plan and the Watershed Masterplan are separate. There are action steps on page 141. It talks about low impact development. It also talks about rain gardens, medians and implementing the Watershed Masterplan. NAB wants to support the implementation of the masterplan and capital projects to meet masterplan goals. Greenville should implement a tree conservation plan. We need a preservation policy. We have guidelines but no policies. Ann Hamze said that they just approved 2.5 million for storm water improvements and they approved starting the repair on the Town Creek Culvert.

Questions pulled from the discussion:

- 1. What is the job description of a City Civil Engineer?
- 2. Explain the plan for fixing the Town Creek Culvert and what is the schedule of completion?
- 3. When a storm water drain/pipe/culvert fails, are we replacing them at the same level or are we improving the system?
- 4. What is the City doing to support the storm water recommendations that are outlined in the Horizons 2026 plan? There is a plan but what can we do to lessen the amount of flooding in Greenville?
- 5. The Horizon 2026 Plan is full of recommendations where it relates to storm water issues but no real timeline for system change. What are the future plans to carry out recommendations? What are the short and long term priorities?
- 6. The Horizons 2026 Plan recommendations have no authority. How do we turn the recommendations into ordinances?
- 7. What ordinances do we need to protect the watershed from new development?
- 8. Who writes the ordinances that deal with storm water issues? Are these ordinances usually written by the Civil Engineers?
- 9. Are we going to require developers to do improvements when they come in and pave several city blocks for a new building? Are we going to request more green space from developers?

- 10. There is a student complex going up across from City Hall. What are they doing to mitigate flooding when they build these new high rises? Are there any tree ordinances and greenspaces that are required when building all of these new projects?
- 11. What were the three immediate steps that should have been done last year for Greenfield Terrace to mitigate some of their flooding issues? What and when were the steps implemented?
- 12. The drain at the back of Red Oak Neighborhood continues to clog up and flood the area when there is a strong rain. They have to call the city to have it cleaned out. Is there a schedule for cleaning the storm drains and if so how often is it done?

Please email Christi Williamson any other questions that you may think of before the next meeting.

Christi handed out the City policy for recommendations to City Council.

Devinder Culver joined the meeting. She is with the Greenville Police Department and is their Community Project coordinator. She's been with the City for 10 years. She talked about an event she just put on in West Greenville called A Healthy Community is a Safe Community. The goal is a long term change in culture. It involves outside play, healthy food and a literacy initiative. It was a wonderful event and about 200 people attended. Dr. Hur talked about how the West Zone area is a food desert. She wanted to know if they are still planning to put a grocery store on 5th street. Devinder said that they are but she is not sure when it will happen. She also has a walking group in west Greenville and is working with Pitt Partners for Health and Vidant.

C. Report from Ad Hoc Committee on the Christmas Parade: Ann Maxwell said that Betty Hines wanted the NAB to be a part of the Christmas Parade this year. Jim Brown will give an overview of the Ad Hoc Christmas Committee meeting. Jim state that he made contact with both Greenville Marine and Hastings Ford. Both have agreed to allow us the use of a vehicle. Greenville Marine is willing to let us use a 20-25 foot Pontoon boat on a trailer with seating for approximately 15. It will have lighting and a stereo. Hastings Ford said that we can use a truck or convertible or whatever meets our needs. The NAB banner is being designed by the City of Greenville. It will be 8X2 feet and can be used for other future events. Brenda Diggs said that maybe we should add a saying to the banner like "committed to preserve and strengthen neighborhoods". Jim said that they need to come up with a color scheme.

Ann asked about who wants to be on the float and who do we want to represent in the

neighborhood. Everyone will make a decision by the next NAB meeting. Judy and Jim will be out of town that day and will not be able to attend. Ann asked for a vote as to who would be able to ride in the float. She had about 5 people say they could come. Please email Jim if you have any other suggestions like projection lights etc. This is a night time parade. Rain or shine. It starts at 5pm and you cannot throw candy.

Sharon Stang brought a sign that they use to advertise their neighborhood meeting. Sign works on Evans Street made the sign. They put it at all entrances to the neighborhood. Judy said that a lot of her neighborhood members don't have email so this is a great way to get the information out.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of Student and Market Rate Housing: City council requested a study be done on Student and Market Rate Housing. Mike Dail asked the NAB to meet with the consultants. A few NAB members were able to give input. They will be discussing this issue at the next Planning & Zoning Committee meeting. Greenville has a need for middle or market rate housing. In the Horizon 2026 Plan there is a vision framework that states, complete neighborhoods will offer a variety of housing types and an integrated network of walk-able and bike-able streets with an assortment of high quality housing options that support a variety of incomes. Ann and others in the room agree that there is too much student housing in Greenville.
- B. Report from Community Building Committee: Carolyn Glast said that we will try to have a list of Neighborhood Associations compiled by the end of November. Christi has updated some of these neighborhood associations but the committee will make calls to update the rest of the list. There will be a script to call from. Carolyn said that another goal for the year is for each member of NAB to invite a contact from a neighborhood to the Board Meetings. Carolyn also talked about the welcome bags and how the Christmas Parade logo can be used for that as well.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christi Williamson had several announcements: Human Relations Council is having a Community Dialogue on Tuesday the 24th at 7pm. Topics will be Education, Health Care and Police Relations.

There is a group that will be involved in Paint a Drain. They need volunteers Oct. 28th from 10-12 at River Park North. This is an education piece about storm water runoff.

City Service Committee is working on litter control issues. Cheryl Tafoya at Public Works has a

program called Keep Greenville Beautiful. They meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 830am-930am at the Public Works conference room. They are conducting a litter index. They will canvass the City to look for litter. They use this information to apply for grants and where they may need more recycling. They need 2 or 3 people to help for this canvas Oct. 24th. Christi said that she did not have much more information. Rebecca from Code Enforcement has more information about the 2 days that they are doing the project.

Ann Hamze said that District 3 is having a candidate forum at 630pm Tuesday October 24th. This will be held at Cypress Glen. Dr. Jody Baumgartner from the ECU Political Science Dept. is the moderator.

David Douglas talked about having a meeting in the Red Oak Neighborhood. This is the second meeting to try to get people involved and to elect a board. They will have another meeting to conduct the election.

10. ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn

Motion:

Judy Bernhardt

Second:

Sharon Stang

Motion Passed

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:03PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christi Williamson, Neighborhood Liaison

CW