



City of Greensboro

Melvin Municipal Building
300 W. Washington Street
Greensboro, NC 27401

Meeting Minutes - Draft Community Services Committee

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

4:30 PM

Council Chamber

Call to Order

This Community Services Committee meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 4:30 p.m. on the above date in the Council Chamber of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present:

Present: 4 - Chairperson Jamal T. Fox, Vice Chair Sharon M. Hightower, Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann and Councilmember Justin Outling

Also present were Assistant City Manager Chris Wilson, City Attorney Tom Carruthers, and Deputy City Clerk Angela R. Lord.

Council Procedure for Conduct of the Meeting

Councilmember Fox explained the Council procedure for conduct of the meeting.

I. CONSENT AGENDA (One Vote)

Councilmember Fox asked if anyone wished to remove any items from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Councilmember Hoffmann, seconded by Councilmember Outling to refer the consent agenda to Council. The motion carried by voice vote.

1. [ID 15-0930](#) Resolution Authorizing Contract Number 2010-015 with Pillar Design Studios, LLC for the City of Greensboro Skate Park
2. [ID 15-1007](#) Motion to Approve the Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of November 12, 2015

Motion to approve the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of November 12, 2015 was adopted.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS AGENDA

3. [ID 15-0999](#) Ordinance in the Amount of \$200,000 Amending the FY 2015-16 Economic Development Fund Budget for the Appropriation of Funds in Support of the Renaissance Community Cooperative Located on Phillips Ave in Northeast Greensboro

Assistant City Manager Wilson spoke to an approved grant; the terms of fundraising requirements; and stated the item was to establish the budget.

Discussion took place regarding the amount; the item being funded through Economic Development Funds; and clarification of the requirements being met.

Moved by Councilmember Hightower, seconded by Councilmember Outling, to refer the resolution to Council. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ayes, 4 - Jamal T. Fox, Sharon M. Hightower, Nancy Hoffmann and Justin Outling

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. [ID 15-1011](#) Restoration Academy Update

Assistant City Manager Wilson stated the Committee had requested a Restoration Academy update; and recognized Workforce Development Director Lillian Plummer to present the item.

Ms. Plummer spoke to issues in the community; the need to do specialty programs; provided a history of the program; outlined primary goals; spoke to employment for offenders; the target population; criteria used for screening people; bonding factors; age ranges; and to Workforce dollars being used to support the offender population. Ms Plummer provided information for performing drug tests; background checks; stated offenders were registered in the North Carolina Work System databank; spoke to goals for serving approximately 14,000 offenders in a period of about 14 months; voiced the onset of outreach and recruitment; spoke to a job fair on November 5th; assessing skills; the need for training and foundational skills; matching jobs to skills and interests; proposed wages; workshop being provided; assignment of career facilitator; outlined process after completion; spoke to follow up activities; and maintaining employment for approximately six months prior to changing jobs. Ms. Plummer concluded by stating there would be a resource request before Council; stated staff was working on eligibility requirements; spoke to anticipated hours and positions needed; an option of contracting Payroll services; and to tax credits.

Councilmember Hightower thanked Ms. Plummer; voiced concerns with challenges of and assisting the older population with finding jobs; stated youth had better opportunities; inquired about subsidized programs; asked if those that attended the November job fair would receive priority placement; for clarification on training and proposed City positions; and asked what would happen at the end of the 4 month program.

Ms. Plummer clarified that no one would be excluded from services; spoke to youth grants; various training opportunities; subsidizing for the older population; confirmed job fair attendees would not receive priority placement; outlined various services that would be offered; confirmed an approximate three week training; spoke to a transition period; creating strong candidates; follow up services; offender support groups; and to tapping into all the resources available in the community.

Councilmember Outling expressed thanks to Ms. Plummer; requested information on funding; and spoke to non-profits with similar services.

Ms. Plummer referenced anticipated adjustments; a proposed request for Workforce funding; reiterated a January proposal to Council; spoke to county wide support; demographics; and targeted funds.

Assistant City Manager Wilson stated Workforce Development was a regional service; spoke to Federal and State funding; and clarified General Fund dollars would not be used for the program.

Discussion took place regarding various non-profit services available; not duplicating services; the expertise of the City program; and connecting offenders.

Councilmember Outling requested information that directly addressed the budget impact; and support for the program positions.

Councilmember Fox expressed appreciation for the work done on the item; spoke to providers working together; and requested a program certification be awarded to participants.

Councilmember Hightower spoke to budgeting; contributions from law enforcement; requested staff to research additional funding sources; and asked if there would be a dedicated phone number.

City Attorney Carruthers spoke to getting the word out through the Greensboro Bar Association.

Ms. Plummer stated staff would be working on the logistics of the program; spoke to getting referrals; tapping into all the resources; and confirmed staff would research additional funding sources.

Matters to be discussed by the Committe Members

Councilmember Fox congratulated newly appointed Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Nasha McCray.

Ms. McCray expressed appreciation for the position.

Matters to be presented by the City Manager

There were no items for discussion by the City Manager.

Matters to be presented by the City Attorney

There were no items for discussion by the City Attorney.

Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Hoffmann, seconded by Councilmember Hightower, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE ADJOURNED AT 5:11 P.M.

ANGELA R. LORD
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

JAMAL FOX
CHAIRPERSON