



City of Greensboro

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Community Services Committee

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

5:00 PM

Council Chamber

Call to Order

This Community Services Committee meeting of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on the above date in the Council Chamber of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with the following members present:

Present: 3 - Chairperson Jamal T. Fox, Vice Chair Sharon M. Hightower and Councilmember Justin Outling

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann

Council Procedure for Conduct of the Meeting

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

Moved by Councilmember Outling, seconded by Councilmember Hightower to excuse Councilmember Hoffmann from attendance at the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

I. CONSENT AGENDA (One Vote)

Moved by Councilmember Outling, seconded by Councilmember Hightower to refer the consent agenda to Council.

1. [ID 16-0136](#) Resolution Authorizing Extension of Software and Hardware Maintenance Agreement with TechLogic, Inc.
2. [ID 16-0169](#) Motion to approve the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting of February 9, 2016

Motion to approve the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of February 9, 2016 was adopted.

II. GENERAL BUSINESS AGENDA

3. [ID 16-0225](#) Resolution Approving the Bid in the Amount of \$3,000,436 and Authorizing Execution of Contract 2016-0150 with Holden Building Company, Inc. for the Construction of the Community Building/Memorial to Women at Barber Park

Councilmember Fox asked that the item be removed for further discussion.

Moved by Councilmember Outling, seconded by Councilmember Hightower to remove the item for further discussion. The motion carried by voice vote.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. [ID 16-0229](#) Update by Say YES Greensboro

Interim Assistant City Manager Barbara Harris recognized Executive Director of Say Yes to Education Mary Vigue for an update.

Ms. Vigue stated she was glad to be here; excited to provide Council with an update; provided a status on the office openings in High Point and Greensboro; made a PowerPoint Presentation; explained that Say Yes had been launched in September; provided the makeup and work of the operating group; the role and goal of the four task forces that were open to the public; advised that assistance had been provided by the faith community; gave an update on the Charter Schools' Joint Study Committee; verified that the Class of 2016 would be the first class eligible to receive scholarships; stated that \$35 million had been raised to date; that 4,000 students would be eligible; and spoke to the involvement of church/civil organizations. Ms. Vigue explained the workshops and process for completion of the FAFSA and student certification forms; outreach and student support; and the next steps that would include the development of task forces, volunteer opportunities; marketing and branding; and continued fundraising. Ms. Vigue commended the work of local volunteers in the process; emphasized the need to take care of the entire student; outlined what the wrap around services would look like; referenced work that had been done in Buffalo, New York; and encouraged persons to sign up for the Say Yes Listserve.

Councilmember Fox expressed appreciation that the process was not run by lottery; referenced the Achievement Gap; inquired if it was different between High Point and Greensboro; and requested Ms. Vigue provide an update at an upcoming Council meeting.

Councilmember Hightower verified that the Class of 2016 was the first class; advised that she had heard some students did not qualify based on the achievement gap; and asked if the numbers had been analyzed.

Ms. Vigue outlined the model; verified that the scholarships were open to all students; stated they were trying to make students aware of the continuing education opportunities that were available; reiterated that 2,700 students had already filed for the student certificate; and emphasized that students were required to fill out the FAFSA form.

Councilmember Hightower inquired if students had assistance with the fees.

Ms. Vigue responded that the State had a program that assisted with fees that overlapped with Say Yes's application period; verified that Say Yes did not manage that process; and outlined what Say Yes might assist with going forward.

Councilmember Hightower voiced the importance for students to transition to higher education; that the application fees would be critical; and spoke to concerns she had heard regarding whether students would have a fair opportunity.

Ms. Vigue assured Council that Say Yes was working to ensure the entire community had the same opportunity; stated the staff would talk to and go to different sites to speak with any group that invited them.

Councilmember Fox stated he would follow up with Interim Assistant City Manager Harris for a future presentation.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer Y, Exhibit No. 11, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

5. [ID 16-0231](#) Housing Summit Update

Interim Assistant City Manager Harris made a PowerPoint Presentation that outlined the 2016 Housing Summit; referenced the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan; emphasized the City's commitment to the Community; stated the City had partnered with the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro (CFGG); thanked Councilmember Hightower for serving as the Council ambassador; spoke to the community conversations that had touched approximately 250 people; and thanked Mayor Vaughan and other Councilmembers who attended. Assistant City Manager Harris spoke to the challenges and percentage of income paid for housing needs of rental households in the City; reviewed the three questions that had been posed to the community; spoke to the visioning sessions that took place; explained that a shared framework had been formed; emphasized the commitment to participate in housing needs throughout the City; outlined the vision, mission, and community goals that resulted from the Summit; next steps; and the potential impact for improving the City's housing stock.

Councilmember Fox commended Councilmembers Hightower and Outling and City staff for their work on the issue.

Councilmember Hightower emphasized that she supported the efforts for improving housing conditions in Greensboro; voiced concerns with the disparity; the need to move beyond what was being done to improve housing in Greensboro; stated everyone needed affordable housing; spoke to the need to begin to find creative means for improving the neighborhoods; voiced appreciation for the work and effort that went into the diverse event; and stated she looked forward to moving forward.

Councilmember Outling referenced the significant change to the Minimum Housing Ordinance; and requested an update from staff on the implementation process.

Interim Assistant City Manager Harris advised that staff could provide an update at an upcoming meeting.

(A copy of the PowerPoint Presentation is filed in Exhibit Drawer Y, Exhibit No. 11, which is hereby referred to and made a part of these minutes.)

Matters to be discussed by Committee Members

Councilmember Fox wished Councilmember Hightower a Happy Birthday.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter wished her son a Happy Birthday.

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

THE COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:38 P.M.

ELIZABETH H. RICHARDSON
CITY CLERK

JAMAL FOX
CHAIRPERSON