

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Thursday, November 10, 2011

1:00 P.M. Strategic Plan Town Hall Meeting

MINUTES

Place: Durham Convention Center, 201 Foster Street, Durham NC

Present: Chairman Michael D. Page, Vice-Chair Ellen W. Reckhow, and Commissioners, Joe A. Bowser, Brenda A. Howerton, and Pam Karriker

Staff: County Manager Mike Ruffin; Deputy County Managers Marqueta Welton and Lee Worsley; Assistant County Managers Drew Cummings and Deborah Craig-Ray; Assistant to the County Manager Michael Davis; Dawn Dudley, Public Information Specialist; Lowell Siler, County Attorney; Carol Hammett, Deputy County Attorney; and Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board

Consultants: Michael Palmer, Tyrone Baines, and Zelos consultants, Lou O'Boyle and Kathy Keeley

Michael Palmer welcomed the group of approximately 30 citizens and asked them to give a brief introduction. The County Manager introduced County staff.

Dr. Tyrone Baines briefly explained how the mission and vision statements for Durham County and the strategic plan were developed.

Mr. Palmer gave a brief explanation of the strategic plan initiative and emphasized that the plan was the community's plan. He shared the new Core Values for the County:

Accountability
Community
Excellent Customer Service
Integrity
Teamwork and Collaboration

Ms. Keeley gave an overview of the goals for the strategic plan, and noted that information was included from the citizen comments shared at the previous Town Hall meeting.

The audience shared comments regarding benchmarks for the goals presented. The comments included:

Goal: Community & Family Prosperity and Enrichment

- Need to do a better job of investing in youngest children
- Increase pay levels for educators
- Vocational schools
- Mindful of disabled population
- Determine what will and what will not be done

Goal: Health and Well-Being for All

- Better education of county services
- Develop Partnership with northern Durham County

Goal: Safe and Secure Community

- Room for improvement in cardiac arrest survival rate
- Create easier processes for safety
- More defibrillators
- More coordination between City and County
- More Partners Against Crimes(PAC)

Goal: Environmental Stewardship

- Commended LEED libraries
- Nudging citizens on environmental issues
- Partner with communities to know what's going on
- Connection with between Goal 4 and Goal 2

Goal: Accessible, Efficient & Visionary Government

- Everybody's strategic plan has to work together in order to be successful (DPS, City of Durham, Chamber, Durham County, NCCU, etc)
- Hold a referendum on combining governments
- Multi-service centers for youth (especially in County)

The Board of County Commissioners thanked the community for coming out and sharing ideas; and challenged the audience to stay involved.

Respectfully submitted,



V. Michelle Parker-Evans
Clerk to the Board