

MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MAY 24, 2007

6:00 P.M.

NORTH CAROLINA MECKLENBURG COUNTY

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in an Informal Special Session in the Meeting Chamber Conference Room CH-14 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 5:30 p.m. and in Formal Special Session in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 24, 2007.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Jennifer Roberts and Commissioners Karen Bentley, J. Daniel Bishop, Dumont Clarke H. Parks Helms, Bill James Norman A. Mitchell, Sr., Dan Ramirez, and Valerie C. Woodard County Manager Harry L. Jones, Sr. Deputy Clerk to the Board Tonette F. Spears

Absent: None

The Board's informal session consisted of dinner only.

Following dinner, the Board convened in the Meeting Chamber.

Commissioner Helms was absent when the meeting was called to order and until noted in the minutes.

Invocation was given by Commissioner James, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chairman Roberts said that the purpose of the meeting was to receive citizen input on the County Manager's proposed budget for FY07-08. Chairman Roberts outlined the rules and procedures for conducting the public hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Woodard, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and carried 8-0 with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, James, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts and Woodard voting yes, to open the Budget Public Hearing.

FY07-08 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

The following persons spoke and asked the Board to support funding for their respective organization and/or cause:

1. Bill Anderson, Corey Bennett and Don Duncan, on behalf of **Communities In Schools**.

Commissioner Helms entered the meeting at this time.

2. Stephanie Simon representing the Jr. League of Charlotte on behalf of **funding for 26 additional school nurses**.

3. Mark Gustafson, Diana Domagala and Aaron McKeithen representing Friends of the Library, on behalf of the **Public Library's request**.
(Distributed literature on file with the Clerk to the Board.)

4. Pender McElroy, representing the Board of Directors for Mental Health America spoke on behalf of the **Jail Diversion Program**.
5. Kim Graham with the PTA on **Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) budget request**.
6. Tonya Mora, parent at Winterfield Elementary, **CMS' budget request**.
7. Alfredo Solis, Virginia Boyter, Lidiya Melnichuk and Louise Thompson, representing Charlotte/Mecklenburg Senior Center **requested an increase in funding to serve additional seniors and to open a senior center in Huntersville**.
8. Mark Johnson thanked the Board for **support of Substance Abuse Prevention Services**.
9. Gerald Fox, chairman of the Executive Board of Status of Seniors and Evelyn Newman representing the Council on Aging on behalf of the **Status of Seniors Initiative and the Council on Aging**.
10. Jermayne Cook and Gerald Fox on behalf of **St. Peter's Homes, Inc**.
11. Mitchell Smith on behalf of **HOUSE of NC, Inc**.
12. Reginald Drakeford, David Rozzelle and Rev. James Frieson on behalf of **Brothers helping Brothers**.
(*Distributed literature on file with the Clerk to the Board.*)
13. Jim Hinderlight and Rev. Shoemaker on behalf of **CMS' budget request**.
14. Barbara Kent with Parent Leadership Network on behalf of **CMS' budget request**.
15. Dr. Michael Metcalf, Dr. Valencia Covington, Dr. Reginald Richardson and Sue Goodman on behalf of **C.W. Williams Health Center**.
(*Distributed literature on file with the Clerk to the Board.*)
16. Jim Hess, Dorothy Newton and Barry Webb on behalf of **Charlotte Emergency Housing**.
17. Dr. Tony Zeiss and Tom Maxim on behalf of **Central Piedmont Community College**.
18. Adrian Tapia, Leena Alkahlout and Deric Lewis on behalf of **Charlotte Coalition for Social Justice**.
19. Claire Tate, Executive Director and Gerald Fox, Chairman of the Board for Middle School Matters spoke on behalf of **Partners in Out of School Time (POST)**.
20. Myra Clarke and Tracy Incarnacion on behalf of **ECO**.
21. Major Todd Smith on behalf of **The Salvation Army**.
(*Distributed literature on file with the Clerk to the Board.*)
22. Lisa Hoffman on behalf of **The Charlotte Nature Museum**.
23. Cynthia Flynn on behalf of **YMCA of Greater Charlotte**.
24. Ellis Fields representing the Mental Health Association of Central Carolinas on behalf of the **Jail Diversion Program**.
25. Ola Bruce spoke against an increase in taxes.

26. Ann White and Margaret Willard on behalf of Metrolina Aids.
27. Bobby Cobb, county employee, on behalf of county employees compensation package.
28. Donna Jenkins Dawson on behalf of CPCC and CMS.
29. Elsie Garner on behalf of WTVI.
30. Pat Lambright on behalf of the Sickle Cell program.
(*Distributed literature on file with the Clerk to the Board.*)
31. Carson Duff and Jesse Swab representing Mecklenburg Youth Advisory Council in support of more school nurses.

This concluded the public hearing, which was declared closed by Chairman Roberts.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Ramirez, seconded by Commissioner Woodard and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, James, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts and Woodard voting yes, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Tonette F. Spears, Deputy Clerk

Jennifer Roberts, Chairman