

MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 18, 2008

5:00 P.M.

**NORTH CAROLINA
MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in Informal Session in the Meeting Chamber Conference Room of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center located at 600 East Fourth Street at 5:00 p.m. and in Formal Session in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2008.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Jennifer Roberts and Commissioners
Karen Bentley, J. Daniel Bishop, Dumont Clarke
H. Parks Helms, Norman A. Mitchell, Sr.
Dan Ramirez and Valerie C. Woodard
County Manager Harry L. Jones, Sr.
County Attorney Marvin A. Bethune
Clerk to the Board Janice S. Paige

Absent: Commissioner Bill James

-INFORMAL SESSION-

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roberts, after which the matters below were addressed.

(1) STAFF BRIEFINGS - NONE

(2A, 2B) CLOSED SESSION – A) LAND ACQUISITION B) CONSULT WITH ATTORNEY

Prior to going into Closed Session, Nancy Brunnemer with Real Estate Services announced the following land acquisition matters to be discussed in Closed Session:

- Property on Stumptown Road in Huntersville
- Southwest High School and Elementary School Sites off NC Highway 49/York Road at Palisades Development

County Attorney Bethune said the other Land Acquisition matter had to do with Cavalier Apartments. Also prior to going into Closed Session, County Attorney Bethune announced there would not be a Consult with Attorney matter for discussion in Closed Session.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ramirez, seconded by Commissioner Woodard and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to go into Closed Session to discuss Land Acquisition.

The Board went into Closed Session at 5:20 p.m. and came back into Open Session at 5:45 p.m.

(3) REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT

The Board did not identify any items they wanted removed from consent and voted upon separately.

The Board then proceeded to the Meeting Chamber for the remainder of the meeting.

-FORMAL SESSION-

Invocation was given by Commissioner Clarke, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and introductions; after which, the matters below were addressed.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

(1) PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS – NONE

(2) PUBLIC APPEARANCE

The following persons appeared to speak during the Public Appearance portion of the meeting:

Valerie McGill apologized to the Board, the police department, and the community for her behavior when arrested. Ms. McGill said at the time she had a substance abuse problem and that she is now drug free. She encouraged others not to use drugs.

Sam Mount, a member of the Huntersville Planning Board and the Hampton Homeowners Association Board, spoke in support of creating a Greenway Stakeholders Group to assist with implementation of the Greenway Plan, particularly with respect to the use of eminent domain.

Mike Craft and Chris Hunter addressed upkeep of personal property and problems that occur because of absentee landlords. They addressed how many of the properties in their neighborhoods are experiencing foreclosure and how property values are decreasing. They said there is now a high rate of rental properties. Mr. Craft lives in Catawba River Plantation and Mr. Hunter lives in Brookmere. It was noted that there were sections of their developments that aren't in the City of Charlotte, which has regulations regarding absentee landlords, but the County does not. They asked the Board to consider adopting an ordinance to hold absentee landlords accountable for the upkeep of their property. They said this is occurring in other neighborhoods as well.

Chairman Roberts said the County would address the issue raised by Mr. Craft and Mr. Hunter.

Commissioner Bentley also assured Mr. Craft and Mr. Hunter also that this matter would be addressed.

Scott McClure, chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission introduced new Park Commissioners.

(3) APPOINTMENTS

ADULT CARE HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Bentley and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts and Woodard voting yes, to nominate and appoint Edward Smith, II to the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee for a one-year term expiring March 31, 2009.

He is replacing Barbara Benningfield.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

Motion was made by Commissioner Woodard, seconded by Commissioner Bentley and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts and Woodard voting yes, to reappoint JoAnne Allen, Russell Allen, James Barnett, Damon Bidencepe, Aretha Blake, William Hawkins, Jack Morgan and Kenneth Friedman to the Board of Equalization and Review for a one-year term expiring April 7, 2009.

Motion was made by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts and Woodard voting yes, to reappoint Kenneth Friedman as chairman of the Board of Equalization and Review for a one-year term expiring April 7, 2009.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Woodard nominated all applicants for appointment consideration to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations:

Brenda Adams, Nathaniel Anderson, Jr., Renee Barfield, Gee Barker, Henry Black, Shannon Burns, Patrick Burris, Tonya Curry, John Davis, Robin Edgar, Earl Foxworth, Jr., Steve Goodrich, Stephen Grey, Catherine Kennedy, Barry Kirby, Jeannie Lee, Clara Mayfield, Hope McKinney, Shannon McKnight, Holly Neil, Doretta Owens, Andy Silver, Edward Smith Tami Snipe, Michelle Sterling, Ruth Stevenson, Najeedah Stover, Owen Sutkowski, Carolyn Swiger, Rhonda Taylor, and Mary Ward.

Appointments will occur on April 1, 2008.

INFORMATION SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Bentley and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts and Woodard voting yes, to nominate and appoint Ilieva Ageenko and Charles Marino to the Information Services and Technology Advisory Committee for a three-year term expiring March 31, 2011 and Paul Rossi to fill an unexpired term expiring February 28, 2010.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Commissioner Woodard nominated all applicants for appointment consideration to the Library Board of Trustees: Charles Bowman, Belva Greenage, and Owen Sutkowski.

Appointments will occur on April 1, 2008.

NURSING HOME COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Commissioner Ramirez, seconded by Commissioner Bentley and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to nominate and appoint Carol Barry to the Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee for a one-year term expiring March 31, 2009.

She is replacing Claire Lawrence.

WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts and Woodard voting yes, to nominate and appoint Jessica Halvorsen and Najeedah Stover to the Waste Management Advisory Committee for a three-year term expiring March 31, 2011.

They are replacing Lamar Gunter and Jean Neal.

(4) PUBLIC HEARING REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX REFUND REQUEST

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke, seconded by Commissioner Woodard and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to hold a hearing on the request by First National Financial Title Services, Inc. of Duluth, Georgia for reimbursement of North Carolina excise tax in the amount of \$59,923.

No one appeared to speak.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to close the hearing on the request by First National Financial Title Services, Inc. of Duluth, Georgia for reimbursement of North Carolina excise tax in the amount of \$59,923 and approve the reimbursement.

Note: This deed should have been recorded in New Hanover County, North Carolina.

(5) ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS – NONE

(6) MANAGER’S REPORT - NONE

(2A1) CLOSED SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION – CAVALIER APTS.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to accept the “Agreement of Purchase and Sale of Real Estate”

from Cavalier Associates Limited Partnership, owner of Cavalier Apartments (Tax Parcels 12710C97, 12710C98 and 12710C99) for \$6,590,000.

Motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to appropriate \$1,800,000 from Storm Water Services Fund Balance to be used for acquisition and tenant relocation costs.

Note: This acquisition is aimed at reducing the potential loss of life and property during a flood event, and enhancing the natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain (creating open space, expanding greenways, constructing wetlands, etc).

(2A2) CLOSED SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION FOR CMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Bentley and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez,

Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to approve the purchase price of \$6,750,000, as requested by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, for +/- 73.14-acre Tax Parcel 009-091-09 on Stumptown Road in Huntersville to be acquired from Harrington FCLD, LLC for an elementary school site and a future middle or high school site.

(2A3) CLOSED SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION FOR CMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to approve the purchase price, as requested by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, of \$45,000 per acre for +/- 5.338 acres, house included, for Tax Parcels 217-101-11 and 217-101-12 from Krull Family, a 50 percent interest to be acquired jointly with Austin's Creek, LLC; and

Secondly, to decline the County's statutory right of first refusal on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools property to be conveyed to Austin's Creek, LLC.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Commissioner Woodard, seconded by Commissioner Bentley and unanimously carried, with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to approve the following item(s):

(7) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve minutes of Regular Meeting held March 5, 2008; Closed Session minutes of March 5, 2008 and January 15, 2008.

(8) TAX REFUNDS

Approve tax refunds in the amount of \$10,221.32 to be made by the Finance Department as requested by the Tax Assessor resulting from clerical errors, audits, and other amendments.

A list of the refund recipients is on file with the Clerk to the Board.

(9) GREENWAY ACQUISITION – BRIAR CREEK

Approve purchase of Tax Parcel 129-041-06 (+/- 4.26 acres) at Morningside Drive for \$68,000 from Jane R. Archer.

Note: The subject property is part of a land assemblage for the Briar Creek Greenway between Central Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue. This parcel will provide connectivity to Morningside Drive across from the Morningside Village redevelopment project.

(10) DOG PARK CONSTRUCTION – FRAZIER PARK

Authorize a capital reserve expenditure of \$60,000 from funds accrued from Mecklenburg County's Dog Parks Capital Reserve Account to construct a Dog Park amenity in Frazier Park.

(11) INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – RADIO SERVICES

A) Adopt a resolution approving an Interlocal Agreement with Union County for Public Safety Radio System Interoperability and Infrastructure Services, and

B) Adopt a resolution approving an Interlocal Agreement with Gastonia for Public Safety Radio System Services.

Resolutions recorded in full in Minute Book 44-A, Documents # _____, _____.

(12) FUNDING ADJUSTMENTS – AREA MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Approve Area Mental Health Authority funding adjustments as follows:

A. Approve, recognize, receive and appropriate State funds in the amount of \$1,666 for the purpose of developing a Crisis Intervention Team program.

B. Reduce Federal funding in the amount of \$87,977 from U.S. Probation/Pretrial services for substance abuse treatment in Jail Central.

C. Reduce State funding in the amount of \$250,000 to align the Area Mental Health (AMH) budget with state allocations.

(13) APPOINTMENT OF REVIEW OFFICERS

Amend “Resolution Designating Review Officers to Review Each Map and Plat Recorded in the Register of Deeds Office Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 47-30.2” in order to add and designate Peggy Hensley, Steven Hite, Vorecia Johnson and Kevin M. Hennessey as Review Officers and to delete the name of Diane B. Johnson.

Resolution recorded in full in Minute Book 44-A, Document # _____.

(14) ZONING PETITION - SET PUBLIC HEARING

Adopt a resolution providing for public hearing on petition for zoning changes to be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in the Meeting Chamber of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center.

Note: Petition 2008-001(C) Change in zoning from R-3 to R-8MF (CD) for approximately 3.77 acres located on the west side of Lancaster highway between Southcrest Lane and Winghurst Drive. Petitioner: Sinacori Homes, LLC.

Resolution recorded in full in Minute Book 44-A, Document # _____.

(15) SICKLE CELL DISEASE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN PIEDMONT – HEALTHY AND READY TO WORK PROGRAM

Approve the release of \$35,050 from Restricted Contingency to Sickle Cell Disease Association for the implementation of the Healthy and Ready to Work Program.

Note: The Healthy and Ready to Work Program provides training and educational services to assist sickle cell patients in managing their healthcare needs.

(16) ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL – SPIRIT SQUARE AND ARTSTEACH PROGRAM

Approve the release of \$500,000 from Restricted Contingency to the N.C. Blumenthal Performing Arts Center (NCBPAC) for the continued operation of Spirit Square.

Note: The Spirit Square Community Task Force is working in partnership with the Public

Library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Trustees to determine the best approach to redeveloping the Spirit Square property. Until this Task Force completes its work, the N.C. Blumenthal Performing Arts Center (NCBPAC) will continue to operate and maintain the Spirit Square facility. The NCBPAC and the Arts and Science Council have asked that the funds in restricted contingency be released so that they can use these funds to pay for the operational expenses associated with the facility for the remainder of FY2008.

THIS CONCLUDED ITEMS APPROVED BY CONSENT

STAFF REPORTS AND REQUESTS

(17) KNIGHTS BASEBALL AGREEMENTS

Motion was made by Commissioner Helms, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell and carried 6-2 with Commissioners Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, and Commissioners Bentley and Bishop voting no, to adopt a resolution waiving conditions (i) and (viii) of Article X of the Development and Economic Grant Agreement and the requirement that closing of the Stadium Project Financing occur when the Lease is executed, and affirm the authority of the Chairman to execute the Lease Agreement as revised.

**MECKLENBURG COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF CERTAIN CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO
EXECUTING THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MECKLENBURG COUNTY AND
KNIGHTS BASEBALL, LLC**

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2008, the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners adopted a Resolution authorizing a Lease Agreement with Knights Baseball, LLC for the operation and maintenance of a baseball stadium on County property located at 300 South Mint Street and 416 West 3rd Street, Charlotte, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, in the resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners on January 15, 2008, the Board of Commissioners determined that all statutory conditions required for it to execute the Lease Agreement had been completed, reaffirmed its determination that the lease to Knights Baseball, LLC would advance and further the Center City 2010 Vision Plan, as amended on September 24, 2007, with which amendment the Board of Commissioners agreed, and determined that it was in the public interest for it to execute the Lease between the County of Mecklenburg, North Carolina and Knights Baseball, LLC; and

WHEREAS, Article XI of the Development and Economic Grant Agreement allows for execution of the Stadium Lease Agreement after certain conditions precedent to the County's obligation are satisfied or waived and when Project Financing is ready for closing; and

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to execution of the Lease Agreement have been satisfied except Mecklenburg County does not have record title to all land required for the Third Ward Park and the Project Financing is not prepared to be closed; and

WHEREAS, time is of the essence as to dates and undertakings associated with the Stadium Project and the Board in its sole discretion believes that waiving the unsatisfied conditions precedent will advance and further the Center City 2010 Vision Plan; and

WHEREAS, a new section 3.2 has been added to the Lease that prohibits the Knights from demolishing the Virginia Paper Building, closing any streets in connection with the infrastructure improvements or commencing construction of the stadium until Mecklenburg County has record title to all land required for the Third Ward Park and the project financing is prepared to be closed: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners hereby waives conditions (i) and (viii) of Article X of the Development and Economic Grant Agreement and the separate requirement in Article XI that closing of the Stadium Project Financing occurs when the Lease is executed, and affirms the authority of the Chairman to execute the Lease with the addition of the new Section 3.2.

Resolution recorded in full in Minute Book 44-A, Document # _____.

Note: Prior to the above vote, General Manager Bobbie Shields addressed this matter.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS AND REQUESTS

(18) USE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN FOR GREENWAY LAND ACQUISITION

Commissioner Bentley addressed use of the power of eminent domain for greenway land acquisition.

The following was noted: Concerned citizens have met with Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation officials many times over the last year to discuss their concerns relative to the Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Master Plan as it relates to greenways. These meetings have produced a response from Parks and Recreation that created a new "Greenway Philosophy." Among other things, this new philosophy aims to improve the public input process on the front end as Greenways are being discussed. This process includes working more closely with developers, land owners, and neighborhoods on gaining their support for greenway acquisition and trail development as well as identifying and organizing stakeholder groups for greenway development along specified corridors. Despite these changes to greenway philosophy, residents remain concerned that, in the end, condemnation will be used to secure the land needed to fulfill the greenway master plan. The current Mecklenburg County Greenway Master Plan clearly outlines that condemnation through the use of eminent domain is a possible means for land acquisition. While Mecklenburg County has never taken this action, citizens are concerned that future Boards will not be as respectful of property rights. Removing eminent domain as a possible mechanism for land acquisition for greenways in Mecklenburg County would eliminate the key concern raised by impacted residents. The Huntersville Town Board recognized the importance of protecting the property rights of its citizens by voting unanimously in October, 2007 to remove the option of using eminent domain for greenway land acquisition.

Note: Commissioner Bentley's original proposal was to consider adoption of a policy stating that the County would not use its power of eminent domain to take private property for the use of public greenways, bikeways, pathways or walking trails without the consent of the owner.

However, Commissioner Bentley said she has spoken with several interested parties recently and has come to the conclusion that the most effective way to achieve a desirable outcome for all parties involved exists in the creation of a study group that will be charged with developing recommendations around the greenway planning process, paying special attention to the protection of private property rights.

The group would consist of representatives from the Park and Recreation Commission, the Catawba Lands Conservancy, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities, realtors (both commercial and residential), LUESA and homeowners. They will be charged with developing recommendations that advocate better greenway planning and finding the proper balance between property rights and greenway planning, with the ultimate goal of bringing forth confidence in this process.

Commissioner Bentley said she would also propose that the Park and Recreation Commission utilize the mechanisms it has in place to bring this study group together with the goal of reporting back to the Board of County Commissioners by October 7, 2008.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to approve the formation of a study group charged with developing recommendations around the greenway planning process, paying special attention to the protection of private property rights. This group will consist of representatives from the Park and Recreation Commission, the Catawba Lands Conservancy, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Utilities, realtors (both commercial and residential), LUESA and homeowners and will present its recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners at its October 7, 2008 meeting.

Prior to the above vote, the following persons spoke in support of Commissioner Bentley's motion but noted their opposition to her original proposal (as indicated) to consider adoption of a policy stating that the County would not use its power of eminent domain to take private property for the use of public greenways, bikeways, pathways or walking trails without the consent of the owner.

Tom Cox, former County Commissioner and Board Chairman (Mr. Cox volunteered to serve on the Study Commission.)

Betty Chapin Rash expressed her support of the Greenway program. (She was opposed to Commissioner Bentley's original proposal.)

Larry Huelsman (He was opposed to Commissioner Bentley's original proposal. He feels eminent domain needs to remain in the "tool box.")

Dave Cable with the Catawba Lands Conservancy

Harry Johnson, a board member for Trips for Kids and a stakeholder for planning Charlotte's new bike plan. (He said the bike plan and the greenway should be integrated.)

James Grover on behalf of the Tarheel Trailblazers (He was opposed to Commissioner Bentley's original proposal.)

The following person spoke in support of Commissioner Bentley's original proposal: Pam Hester (Although her preference was for Commissioner Bentley's original proposal, she was not opposed to the motion.)

(19) CHILDHOOD OBESITY PREVENTION PROGRAMS – AEROBO COP

Motion was made by Commissioner Woodard, seconded by Commissioner Helms and carried 5-3 with Commissioners Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, and Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, and Ramirez voting no, to approve the release of \$50,000 from the restricted contingency fund into the Health Department budget to begin the pilot of childhood obesity prevention programs; and to approve the carry forward of unspent funds at June 30, 2008 to continue programs.

(20) COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Woodard, chair of the Board's Community Building Committee called upon Deputy County Attorney Sandra Bisanar to brief the Board on the issue of contract language designed to help ensure that all contracts and projects of the County that utilize taxpayer funds do not support the employment of illegal immigrants. This topic was recently discussed at a Community Building Committee meeting.

Deputy County Attorney Bisanar gave two overviews regarding contract language designed to help ensure that all contracts and projects of the County that utilize taxpayer funds do not support the employment of illegal immigrants.

It was noted that it was the consensus of the Board's Community Building Committee that the County continue to use the current Mecklenburg County public contract language as it pertains to compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act. It was felt that this was sufficient.

Motion was made by Commissioner Woodard, seconded by Commissioner Helms and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, to continue to use the current Mecklenburg County public contract language as it pertains to compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act.

COMMISSION COMMENTS – General comments were made at this time by various

Commissioners regarding upcoming events and/or events they attended, as well as, other matters which they deemed note worthy.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Helms and unanimously carried, with Commissioners Bentley, Bishop, Clarke, Helms, Mitchell, Ramirez, Roberts, and Woodard voting yes, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Janice S. Paige, Clerk

Jennifer Roberts, Chairman