



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

APRIL 18, 2017

5:02 P.M.

COUNTY SQUARE – CONFERENCE ROOM D

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MR. BUTCH KIRVEN, CHAIRMAN
MR. WILLIS MEADOWS, VICE CHAIRMAN
MRS. XANTHENE NORRIS, CHAIRMAN PRO TEM
MR. JOE DILL
MR. MIKE BARNES
MR. SID CATES
MR. RICK ROBERTS
MR. BOB TAYLOR
MRS. LIZ SEMAN
MR. ENNIS FANT, SR.
MR. LYNN BALLARD **ABSENT**
MR. FRED PAYNE

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Square and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned Citizens.

STAFF PRESENT

Joe Kernell, County Administrator
Mark Tollison, County Attorney
John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator
Theresa Kizer, Clerk to Council
Paula Gucker, Assistant County Administrator, Public Works
Bob Mihalic, Governmental Relations Officer
Shannon Herman, Assistant to the County Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Butch Kirven

INVOCATION

Councilor Bob Taylor

Item (3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Councilor Norris moved to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2017, Regular Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Item (4) GREENVILLE COUNTY VETERANS PARK COMMITTEE

Chairman Kirven introduced Doug Greenlaw, Head of the Veterans Park Committee. He added that the initial purpose of the committee was to study the existing Veterans' Monument and make recommendations for its placement when the new County Square building was completed. Chairman Kirven stated the committee's purpose had now expanded to include a concept for a Veterans' Park in Greenville County.

Doug Greenlaw, Chairman
Greenville County Veterans Park Committee

Members of the Committee:

Doug Greenlaw – Chairman – Decorated Vietnam Vet, Media Executive
Jason Livingston – Decorated Afghanistan War Veteran
Steven Duerk – Decorated Vietnam Veteran and former Textile Executive
Hayne Hipp – Co-Founder, The Liberty Fellowship
Megan Riegal – CEO, The Peace Center
Michael Riordan – US Marine Corps Veteran and CEO, Strategic Coordinating Organization
Thorn Shea – Author and decorated Navy Seal / Iraq and Afghanistan

Mission Statement:

To recommend to the County Council of Greenville County the prospects of developing a first class County Veterans' Park as the future location of the County Veterans' Monument. The recommendations may include the name, location, design and funding of the park. Final decisions would be made by the County Council.

County Parks in Consideration:

- Washington Heights School property
- Westside Park
- Conestee Park
- Oak Grove Lake Park
- Lakeside Park
- City Park
- Park North on Pelham

In the site consideration part of the process, the Committee looked at 30 parks and narrowed the list to seven. Mr. Greenlaw stated he toured a Veterans' Park in Florence, SC, which would serve as a model for the Greenville County park. He stated the Greenville Park would equal or exceed the Florence park. The Committee originally had six parks in mind before Councilor Roberts recommended the Park North on Pelham. Mr. Greenlaw stated he had not been able to tour all 30 parks himself but the ones that he did tour were all very impressive. He stated all of the parks he visited were well-maintained and very busy.

Next Action:

Mr. Greenlaw stated the committee would complete an evaluation of each recommended park and make recommendations to County Council.

Councilor Taylor stated he envisioned all the existing memorials to be in one location.

Mr. Greenlaw stated that was correct.

Councilor Dill stated some of the suggested sites were not very "visible". He stated he would like a site that was both accessible and visible.

Councilor Roberts stated he was honored to be a part of the effort.

Item (5)

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION:

Vice-Chairman Meadows moved to adjourn.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Theresa B. Kizer, Clerk to Council