



Chatham County, NC

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Monday, February 19, 2018

6:00 PM

Historic Courthouse Courtroom

Rollcall

Present: 4 - Commissioner Jim Crawford, Chair Diana Hales, Vice Chair Mike Dasher and Commissioner Karen Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Walter Petty

Work Session - 2:00 PM - Historic Courthouse Courtroom

Chair Hales stated that Commissioner Petty would not be in attendance due to a death in the family.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

[18-2521](#)

Vote on a Request to Approve a Resolution Honoring Denise Estridge upon Her 30-Year Retirement

Attachments: [resolution honoring denise estridge feb 2018.doc](#)

Chair Hales read the resolution into the record. Chair Hales presented the framed resolution to Denise Estridge and thanked her for her service to the County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that Resolution #2018-06 Honoring Denise Esteridge for 30 Years of Service in Chatham County Public Health, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Hales, Commissioner Howard, Commissioner Crawford and Vice Chair Dasher

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Siler City Town Commissioner Mike Constantino asked the Board again to expand the County Board of Commissioners from five to seven members. He would like to know what he can do to help move the process along. Chair Hales explained that the item will be discussed at the March 19, 2018 Board of Commissioners meeting.

BOARD PRIORITIES

[18-2514](#)

Broadband For Chatham: A Progress Update

Attachments: [BroadbandForChatham201802](#)

MIS Director Darlene Yudell gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

GIS Manager Nick Haffele continued the presentation. He reviewed the survey results and showed the mapping of the vertical assets. He stated Centurylink was not willing to provide their service area information.

Ms. Yudell concluded the presentation and reviewed the RFI process.

Chair Hales asked if the State Broadband Office is looking at the infrastructure that was put in the 1990s. Ms. Yudell stated the members of the office do have old knowledge and are not new to the topic.

Commissioner Crawford asked about a dark fiber ring between county offices and schools and if that could be a basis for public/private initiatives. Ms. Yudell stated an element of that is still a possibility. Providers said they have very specific ways they like to install their fiber. E-rate funding and grants are still available to use for this.

Commissioner Howard asked what can be done if an isolated home is not being served. Ms. Yudell stated the RFI did include respondents who addressed those kinds of situations.

Chair Hales asked if they had any sense of a timeline of when they will make recommendations. Ms. Yudell stated they would make recommendations to the County Manager within the next month.

Commissioner Crawford thanked Ms. Yudell and the Broadband team for tackling such a difficult project.

This Agenda Item was received and filed.

[18-2517](#)

Review Nonprofit Funding Task Force Recommendations

Attachments: [6--Final Task Force Recommendations](#)

Budget Director Lisa West gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Ms. West reviewed the four options under consideration. She asked the Board to give her some direction.

Chair Hales asked who would administer the RFP. Ms. West stated staff and the Collaborative Impact Team.

Commissioner Howard asked where the opportunity is for public participation in option four. Ms. West stated the CIT and staff would be monitoring it so they did not discuss having a committee. The County Manager stated a standing committee determining funding was never envisioned.

The County Manager said the existing process is too cumbersome and time consuming. If the Board chooses option one staff would still need to be hired.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dasher, seconded by Commissioner Crawford, to approve moving forward with Option Four. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2502](#)

K-14 Discussion

Commissioner Crawford made a motion to direct staff to investigate and report on the 2019-2020 budget impact of Chatham Promise for all Chatham County residents that are graduates of public schools.

Commissioner Crawford stated Chatham Promise is good for economic development and it is doing right by our students. Other counties have already implemented this as well as the state of Tennessee.

Commissioner Howard asked if this would exclude home school and charter school students. Commissioner Crawford stated it is for students in public schools. The County Manager stated public schools would include charter schools.

Vice Chair Dasher asked what would be the cost of funding it.

Chair Hales stated Lee County is doing a pilot program.

Commissioner Howard asked if the program strictly covers the cost of tuition. Commissioner Crawford confirmed that the program only covers tuition.

CCCC Provost Dr. Mark Hall stated a student must be full time to graduate in two years. Part time students would lose funding after two years. They must have already earned some credits in high school to participate in the program. Funding would cover the tuition and fees but not books. Full time tuition is \$1,200 for in-state students for four classes per semester.

Commissioner Howard asked if there is anything to address transportation. Dr. Hall said there is some federal funding to address that. Commissioner Howard asked if students can take courses at multiple campuses. Dr. Hall stated they could.

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Dr. Derrick Jordan stated Chatham County Schools are schools under the Board of Education.

The County Manager asked if this would be for all Chatham County Students (including students who attend charter schools outside of the county) or students only in Chatham County Schools. After some discussion the Board agreed that the program should be available to all Chatham County residents who are graduates of public schools.

Vice Chair Dasher asked if students must apply for Pell grants to be considered for Chatham Promise. Dr. Hall stated yes. Students would complete a FAFSA and CCCC's internal scholarship application. The appropriation from the County would fill in the gaps.

Dr. Jordan stated the Board of Education endorses this concept but are concerned

about a decrease in allotment to K-12 schools.

Commissioner Howard asked if funding is provided, can excess funding be utilized for text books. Dr. Hall stated they can certainly consider that.

Vice Chair Dasher would like to know long term costs. If this is funded on an annual basis, the Board will be making a promise to an eighth grader that in five years this will program will be available.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Vice Chair Dasher, to direct staff to investigate and report on 2019-2020 budget impact of Chatham Promise for all Chatham County residents that are graduates of public schools. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2523](#)

Discussion by the Board of Commissioners to evaluate zoning options for vacant business properties in formerly unzoned areas of the county.

Planning Director Jason Sullivan stated this request came from a couple of the commissioners. There are thirty-five possible vacant properties out of the 249 properties identified.

Vice Chair Dasher asked if they could be identified by node. Ms. Sullivan stated yes.

Chair Hales stated Commissioner Petty was especially concerned about properties in Bonlee.

The Board agreed to direct planning staff to contact the owners of parcels identified as vacant to give them the opportunity to have more flexible rezoning.

The County Manager stated the Board has to be careful not to say the zoning being requested is guaranteed.

Planning Board member George Lucier stated there were seventy rezonings in 2009 with one person in opposition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, to direct planning to contact the owners of parcels identified as vacant and provide them the opportunity to have more flexible rezoning. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

CLOSED SESSION

[18-2506](#)

Closed Session to discuss matters relating to economic development and attorney-client privilege.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, to approve going out of the Work Session and convening in Closed Session to discuss matters relating to attorney-client privilege and economic development. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Howard, seconded by Commissioner Crawford, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

End of Work Session

Regular Session - 6:00 PM - Historic Courthouse Courtroom

Present: 4 - Commissioner Jim Crawford, Chair Diana Hales, Vice Chair Mike Dasher and Commissioner Karen Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Walter Petty

INVOCATION and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Dasher asked those in attendance to observe a moment of silence after which Chair Hales invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hales welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Hales requested that the Climate Change Advisory Committee Action Items be added at the end of the Regular Session. She stated the item to discuss the expansion of the Board will be postponed until March 19, 2018 so that Commissioner Petty can be present.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that the Agenda and Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2495](#)

Vote on a request to approve the January 16, 2018 Work and Regular Session Minutes, the January 23, 2018 Retreat Minutes, and the January 24, 2018 Retreat Minutes.

Attachments: [Draft Minutes 01.16.2018](#)
 [Draft Minutes 01.23.2018](#)
 [Draft Minutes 01.24.2018](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[17-2454](#)

Vote on a request to accept \$2,000 Chatham Health Alliance Funds

Attachments: [\\$2,000 Chatham Health Alliance Check](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[17-2455](#)

Vote on a request to accept \$2,000 Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) Retail Program Standards Grant Program Funds (G-T-1710-05870)

Attachments: [\\$2000 AFDO Abstract](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[17-2456](#)

Vote on a request to accept \$3,000 Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) Retail Program Standards Grant Program Funds (G-T-1710-05870)

Attachments: [\\$3,0000 AFDO Abstract](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2486](#)

Vote on a request to accept \$2,500 Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) Grant Funds from FY 2018

Attachments: [2.500 FDA & AFDO Retail Program Standards Grant](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2496](#)

Vote on a request to approve Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget Amendments

Attachments: [Budget Amendment 2017-2018 Feb](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that the Budget Amendments, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2497](#)

Vote on a request to approve appointment of Clyde Frazier to the Planning Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Appointment be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2498](#)

Vote on a request to approve appointment Patricia Poe to the Library Advisory Committee.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Appointment be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2499](#)

Vote on a request to approve appointments to the Community Advisory Committee for Nursing Homes and Adult Care homes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that the Appointments be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2500](#)

Vote on a request to approve appointment of Richard Poole to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Appointment be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2501](#)

Vote on a request to approve appointment of Michael Zelek to the Chatham Transit Board of Directors.

Attachments: [CTN Letter of Recommendation](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Appointment be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2507](#)

Vote on a request to approve the 2017 tax lien advertisement

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2512](#)

Vote on a request to approve Tax Releases and Refunds

Attachments: [January 2018 Release and Refund Report](#)
 [January 2018 NCVTS Pending Refund Report](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that the Tax Releases and Refunds, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2508](#)

A request by Lee Bowman, Project Manager on behalf of **NNP Briar Chapel, LLC** for subdivision final plat approval of SD East Parcels 7 - 9, consisting of 3 lots on 18.59 acres, located off US Hwy 15-501 N., Baldwin Township, parcel #18911.

Attachments: [More Information from Planning Board Website](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2504](#)

Vote on a request to authorize the County Manager and County Attorney to finalize the land lease for the Health Sciences Building and authorize the County Manager to execute the contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2513](#)

Vote on request to award bid to ECOFLO, Inc. for collection and disposal at Chatham County permanent Household Hazardous Waste facility, approve the contract, and authorize the County Manager to execute the contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2485](#)

Vote on Request to Approve the Contract with Synergy Electronics Recycling LLC and Authorize the County Manager to execute the contract.

Attachments: [Synergy Electronics LLC Service Agreement](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2490](#)

Vote on a request to approve Lease Renewal for Probation Services and authorize the county manager to sign the Lease.

Attachments: [Probation Lease agreement RICHARD E FOX 2018-2023](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2522](#)

Vote on a request to approve the contract for the Pittsboro Downtown Master Plan and authorize the County Manager to execute the contract.

Attachments: [Pittsboro Downtown Master Plan - 20180129 Signed agreement](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2515](#)

Vote on a Request to approve Third Amendment to Chatham Trades Agreement extending the deadline for purchasing a property from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2018 and authorize the county manager to sign the Amendment.

Attachments: [THIRD Amendment Chatham Trades for allowing 1 Year Extension to 12-31-18](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Contract, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2516](#)

Vote on a request to adopt A Resolution Approving The Addition Of Streets in the Harrison Pond Subdivision to the North Carolina System of Secondary Roads

Attachments: [Harrison Pond Subdivision Resolution](#)
 [Harrison Pond Resolution Request](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that Resolution #2018-07 For the Addition of Streets or Roads to the North Carolina System of Secondary Road, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2494](#)

Vote on a request to adopt a resolution proclaiming February 2018 as Animal Spay Neuter Awareness Month

Attachments: [2018 - Spay Neuter Resolution](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that Resolution #2018-08 Declaring February 2018 as Animal Spay/Neuter Awareness Month, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2518](#)

Vote on a Request to Approve 25% Match for GCC VAWA Grant for Sheriff's Office

Attachments: [Grant Approval Req Dec 2018 CCSO](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2519](#)

Vote on a request to approve a match for the 2018 Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant

Attachments: [Internal Grant Approval Form CWRR_recycling containers 2018](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

End of Consent Agenda

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

[18-2505](#)

Present Certificate of Extended Volunteer Committee Service with County Advisory Committees to Jamie Fiocco.

This item was postponed until the March 19, 2018 meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Billie Medlin submitted the following comments:

My name is Billie Medlin and I live at 220 Half Dollar Road, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. I have lived on the family farm in North Chatham for 86 years. I am here to open a conversation with the Board of Commissioners and Briar Chapel management. I attended a 2005 meeting where I was told Half Dollar Road would not be connected to Briar Chapel as a condition to start building. Currently, Briar Chapel has circulated a map with draft plans and limited communication. We are asking for an open forum for input. The commissioners will receive constant updates about shared citizen concerns and opposition until I hear at a future commissioner meeting that Half Dollar Road will not be connected to Briar Chapel.

Don Medlin submitted the following comments:

We are attending all of the Board meetings, both Planning Board and Board of Commissioners, in order to make certain and have assurance that Briar Chapel is going to have an open communication. Thank you.

Larry Brooks submitted the following comments:

I come here to ask for your support in relocating the confederate statue. I am here not only for what I stand for but what you and all people in Chatham County should stand for. The Town of Pittsboro is in the midst of making substantial changes and growth with the influx of new communities and businesses. I have lived in Chatham County for most of my life and have not seen this type of growth at any time. As a resident of Chatham County, the monument which stands in front of the Historic Courthouse represents segregation and racism instead of equality for all, which is governed by the law. The statue which has a permanent place in the Town of Pittsboro should not stand in the way of progress for Pittsboro or Chatham County. I ask for your support in the relocation of the confederate statue and ensure the people of Chatham County feel they are equally represented and that the town and county are not in support of racial discrimination. Thank you.

Jean Willoughby submitted the following comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to address you. I've prepared a statement regarding the Confederate States of America (CSA) monument on the grounds of the Chatham County Courthouse. I've lived in Chatham County for about eight years, working in agriculture at local organizations and now for a national land trust. I've also had the opportunity to work with many farmers in the county.

I'm originally from Arkansas and have generations of family history in the South. I'm well acquainted with Southern history and culture. Southern culture is many things to many people, of course, and I'm not one to generalize too much. However, I've observed that we can often be polite at the expense of honesty and that we're sometimes too quiet about matters that deserve to be talked about openly. When I moved to Chatham County, I begrudgingly accepted the presence of the CSA monument as another one of those "Southern things." Sadly, I'm sure many of us can relate.

After eight years of passing by the CSA monument, I had the experience of meeting with other community members, many of whom are people of color or African American, at various community gatherings where I heard about how this monument has negatively affected them and how its presence at the Courthouse has incited exclusion, fear, and shame. That is unacceptable. I respectfully ask that you work to relocate the Confederate monument from the Courthouse grounds to another location. I hope you will also facilitate community dialogues and educational initiatives regarding the history of the monument, so that county residents can learn together and grow better connected as a result. There are more than 95 monuments honoring the Confederacy in North Carolina according to state records, and approximately 1,500 across the country, according to a 2016 review by the Southern Poverty Law Center. That means we have an important opportunity, perhaps even an ethical responsibility, to strive to serve as a model for both our state and our country through how we choose to address this issue.

Specifically regarding the monument in Chatham County, I have three points I'd like to offer:

1. First, I'd like to echo another statement recently made to the Commissioners by another county resident, who said: "It is possible to acknowledge your history without sanitizing it." The proposed relocation of the CSA monument from public grounds would not constitute an erasure or a sanitation of our history. Instead, it would mark a deeper acknowledgement of the meaning of our history and its consequences. As others have noted, the CSA statue was placed in its current location in 1907, decades after the Civil War ended. Three years after the war, the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association invited Confederate General Robert E. Lee to the historic site "for the purpose of marking upon the ground by enduring memorials of granite the positions and movements of the armies on the field," which he declined, replying with his now famous admonition, "I think it wiser, moreover, not to keep open the sores of war but to follow the examples of those nations who endeavored to obliterate the marks of civil strife, to commit to oblivion the feelings engendered." It's time we follow his advice, particularly considering that the CSA monument, like the Confederate flag, is as much a symbol of the Jim Crow era as it is of Confederate history. It is part of our history as Americans, but it should not be located in a place where it could deter our citizens or act as a racially-charged symbol of violence and

exclusion on public grounds, in turn undermining our system of representative democracy.

2. The CSA monument reads: "Our Confederate Heroes." I'd like to offer a close reading of this phrase in part because it's bothered me for about eight years now. "Our" can be a word of inclusion-our courthouse, our democracy, our country- but in this context it was and is used, perversely, to exclude. "Confederate" refers to someone who fought for the Confederacy, an unrecognized country formed only by slave-holding states that seceded from our nation, that took up arms against it, and that explicitly sought to defend slavery. Mississippi's declaration of secession, for example, read: "Our position is thoroughly identified with the institution of slavery - the greatest material interest of the world." "Its labor supplies the product which constitutes by far the largest and most important portions of commerce of the earth." Lastly, "heroes." Two words: They lost. It requires courage to face battle, but it is not heroic to fight for an unjust cause. I fail to see why a rogue and long-defunct political entity should continue to be deemed heroic on our public grounds.

3. Ultimately, if it doesn't break our hearts to know that many of our neighbors and fellow citizens may have felt unwelcome here and that their participation was unwanted- that their pursuit of justice, or their basic right to be heard at meetings like this one was in any way discouraged-due in no small part to the presence of this monument to the Confederacy, then I'm not sure what else can be said. But I will say in closing that I have faith that our neighbors can and will work together to find a solution, one that shows us to be people who care about each other as much as we care about this place we call home.

Wil Warren with ThirdWave Housing gave the Board an update on Henry Siler School. The application has been submitted last month to North Carolina Housing Finance. There were 166 applications but there were only five redevelopment applications. There will be at a minimum two redevelopment projects awarded so the chances are good the Henry Siler School application will be accepted. There will be 44 units, ten in the school and the others in new construction.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

[18-2509](#)

A Legislative public hearing request by O'Mara Landscaping & Lawncare, Inc. to rezone 10 acres of the 31.89 acre tract from R-1 Residential to CD-CB Conditional District Community Business, identified as Parcel 2691, located at 4590 Mann's Chapel Road, Baldwin Township for a landscaping and lawn care contractor's business.

Attachments: [More Information from Planning Department Website](#)

Zoning Administrator Angela Birchett reviewed the specifics of the request.

Chair Hales asked about the old magnolia trees. Ms. Birchett stated they will be retained.

Vice Chair Dasher asked if this would be a retail sales business. Ms. Birchett stated no.

Architect Keith Shaw and Contractor Kevin Frazier addressed the Board. This is an ideal site for the applicant. It provides quick access to the residential customers they will be serving.

Chair Hales asked if any traffic impact study had been done. Mr. Shaw stated not yet. They are just trying to get through the approval process first. It is not a retail operation.

Commissioner Crawford asked if there would be any loud machinery. Mr. Shaw stated no.

Commissioner Howard asked what kind of vehicles will be used. Mr. Shaw said they use panel trucks and box trucks. Commissioner Howard asked what the operating hours would be. The applicant said hours will be 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and there will be no late hours. There will be no work on Sundays and only occasional Saturdays.

Planning Board member George Lucier asked how much land will be cleared. Mr. Shaw showed on the map where land would be cleared. There are no streams on the property.

Chair Hales opened the hearing.

Nick Robinson would like to ask applicant what they are doing with respect to driveway permits. He is not opposed to the application.

Mr. Shaw stated they will work with NCDOT to get that information.

Ms. Birchett stated they are proposing an additional driveway. NCDOT will have to approve a commercial driveway. She needs more information on how the yard debris (LCID material) is going to be used. The applicant stated oil is recycled. Metal is collected and then they get money for it. They have yard debris and concrete. Republic comes and picks up the debris.

Chair Hales closed the hearing.

This Agenda Item was referred to the Planning Board.

[18-2510](#)

A Legislative Public Hearing request by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners to adopt revisions to the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations to reflect recent legislative changes and recommendations by Planning Staff.

Attachments: [Proposed Ordinance Amendments PowerPoint](#)
[More information available from the Planning Department website](#)

Planner Dylan Paul gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Chair Hales opened the hearing.

No one signed up to speak.

Chair Hales closed the hearing.

This Agenda Item was referred to the Planning Board.

[18-2511](#)

A Legislative Public Hearing request by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners to adopt revisions to the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance to reflect recent legislative changes and recommendations by Planning Staff.

Attachments: [Proposed Ordinance Amendments PowerPoint](#)
 [More information from the Planning Department website](#)

Planner Dylan Paul gave a presentation to the Board. (Presentation attached)

Chair Hales opened the hearing.

No one signed up to speak.

Chair Hales closed the hearing.

This Agenda Item was referred to the Planning Board.

BOARD PRIORITIES

[18-2493](#)

Vote on a Request to Adopt Noise Ordinance as Amended

Attachments: [1-23-18 draft 2017 NOISE ORDINANCE edits RJR](#)

County Attorney Jep Rose reviewed the three changes in the ordinance.

- the two complainants (one who resides in a different residence) can now go straight to the magistrate*
- a verbal or written request asking the offending party to stop the noise is now required before going to the magistrate*
- the civil penalties have been taken out*

Chair Hales asked what happens if the complaint is after hours. She stated someone can go to the jail and speak to a magistrate on a phone.

Chair Hales asked how can we get this information out to the public. She asked if staff could put where to call with a complaint on the county website.

County Attorney stated the website could have a form online with a request to cease the noise.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dasher, seconded by Commissioner Crawford, that this Ordinance, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof, be approved and to direct staff to publicize the new procedures. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and
 Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

[18-2503](#)

Discussion on the expansion of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.

Attachments: [Commissioner Petty Comments for 03.19.2018](#)

This item was moved to the March 19, 2018 meeting.

[18-2527](#)

Climate Change Action Items

Chair Hales reminded the Board of the Climate Change Advisory Committee's Action Plan that was presented to the Board last fall. Chair Hales and Commissioner Howard formed a sub-committee to review the issue. Pittsboro Mayor Cindy Perry also attended the sub-committee meeting. Each commissioner was asked to submit their three priorities.

Chair Hales think staff needs to review these issues and figure out how county staff, particularly the Collaborative Impact Teams, can address some of the issues.

After some discussion the Board directed staff to focus on the following three priorities:

- Solar power/solar branding/renewable energy/clean tech*
- Mixed use development and public transit*
- Agriculture and woodland conservation*

MANAGER' S REPORTS

The County Manager asked Community Relations Director Debra Henzey to give an update on the trip to Mexico. Ms. Henzey stated Kim Shaw and Commissioner Howard are both interested in the trip. She is concerned that the cost of the trip is a barrier for many people. Vice Chair Dasher expressed his interest in participating as well. Commissioner Howard wanted to know who else would be participating. Ms. Henzey stated that she had not seen a general list of participants.

[18-2528](#)

Vote on a request to schedule a public hearing on April 16, 2018 at 6:00 PM for the rezoning of the 972 acres under option by the County at the Moncure Megasite.

A motion was made by Commissioner Crawford, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this Agenda Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Crawford attended a TJCOG presentation on how to preserve farmland. We need to get young people into farming. The Joint Orange-Chatham Task Force had its first meeting. He attended the Triangle South Workforce Development Board meeting. He also attended the Chatham Health Alliance and new urgent care facility is opening up in Siler City.

Commissioner Howard went to a NCACC meeting and they talked about opioid litigation and legislative goals for the year. The NCACC District Meeting is in Chatham County this year on April 25th at 5:30 PM at the Agriculture and Conference Center.

She stated Central Piedmont Community Action's rent is \$2,500 a month and they are currently looking for different space.

Chair Hales attended the Wake County Private Well and Contamination meeting, the One Water Meeting, and the Chatham Conservation Partnership meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chair Dasher, seconded by Commissioner Howard, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Crawford, Chair Hales, Vice Chair Dasher and Commissioner Howard

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Petty