

**ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
SPLOST 2020 CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

January 14, 2019

The Athens-Clarke County SPLOST 2020 Citizens Advisory Committee met on Monday, January 14, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at 780 Barber Street, Athens, Georgia. The purpose of the meeting was review of project presentations

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Aitkens, Sara Beresford, Frances Berry, Shane Blackwell, Carl Blount, Laura W. Carter, Dr. Cshanyse Allen, Tracy Davenport, Katrina Evans, Dr. LaKeisha Gantt, David Griffin, Thomas P. Lauth, Robert Miles, Adam Shirley, Lora Thompson, Rob Trevena, Jim Weck, Dr. Shannon Wilder, Dr. Marilyn Wolf-Ragatz and Jennifer Zwirn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Amy Stone, Denny Galis

STAFF PRESENT: Keith Sanders, SPLOST Program Administrator, Robert Hiss, ACCGOV Assistant Manager, Jackie Harrington, SPLOST Administrative Assistant, David Fluck, Central Services Director, Kent Kilpatrick, Leisure Services Director, Melanie Cochran Davis, Assistant Leisure Services Director, Mark Magnuson, Captain, Police Special Operations Division, Mike Hunsinger, Captain, Police

WELCOME/COMMENTS

Welcome by Chair, Dr. Shannon Wilder.

MEETING MINUTES REVIEW & APPROVAL:

January 9, 2019 Minutes: Rob Trevena made a motion to approve the January 9, 2019 Minutes and Laura Carter seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

#45 Public Safety Training Center

Mark Magnuson, Captain, Special Operations Division, made the presentation.

#59 Athens Clarke County Public Libraries – SE Clarke Park Branch Library

Ian Thomas, Chair, ACC Library Board of Trustees, made the presentation.

#73 New Facility for Athens Creative Theater

David Mathews Morgan, Member, Board of Friends of the Athens Creative Theater gave the presentation.

#39 Memorial Park Renovations – Phase I

Mel Cochran Davis, Leisure Services Assistant Director made the presentation.

#40 Parks Facilities Improvements

Alex Bond, Leisure Services Project Management Supervisor made the presentation.

#46 Water Reuse Program

Marilyn Hall, Senior Water Resources Manager, Public Utilities Department made the presentation.

#79 Tallassee Forest Park

Karen Porter, UGA, Odum School of Ecology, made the presentation.

DISCUSSION / ALTERNATE REQUESTS

Discussion:

Chair, Dr. Shannon Wilder, led a discussion concerning the determination of requesting alternates. Unless noted otherwise, votes will be by simple majority. After discussion the following action was taken:

Adam Shirley made a motion that correspondence would be sent to all project requestors asking that an alternate proposal to their original proposal be submitted. Sara Beresford seconded the motion and the motion passed with a majority vote of 15.

After further discussion the following amended action was taken:

Frances Berry made the motion to have a communication sent to all proposers requesting that, if feasible and they so choose, to submit an alternate request. The alternate proposal must be submitted within three days of their presentation. Carl Blount seconded the motion and the amended motion passed with a majority vote of 15.

Chair, Dr. Shannon Wilder announced that the Mayor and Commission will have a work session on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss and hear the scope of the judicial projects. The meeting will be televised and streamed live. She noted that it would be helpful for members to view this meeting as an opportunity to learn more about those proposals. Keith Sanders added that it was tentatively item #4 on the agenda but the final agenda should be posted to the web site on Wednesday, January 16.

Chair, Dr. Shannon Wilder announced that there would be a committee meeting on Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting would be to discuss the projects that have been presented through that time and alternates that had been received.

#45 Public Safety Training Center

Laura Carter: In favor of.

Carl Blount: Lack of driver training is disturbing.

Jim Weck: Mentioned the fact that 80% of officers have EMT training on their own time.

Tom Lauth: Wants an alternate.

David Griffin: Wants to know who owns land.

#59 Athens-Clarke County Public Libraries

David Griffin: Likes that they have land.

Tracy Davenport: Agreed but wondered how quickly it would be outgrown.

Katrina Evans: Recommends increase in scope/budget for land along with different location closer to schools so that kids can walk.

Sara Beresford: Loves the library and feels that there is something about being at the park and bundling activities appeals to her.

#73 New Facility for Athens Creative Theatre

Adam Shirley: Sold on the benefits of the theatre, not sold that everyone is being served because of ticket cost.

Tom Lauth: Low priority initiative. It will not go away without funding.

Sara Beresford: Great programs, great for disabled, important to community.

John Aitkens: Positive impact on community and essentially same range of funding.

#39 Memorial Park Renovations – Phase 1

Jim Weck: Need to maintain the facilities that we already have – most important.

Marilyn Wolf Ragatz: Agrees with Weck.

Katrina Evans: Maintenance versus capital improvements concern.

Tracy Davenport: Need to shore up the existing parks versus new parks.

Jim Weck: No guarantees on when money will be received during the course of the program.

Adam Shirley: Maintain what we have versus adding new parks.

#40 Parks Facilities Improvements

Sara Beresford: Capital versus maintenance distinction?

Jim Weck: Catching up on capital request funding.

Tracy Davenport: Would like to know more about specific projects.

Carl Blount: Tax payers hate to see things eroding away. There is a need to take care of what we have and not add more.

#46 Water Reuse Program

Laura Carter: Essential and long overdue.

Tracy Davenport: Five years to build will be reduced to three years by funding the project. Questioned the need for doing sooner.

Laura Carter: Noted the decrease in operating cost.

David Griffin: Sold – good request.

#79 Tallassee Forest Park

Sara Beresford: This is an amazing piece of land and truly unique.

Tracy Davenport: This is conservation – the price is a drop in bucket in an area that is underserved.

Jim Weck: Project will solve the access problem to the land.

Carl Blount: Good use.

Sara Beresford: First people connection. Recognizes our history.

Katrina Evans: Positive use.

INFORMATION / NEXT MEETING DATE

- A Doodle Poll will be sent for possible dates for the courthouse tour.
- Marilyn Wolf Ragatz – gave a brief description of public art funding.
- The next meeting of the committee: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bob Snipes Water Resource Center. Purpose: Project Presentations

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

The above summation is an interpretation of the items discussed and decisions reached at the above referenced meeting, not a transcript of the meeting. A digital recording of the meeting is available upon request. Anyone desiring to add to, or otherwise correct the minutes, is requested to return written comments to the SPLOST Administrator by the date of the next meeting.



Keith D. Sanders

SPLOST Program Administrator

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