

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Monday, June 24, 2024

7:00 P.M. Regular Session

**MINUTES**

Place: Commissioners' Chambers, Second Floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 East Main Street, Durham, North Carolina

Present: Vice Chair Nimasheena Burns and Commissioners Heidi Carter

Excused Absence: Chair Nida Allam and Commissioners Wendy Jacobs

Absent: Commissioners Brenda Howerton

Presider: Vice Chair Nimasheena Burns

Zoom Hybrid  
Participants: 3

**Opening of Regular Session - Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Adjustments**

Vice Chair Burns announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

**Announcements**

Monica Wallace, Clerk to the Board read the following announcements:

1. **Apply for RYSE Assessment Center Advisory Board** – Durham County is excited to announce the formation of the Advisory Board for the new Resources for Youth Success & Empowerment (RYSE) Assessment Center and invited residents to apply to volunteer. This board will be instrumental in guiding the development of the RYSE Assessment Center services, including the Youth Diversion Program. There are Youth Member At-Large (14 to 17 years old) and adult Community Member At-Large positions available. Learn more and apply at <https://www.dconc.gov/Home/Components/News/News/10149>. Deadline is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26.
2. **Durham Refugee Day on June 29** – Come and celebrate Durham's refugee and immigrant communities at Durham Refugee Day 2024 at Durham Central Park on Saturday, June 29 from 3 to 6 p.m. Durham Refugee Day is a community-wide event that celebrates the contributions and cultures of our refugee and immigrant neighbors and provides an opportunity to stand in solidarity with these communities. This is a FREE family-friendly event with live music,

community education booths, activities for kids, and food vendors from around the world! Learn more at <https://durhamrefugeeday.com/>.

3. **School is Cool Celebration** – Welcome Baby and the Durham County Cooperative Extension are hosting the first “School is Cool” Summer Celebration on Saturday, June 29! Come out to the Extension Building (721 Foster Street) between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. for this FUN and educational school event for Durham County families! There will be community partners sharing information on literacy resources, 4-H Club information, childcare resources, safety, nutrition, how to navigate the school system, and more! Raffle prizes and children’s activities will also be available! Find out more about Welcome Baby here: [www.welcomebaby.org](http://www.welcomebaby.org).
4. **Cooling Centers** – When extreme heat hits our community, please remember that all Durham County Library locations, except for Stanford L. Warren and Bragtown operate as cooling centers for Durham County residents during their normal hours of operation. Please note that all normal library rules apply! Visit [www.DurhamCountyLibrary.org](http://www.DurhamCountyLibrary.org) to find out hours and read rules.
5. **Tax Bill Calculator** – Durham County and City of Durham residents can find out their expected tax bill by visiting the Tax Bill Calculator created by the Durham County Budget and Management Services Department. Use the sliders to input your assessed tax valuation and the calculator will do the rest. To use the calculator, visit <https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiMjE4MGM2ZTctYWZjMi00YTlhLWExZjYtZmI3M2U2ZWl4NzlyIiwidCI6ImMxNmEwMGEzLTU2MDktNDdjMCIiMmMyLTcyZDg2MzVIMzQyMyJ9&pageName=ReportSectionb6ce01eb99ce6e2792ed>.
6. **Most DCo Offices Closed for Independence Day** – Most Durham County Government offices will be closed on Thursday, July 4, 2024, in observance of the Independence Day holiday. All offices will reopen with normal business hours on Friday, July 5. Read about impacts to certain services at [www.dconc.gov](http://www.dconc.gov).
7. **2024-2025 Durham PreK Application is Open** – Interested in applying to enroll your child in high-quality pre-K education from Durham PreK? If you live in Durham County and your child will be 4 years old by August 31, 2024, you can apply for the 2024-2025 today! Visit [www.durhamprek.org](http://www.durhamprek.org) to get the application. If you have questions, call 1-833-773-5338 or email [prek@childcareservices.org](mailto:prek@childcareservices.org).

Commissioners shared the following additional announcements.

- The Resources for Youth Success and Empowerment (RYSE) Assessment Center offered voluntary, cost-free services for Durham youth aged 10-17 facing social, emotional and behavioral challenges.
- The Durham Success Summit was accepting applications until August 16<sup>th</sup> to join the Summit Scholars, a six-month career goal program for Afro-American youth aged 16 – 24 in Durham.

## Minutes

There was no quorum met to obtain a vote. The minutes were moved to the July 8, 2024 Regular Session meeting.

**Ceremonial Items**

**24-0379 Office of Emergency Services Receives Community Impact Award from CPI Security and WRAL**

Dwane Brinson, Assistant County Manager stated the Emergency Medical Services’ Community Paramedics Program received the award for the Bridge to Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) Program. He added the program helped to reduce opioid overdose and supported individuals grappling with addiction in the community.

Mark Lockhart, Office of Emergency Services Director thanked the Board for the recognition and introduced the award recipients: Captain Helen Tripp, Program Manager, Phillip Keene, Community Paramedic and Lisa Smith, Community Paramedic. He added CPI donated \$1,000.00 to the Vic Pearson Memorial Fund.

Captain Tripp stated the Bridge to MAT Program started in May 2023 and 26 patients were inducted into the program. Ms. Smith stated the Community Paramedics not only helped keep citizens alive, but they also helped citizens thrive.

The Board thanked Mr. Lockhart, Captain Tripp, Ms. Smith and Mr. Keene for their dedicated services provided by the OES/EMS Departments. The Board inquired about the Vic Pearson Memorial Fund. Captain Tripp replied that the memorial fund was established by the family in memory of Vic Pearson, who was a Paramedic with Durham County EMS and passed. She added the award was presented to the EMS employee who displayed the highest level of competency and compassion to patients each year or employees who were faced with hardship.

**24-0382 Proclamation – Durham Refugee Day**

Commissioner Carter read the following proclamation:

**DURHAM REFUGEE DAY | 2024**

**WHEREAS,** Durham Refugee Day was launched in 2017 to celebrate the courage, strength, and determination of refugees and immigrants living in Durham; and

**WHEREAS,** more than 108.4 Million people are forcibly displaced worldwide by the end of 2023 as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order, and

**WHEREAS,** the United States and Durham County have a proud humanitarian tradition since the late 1970’s of welcoming refugees and immigrants of all nationalities and religions; and

**WHEREAS,** the Durham County community knows that inclusion, respect and understanding of all those that work, play, worship, and live here promotes a community that we can be proud of.

**NOW THEREFORE,** I, Nimasheena Burns, Vice Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim June 29, 2024, as

**“DURHAM REFUGEE DAY”**

in Durham County, and hereby urge all residents to take note of this observance.

This the 24th day of June 2024

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Nimasheena Burns, Vice Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Kakou Nayo, Durham City/County Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Coordinator thanked the Board for the proclamation and introduced Ousmane Abdoulahi, Refugee Leader. He added Mr. Abdoulahi recently received his United States Citizenship.

Mr. Abdoulahi stated he was thankful to receive the proclamation on behalf of refugees and immigrants who called Durham County home. He invited the community to the Durham Refugee Day on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, from 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. at Durham Central Park.

The Board thanked Mr. Nayo and Mr. Abdoulahi for helping the Durham community be a welcoming and diverse home for refugees and immigrants.

**Consent Agenda**

There was no quorum met to obtain a vote. The consent agenda was moved to the July 8, 2024, Regular Session meeting.

**Public Hearing**

There was no quorum met to obtain a vote. The public hearing was moved to the July 8, 2024, Regular Session meeting.

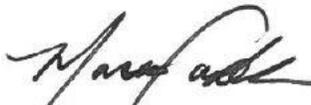
**Closed Session**

There was no quorum met to obtain a vote. The closed session was moved to the July 8, 2024, Regular Session meeting.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Macio Carlton  
Deputy Clerk to the Board