

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

Monday, October 22, 2018

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 James Hill and Commissioners Heidi Carter, Brenda Howerton and Ellen  
Reckhow

Excused: Chair Wendy Jacobs

Presider: Vice-Chair James Hill

**7:00 pm Regular Session**

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

**Agenda Adjustments**

Vice Chair Hill announced that there were no agenda adjustments.

**Announcements**

Vice Chair Hill read the following announcements:

1. **Duke Game Days:** The library is pleased to partner with Duke Athletics for Library Game Days! Help us represent Durham County Library at the athletic events listed below. Show your Durham County Library card to get in FREE! Parking is also free. Only ONE person is admitted to the game for free per library card. If you come in a group, everyone needs their own Durham County Library card to get into the game free of charge. Need a Durham County Library card or a replacement card to get in free to those events? Visit your nearest library to get a new one!

**ATHLETIC EVENTS:**

**Duke Volleyball vs North Carolina\***

Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m., Cameron Indoor Stadium (115 Whitford Drive)

**Women's Basketball vs Elon**

Sunday, November 18, 2 p.m., Cameron Indoor Stadium (115 Whitford Drive)

*\*These games are always free of charge.*

For more information call 919-560-0127 or visit <https://durhamcountylibrary.org/>

2. **TOWN HALL MEETING - Lead Poisoning: Still a Problem. Still Preventable.** Come help us plan next steps to stop lead poisoning on Thursday, October 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Durham County Department of Public Health on 414 East Main Street.

Dinner provided at 6:00 p.m. Spanish interpretation provided. RSVP by October 23 to be entered into drawing for door prize. Text or leave message (984) 244-0106 or email [PeachDurham@gmail.com](mailto:PeachDurham@gmail.com) and include full name and the number of attendees.

3. What would Durham be like if young people had a say in the decisions? Come find out. KIDS VOTING Durham - Youth Candidate Forum. 2018 Durham District Court Judge Candidates on Thursday, October 25, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Jordan High School, 6806 Garrett Road.

- ✓ All are welcome, but only youth get to ask the questions at this student-led forum
- ✓ No preparation required – students will talk about what District Court does and brainstorm questions in the first part of the session
- ✓ Dinner and snacks provided

[www.kidsvotingdurham.org](http://www.kidsvotingdurham.org); [infor@kidsvotingdurham.org](mailto:infor@kidsvotingdurham.org) 919-560-7321 #durhamyouthcare #durhamvotes

4. **Free Rabies Vaccine Event** - 4th Annual Rabies Prevention Event on October 27 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Eastway Elementary School, 610 North Alston Avenue. If you live in Durham County, bring proof of residence and your furry pals for a health exam, rabies vaccination and microchip. Free collars, leashes and pet ID tags.

5. **SAVE THE DATE!** Durham NC Chapter, The Links Incorporated and Durham Crisis Response Center is hosting the Domestic Violence Forum: “Shining a Light on Domestic Violence” on Saturday, October 27 at 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Holy Cross Catholic Church on 2438 S. Alston Ave., Durham. Special guest speaker: Kimya Motley. **FREE TO THE PUBLIC!**

6. Every September-October, groups from across Durham volunteer to pick up litter in their local neighborhoods, parks, and streams. This is Durham's largest litter cleanup event of the year, coordinated by the Durham County Soil and Water Conservation, Keep Durham Beautiful, Inc and the City of Durham Stormwater & GIS Services Division, with additional support provided by the Durham County General Services Department and the City of Durham Neighborhood Improvement Services Department.

Over 5,100 Big Sweep volunteers have picked up 160,000 pounds of litter since 2005. In 2017, volunteers collected 30,000 pounds of trash, breaking the previous record, set in 2012, by over 10,000 pounds. This event provides countless benefits to the communities involved and is one of the most impactful means of keeping Durham beautiful.

Volunteers can create a cleanup team with their selected group or can volunteer as individuals and be assigned to a team. If you don't have a particular site in mind, our staff can assist you in locating a cleanup site. While the official Big Sweep day was October 6, any date in October is eligible. Interested? Register at [www.durhambigsweep.org](http://www.durhambigsweep.org)

7. **Here Comes the Bus” Bus Tracking App** - Durham Public Schools is the first district in North Carolina to offer parents to option to track their child's bus in real time!

All you need is an account with our "Here Comes the Bus" application online, and you can track the bus using your computer, smart phone or tablet. Using the latest in GPS technology, this app lets you see where the bus is and confirms when the bus has arrived at the bus stop and at the school.

Plus, users can sign up to receive a text message or email when the bus is within a certain radius of the bus stop. No more rushing to get out of the house in time just to see the bus already pulling away!

Sign up today -- it's free and easy.

**How to get started:**

1. Visit [herecomesthebus.com](http://herecomesthebus.com)
2. Click the Sign Up Today! Button
3. Enter school code 97034 and click "Next" followed by "Confirm"
4. Complete the "User Profile" box
5. Under "My Students," click "Add". Enter the student's last name and student ID number.
6. Confirm the information and you're ready to begin using Here Comes the Bus! Please contact [Debbie Roberson](#), Transportation Technology Coordinator at 919-560-3822 ext. 29200 if you have any questions.

8. **One-Stop "Early Voting" Schedule for the November 6 General Election - New Advanced** mapping tools to find the closest Durham County early voting site to you is available at our website ([www.dconc.gov/elect](http://www.dconc.gov/elect)) or directly at <http://bit.ly/2FbG2Pm>.

Early voters can select from any of Durham's six Early Voting locations between October 17th and November 3rd.

\*Photo ID is not a requirement for voting.

9. **2018-19 Durham County Open Space Matching Grant Cycle Now Open!** The Durham County Open Space Matching Grant Program has opened the 2018-19 cycle for new applicants. This grant allows local non-profits to apply for recreation or open space-based grants at a 50-50 match. More information, guidelines, and application can be found on the Durham County Website below or on the Durham County Open Space Division Facebook page. Grant closes November 14! For more details, visit [www.dconc.gov/matchinggrants](http://www.dconc.gov/matchinggrants).
10. **Alert Durham - Sign Up Today:** Durham County wants to keep its citizens informed and safe in the case of an emergency. Sign up for Alert Durham to receive notifications about severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons, and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods. To sign up for Alert Durham, visit [AlertDurham.com](http://AlertDurham.com).
11. **Get Involved!** It's your County. Durham County Government has approximately 43 active advisory boards referred to as Boards and Commissions. Citizens of Durham County may volunteer to participate by applying for a vacancy.

Interested citizens should fill out an application and send it to the Clerk to the Board's Office. A description of the boards as well as a list of vacancies can be found on the County's website at <http://www.dconc.gov/government/departments-a-e/board-of-commissioners/boards-and-commissions>. If you need additional information, please contact the Clerk's Office at 919-560-0025 or email to: [BoardsandCommissions@dconc.gov](mailto:BoardsandCommissions@dconc.gov)

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This information can also be found on our Durham County Website: [www.dconc.gov](http://www.dconc.gov)

These announcements along with additional details may also be found on the County's website or you may call the Clerk's Office at 919-560-0025.

## **Minutes**

Commissioner Howerton moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to approve the May 22, May 24, May 31, June 4 and June 14, 2018 Budget Work Session minutes; the July 23, 2018 Regular Session minutes and the August 6, 2018 Work Session minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Ceremonial Items**

### **Proclamation - Bells Across Durham Day 2018**

#### **BELLS ACROSS DURHAM DAY | 2018**

**WHEREAS,** Sunday, November 11, 2018, will mark the annual national observance of Veterans Day and also mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War I; and

**WHEREAS,** a century ago the armed conflict ended with the Armistice Treaty, signed in France between the United States and its allies on one side and with Germany and its supporting nations on the other side; and

**WHEREAS,** the treaty was signed at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, of the 11<sup>th</sup> day, in the 11<sup>th</sup> month of 1918; and

**WHEREAS,** this special time in history is referred to as Armistice Day is still celebrated in many parts of the world; and

**WHEREAS,** November 11<sup>th</sup> is now designated as Veterans Day in the United States and is recognized as a federal holiday; and

**WHEREAS,** the first monument erected on Durham's Courthouse Square was dedicated on November 11, 1921, to the local soldiers and sailors who sacrificed their lives during World War I; and

**WHEREAS,** in commemoration of Veterans Day and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War I, residents of Durham are asked to initiate a new tradition of peace by participating in a project called *Bells Across Durham*; and

**WHEREAS,** houses of worship, civic and social groups, veterans' organizations, and the entire community are invited to ring bells 11 times simultaneously at 11 a.m. on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2018 as

**"BELLS ACROSS DURHAM DAY"**

and encourage all to learn more about the Bells Across Durham Project and participate in the simultaneous bell ringing as a symbolic salute to Durham's military veterans, as well as, the ongoing commitment to the resolution of conflict around the world, across our nation, and within our local community

This 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2018.

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Eddie Davis, Office of the Public Historian for the City of Durham thanked the Board for the proclamation. He stated it was important to continue to work for peace and freedom across the world and the sole purpose was to salute and commemorate those who served and continued to work for peace. Mr. Davis invited the community to Mangum Elementary School in Bahama, North Carolina on November 12, 2018 at 7p.m. for a ceremony.

The Board asked if a ceremony would take place at the World War I Monument. Mr. Davis responded there would a brief ceremony outside of the Durham County Courthouse.

**Proclamation - Unity in the Community Health Forum 2018**

Vice Chair Hill read the following proclamation:

**UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY HEALTH FORUM | 2018**

- WHEREAS,** Durham County strives to improve the quality of life across the lifespan through protecting the health of the community, reducing barriers to access services and ensuring a network of integrated health and human services available to people in need; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County appreciates all of its community partners who raise awareness regarding the health disparities we continue to face; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County applauds North Carolina State Health Director Dr. Elizabeth Cuervo Tilson, the Health Committee of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People and all of the organizers for taking an active stance in recognizing and addressing the important issue of healthcare in our community; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham community benefited from the remarkable contributions and achievements by the late Dr. Brenda Estelle Armstrong who dedicated her life to improve the lives of others. Dr. Armstrong's most recent roles were a professor in the Department of Pediatrics and as senior associate dean for student diversity, recruitment and retention at Duke's School of Medicine. She also served the School of Medicine for more than 20 years as associate dean for admission. Dr. Armstrong was the second African-American woman in the United States to become a board-certified pediatric cardiologist and among the first African-American students to attend Duke in the '60s, during the first years the university functioned as a desegregated institution; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham was truly blessed by the life of the late Dr. Brenda Estelle Armstrong, and our community will truly be a richer place because of the many individuals she and the Duke Department of Pediatrics touched.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** I, Wendy Jacobs, Chair of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby recognize October 26, 2018 as

## **“UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY HEALTH DAY”**

In Durham County, North Carolina. I call upon all citizens to recognize the significance of this event and participate in all activities planned.

This 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2018.

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair  
Durham Board of County Commissioners

Jan Cromartie, Former Health Chairman of Durham Committee of the Affairs of Black People thanked the Board for the proclamation but suggested additional changes/corrections be made to the document. He went on to share background information on the event and invited the Board and community to attend the Unity in the Community Health Forum on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at Lyons Park and Recreation Center from 1:00 – 4:00p.m. honoring the late Dr. Brenda Estelle Armstrong.

### **Consent Agenda**

Vice Chair Hill asked the Board if they requested to pull or comment on any items on the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Carter questioned item #18-1082 and asked for a brief summary on what the request was for. She added the contract appeared to lay out a scope of work that involved more than the architectural and design services. Motiryo Keambiroiro, Director of General Services stated the contract would be for master planning. She added while in the process, options would be available for the Board and the community to review. Ms. Keambiroiro stated the standard contract provided for review would be modified based on the scope of work being completed. Commissioner Carter expressed her reservations for agreeing to a contract without the specifics outlined beforehand.

Commissioner Reckhow stated this item was added last minute and the Board was not able to review specifics prior to the meeting.

Hearing no additional comments, Vice Chair Hill entertained a motion for approval.

Commissioner Carter moved, seconded by Commissioner Howerton to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda.

\*18-1042 Property Tax Releases and Refunds for August 2018

\*18-1075 Property Tax Releases and Refunds for September 2018

18-1066 Support for Lease Purchase Transaction of Computer Equipment for Durham Public Schools

18-1082 Award Contract for Architectural/Engineering Services for Upgrades to Northern Durham County Solid Waste Convenience Sites

The motion carried unanimously.  
Consent Agenda Item #18-1042

Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings and clerical errors, etc. The attached report details releases and refunds for the month of August 2018.

#### Releases and Refunds – August 2018

Real Property	\$ 56,341.90
Personal Property	\$ 329,602.63
Motor Vehicle	\$ 4.07
Solid Waste Fees	\$ 476.43
VTs Refunds	\$ <u>16,892.65</u>
Total	\$ 403,317.68

#### Releases & Refunds for Prior Years 2012---2017

Real Property	\$ 11,167.68
Personal Property	<u>278.21</u>
Total	\$ 11,445.89
Grand Total	\$ 414,763.57

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#### Consent Agenda Item #18-1075

Due to property valuation adjustments for over assessments, listing discrepancies, duplicate listings and clerical errors, etc. The attached report details releases and refunds for the month of September 2018.

#### Releases and Refunds – September 2018

Real Property	\$ 79,354.58
Personal Property	\$ 42,450.49
Motor Vehicle	\$ 0.00
Solid Waste Fees	\$ 158.81
VTs Refunds	\$ <u>17,608.02</u>
Total	\$ 139,571.90

#### Releases & Refunds for Prior Years 2012---2017

Real Property	\$ 8,845.38
Personal Property	<u>333.50</u>
Total	\$ 9,178.88
Grand Total	\$ 148,750.78

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### Public Hearings

Vice-Chair Hill stated the Board was requested to conduct a public hearing on the proposed scheduled of values, standards and rules that were submitted to the Board at the September 24, 2018 Regular Session meeting.

Vice-Chair Hill opened the public hearing. No one was signed up to speak. Vice-Chair Hill asked the Board if they requested to make any additional comments on the item.

The Board asked Kimberly Simpson, Tax Administrator to provide a brief update on the important dates to the community. Ms. Simpson stated emails were received and responded to accordingly. She added the schedule of values would be effective November 13, 2018 after the Boards approval. Ms. Simpson also stated the Public Relations Team were working on opportunities to address the public on any questions or concerns that would have.

## **Regular Business**

### **Introduction of 2020 Census**

Deborah Craig-Ray, General Manager introduced Laura McClettie, Partnership Specialist with the United States Department of Commerce and the United States Census Bureau and asked her to provide an overview of the 2020 Census to the Board.

Ms. McClettie thanked Ms. Craig-Ray, the Board and County Manager for allowing her to speak on the 2020 Census. She also introduced Terry Henderson, Partnership Specialist and B. Patterson, Recruitment Manager. Ms. McClettie provided background information on the Census and shared how the program worked. She also provided the Board with a packet that outlined details and data and expressed her excitement on working with the County.

The Board inquired about the hiring process and a timeframe when positions would be available. Ms. Patterson shared the website information and explained the process. She stated the current need was a Recruitment Assistant. Mr. Henderson added the work hours were flexible and he highly encouraged college students to apply. Commissioners stated this would be a great task and ensured the Census staff that Ms. Craig-Ray would be available to work with them.

Wendell Davis, County Manager stated staff would come back with a budget amendment to ensure there were funds set aside for this item.

## **Board and Commission Appointments**

Terri Lea Hugie, Clerk to the Board distributed ballots to the Board to make appointments to the boards and commissions.

The Board made the following appointments (incumbents are identified with an (i). Individuals who are recommended by a Board are underlined.) Individuals listed in bold print were appointed.

### **Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee**

**Tamario Howze** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

**Vickie Winters** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

### **City-County Appearance Commission**

**Charles Douglas** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

### **Dangerous Dog Appeal**

**(i)Terry Hill** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

### **Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau**



**Caesar Swift** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Durham Technical Community College Board of Trustees

**Geoff Durham** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Durham-Wake Counties Research and Production Service District

**Robert Olds** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

**Michael McBrierty** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

**Stephanie McDougal** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority

**Rama Darbha** (Carter, Hill and Reckhow)

**Eric Edwards** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Milton Gilder (Howerton)

**Indranil Ghosh** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

**Jessica Uba** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee

**Amanda Weir-Gertzog** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Transportation Advisory Board

**Milton Gilder** (Carter, Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

Women's Commission

Patti Black (Carter)

**Michelle Laws** (Hill, Howerton and Reckhow)

## **Adjournment**

Commissioner Howerton moved, seconded by Commissioner Reckhow to adjourn the Regular Session meeting.

The motion carried unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,



Monica W. Toomer  
Deputy Clerk to the Board