



City of Greensboro Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

City Council Work Session

October 24, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
Plaza Level Conference Room
300 West Washington Street
Greensboro, NC

Present: Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter, Councilmember Sharon Hightower, Councilmember Hugh Holston, Councilmember Zack Matheny, Councilmember Tammi Thurm, and Councilmember Goldie Wells

Absent: Mayor Nancy Vaughan, Mayor Pro-Tem Yvonne Johnson, Councilmember Nancy Hoffmann

Also Present: City Manager Trey Davis, City Attorney Chuck Watts, and City Clerk Angela Lord

A. Call To Order

These City Council minutes are a general account of the October 24, 2024 meeting. For full details of discussions, the meeting video can be located on the City of Greensboro website at <https://www.greensboro-nc.gov/government/city-council/council-meetings>.

This City Council work session of the City of Greensboro was called to order at 2:07 P.M. on the above date.

Councilmember Abuzuaiter confirmed Councilmembers in attendance; and stated Mayor Vaughan and Councilmember Hoffmann would be absent.

B. Presentations

B.1 2024-753 Battleground Park District

Assistant City Manager Nasha McCray provided a brief overview of the presentation.

Parks and Recreation (P & R) Director Phil Fleischmann made a PowerPoint Presentation (PPP); provided an overview of the Battleground Park District; highlighted Country Park; and visitor's, events, amenities, and partnerships.

Councilmember Matheny inquired about counters to which Mr. Fleischmann stated he would provide the information.

Mr. Fleischmann continued the PPP; referenced J Spencer Love Tennis Center; provided an overview for the location, improvements, and tournaments; and recognized Aaron LaRocca from Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.

Mr. LaRocca continued the PPP; reviewed Fiscal Year (FY) 22 and FY 24 data; spoke to annual visitations; to annual budgets; to project funds; to volunteer participation; and outlined future plans and execution.

Councilmember Wells arrived at 2:22 P.M.

Mr. LaRocca referenced a new long range interpretive plan; read from the plan; spoke to advancement at a National level; to implementation of a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP); to stream restorations; to public engagement; highlighted Priorities and Actions Document; and Guilford Battleground Partner advocacy.

Discussion took place regarding a potential road closure; city authorizations; community input; long term plans; and alignment for productive conversations.

Councilmember Matheny inquired about the City assisting to promote the park to which Mr. LaRocca spoke to the display of a Battle of Guilford Courthouse flag.

Discussion continued regarding flag meaning and controversy surrounding the flag; a positive symbol; an upcoming anniversary in 2026; State Commission participation; a slogan of "When are We Us"; community education; school tours; implementation of education in Library's and History Museum; and the mission of park services.

Councilmember Matheny spoke to the bus wrapping of Black Patriots; requested staff to research state and federal legislation and funding to honor Black Patriots.

Greensboro (GSO) Science Center Glenn Dobrogosz highlighted aquariums and zoos; spoke to top 10 museum ratings; reviewed the GSO Science Center impact; a Historical context; spoke to visionary work; provided images; highlighted Bond drawings, schematics designs and full scope images; a rain forest conservatory; an offering of new prospective; reviewed multiple images of an emersion experience for patrons; highlighted a model prospective; a lavatory area; provided a project timeline; and shared images of animals on exhibit.

Discussion ensued regarding Minority Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) participation; Council appreciation for the GSO Science Center and the Guilford County Military Park presentations; and National Park entrance fees.

Mr. Fleischmann recognized P & R staff in attendance; referenced data requested from Councilmember Matheny; outlined visitation data; spoke to upcoming needs request; spoke to public investments; funding needs; and recognized Deputy City Manager Chris Wilson for efforts over the years.

C. Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Matheny, seconded by Councilmember Holston, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried on the following by voice vote.

The City Council Adjourned at 3:17 P.M.

Nancy Vaughan, Mayor

Angela R Lord, City Clerk

Motion to adjourn the meeting.