

Minutes - Draft

PECS-Planning, Economic Development & Community Services Committee

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

2:00 PM

Meeting Started At: 2:35PM

Attendees: Commissioners Johnson, Long Spears, Cochran-Johnson, Terry

Present 2 - Commissioner Larry Johnson, and Michelle Long Spears

Not Present 1 - Robert Patrick

I. MINUTES

2023-1164 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the September 12, 2023 Planning, Economic Development, and Community Services Committee Meeting
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the PECS-Planning, Economic Development & Community Services Committee due back on 10/10/2023 .

-this agenda item was not voted on during the meeting

II. APPOINTMENT INTERVIEW

[2023-1168](#) Commission District(s): All
Appointment of Dr. Jada Bussey-Jones, MD to the DeKalb County Board of Health
MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/10/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Johnson, and Long Spears

Not Present: 1 - Patrick

-interview conducted by the PECS Committee to Dr. Bussey-Jones

III. DISCUSSION

DeKalb County Board of Health Environmental Health Fee Proposal

-presentation provided by DeKalb Board of Health Director Dr. Valenciano

-Question LJ: will these fees need to be in support of these fees?

Dr. Valenciano: correct, our board meeting is this Thursday and I do expect them to support

-LJ: we will take action after you all have it approved by your board, and then we will bring this back to the Committee of the Whole for a presentation to the full Board of Commissioners. Central Staff will be in contact with you regarding this schedule.

-Question MLS: regarding storm drains and mosquitos, what is the process of contacting you all?

-response provided by Environmental Health Director Ryan Cira

-Question MLS: regarding 'treatment' for mosquitos, are these environmentally safe?

R Cira: yes it is part of a nationwide contract that boards of health have with contractors

-additional comments provided by Environmental Health Deputy Director Marcus Johnson

-Question TT: regarding elevated blood levels of lead at the child's home, are some cases occurring at apartments or single family homes?

-response provided by Dr. Valenciano

-Question TT: regarding environmental causes like paint or dust in the home, what is our approach for renters? Is there communication to and requirement for the landlord to remove the substance?

-response provided by Director Cira

-comments provided by Commissioner Terry

FY23 Budget Adjustments

-presentation provided by RPCA Director Chuck Ellis on the RPCA budget adjustment request

-LJ: regarding the Pavilion at Longdale Park, could we put that on the list?

-TT: I would request \$200,000 for the Pavilion

-TT: regarding park naturalists, we don't have a park naturalist for the SW DeKalb area parks. Could that be included in a process for a budget item in 2024?

-LJ: I think it would be good to have for the 2024 budget

-C Ellis: we have been in discussion and I think that is something that can be explored for 2024

-TT: my request is that we start the advertising for the position now so that we can begin the process

-comments provided by Director Ellis

-MLS: midyear budget request on behalf of Planning & Sustainability for staff training for several boards (planning commission, community councils, zoning board of appeals, historic preservation commission). Request cost is \$30,000.

-comments provided by Commissioner Terry

-MLS: motion to approve midyear budget adjustments for: RPCA, Planning & Sustainability staff training, Longdale Park Pavilion requests

Second LJ

Vote: yes 2-0

IV. AGENDA ITEM

New Agenda Items:

Community Development

[2023-1121](#) Commission District(s): All
Approval of Agreements with Agencies to use HOME-ARP Funding to provide Rental Assistance and/or Supportive Services to DeKalb County, HOME-ARP Eligible Qualifying Populations in an amount not to exceed \$6,697,504.

MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/10/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Johnson, and Long Spears

Not Present: 1 - Patrick

-presentation provided by Community Development Director Allen Mitchell, Housing Programs Manager Melvia Richards

-Question TT: is this coming from Treasury?

A Mitchell: this is coming from HUD not the Treasurer Department

-Question TT: is there opportunity through Community Development to assist individuals facing evictions? What can we do to help those who are being put out on the streets?

M Richards: those individuals will be eligible for assistance in this program; additional comments provided by Ms. Richards

Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA)

[2023-1100](#) Commission District(s): 4 and 6
To Increase Monthly Horse Boarding Fees at Little Creek Horse Farm

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 10/10/2023 .

-item not heard in committee

Previously Heard Agenda Items:

Board of Commissioners - District 6

[2023-0526](#) Commission District(s): District 3, 6, and all commission districts
A Resolution to Encourage DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond to End the Executive Order Closing Intrenchment Creek Park and to Reopen It to the Public As Soon As Possible

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 10/10/2023 .

-item not heard in committee

[2023-0902](#)

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

To Approve a District 6 American Rescue Plan Funding of \$100,000 to Establish a DeKalb County Eviction Defense Fund to Assist Qualified Residents with Legal Representation

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 10/10/2023 .

-item not heard in committee

Board of Commissioners - District 1

[2023-0792](#)

Commission District(s): District 1

2023 Mid-Year Budget Request to Support the Creation of a Small Business Revolving Loan Fund and Technical Assistance Program to Expand Decide DeKalb's Local Business Resources

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 10/10/2023 .

-item not heard in committee

Meeting Ended At: 3:48PM

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC