

**MINUTES**  
**CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 07, 2010**

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The Board of Commissioners (“the Board”) of the County of Chatham, North Carolina, met in the Agricultural Building Auditorium, 45 South Street, in Pittsboro, North Carolina, at 9:00 AM on September 07, 2010.

Present: Chair Sally Kost; Vice Chair, George Lucier;  
Commissioners Mike Cross, Carl Thompson, and Tom Vanderbeck

Staff Members County Manager, Charlie Horne; County Attorney, Jep Rose; Assistant County Manager, Renee Paschal; Finance Officer, Vicki McConnell; Clerk to the Board, Sandra B. Sublett; and Deputy Clerk to the Board, Elizabeth Plata

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Thompson delivered the invocation after which Chair Kost invited everyone present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kost welcomed those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

**AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

The Chairman asked if there were additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda and Consent Agenda.

Chair Kost asked the following:

- The August 16, 2010 Regular Minutes and August 02, 2010 Work Session Minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda for discussion.
- The Board of Commissioners’ Goals be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda under “Commissioner Priorities” for discussion.
- The Employee of the Month will be moved after the Public Input Session.

Commissioner Lucier moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda as follows with the noted requests:

1. **Minutes:** Approval of Board Minutes for ~~Regular Meeting held on August 16, 2010~~ and Work Sessions held on August 16, 2010, ~~August 02, 2010~~ and July 19, 2010

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0) to approve the Work Session Meeting Minutes held August 16, 2010 and July 19, 2010.

The Regular Meeting held August 16, 2010 and Work Session held August 02, 2010 were removed from the Consent Agenda.

2. **Northeast Park Conservation Easement:** Approval of a request to convey the Northeast Park Conservation Easement to the State of North Carolina through the

Clean Water Management Trust Fund and expand the area from 14.5 acres to 15.3 acres, copy attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

3. **Chatham County Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Approval of request to adopt **#2010-47 Resolution of Adoption Chatham County Hazard Mitigation Plan**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

4. **Courthouse Property Surplus and Disposal:** Approval of a request to adopt **Resolution #2010-48 Declaring Personal Property Surplus and Authorizing the County Manager to Dispose of Personal Property**, attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

5. **Charging-Off 2000 Tax Bills:** Approval of a request to charge off 2000 tax bills in the amount of \$60,945.14

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

6. ~~**Board of Commissioners' Goals:** Adoption of Board of Commissioners' goals, which the Board has discussed and reviewed at numerous meetings. This action incorporates all the suggested changes, including minor changes made at the August 16, 2010 meeting.~~

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda for discussion.

#### **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **PUBLIC INPUT SESSION**

**Patrick Barnes**, 274 McCoy Road, Apex, NC, stated that approximately four and one half years ago, Mike Cross, Charlie Horne, and he met with the North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources. He explained that they asked for a sewer allocation for Chatham County. They were told that there was a total of 38 million gallons per day available and that Cary had all of it. Approximately one year later during the project delivery team meeting in Apex, he asked for half of the 38 million gallons. Miraculously, Cary did a study and it turned out that the Cape Fear would take an additional 19 million per day. George Lucier came to a meeting about this time and heard this. This meant that Cary would be left with 19 if Chatham had gotten half. But by Chatham getting an additional 19 million gallons, they got to keep their 38 million gallons. On August 31, 2010, a small legal appeared in *The News and Observer*. The Towns of Cary and Apex have requested a new NPDES permit designated NC0088846 for discharge treated wastewater to the Cape Fear River and the Cape Fear River Basin. Notice is hereby given for a public hearing concerning the Western Wake Regional Water Reclamation Facility to be conducted by the NC Division of Water Quality. This meeting will be September 28, 2010 in the Town of Apex Town Hall. This permit was issued August 18, 2010. The permit authorizes the discharge of 18 million gallons per day in Phase I and an additional 30 million gallons per day in Phase II. Simple math tells you that this isn't 38 million gallons. This is 48 million gallons. This discharge affects future allocations in this segment of the Cape Fear River. Cary wants their original 38 million gallons per day and they want 10 of Chatham's 19 million gallons per day. If Chatham allows this, it means that there will be 48 million gallons per day of discharge going through Chatham County into the Cape Fear River at Buckhorn Dam. There are several things that can be affected by this if there was a sewer spill in Chatham County. Somebody would be in difficulty. Second, how do our neighbors to the south, Lillington and Fayetteville, feel about this type of discharge into their drinking water? All of the drinking water for Harnett and Cumberland Counties come from the Cape Fear which affects Fort Bragg. There are quite a few items to be considered in this. His questions are: What is the

Chatham County Board of Commissioners going to do? Will they be at Apex at the public hearing?

Commissioner Lucier stated that they are having the public input session on September 8<sup>th</sup> on the Western Wake Partners at the Moncure Fire Station at 7:00 PM. The purpose of that is to receive input on Cary running the sewer line through Chatham County. It is 8.1 miles through Chatham County. He stated that he thinks the points that Mr. Barnes make are good ones, as they want to hear from the citizens about that request. Cary had formally requested this on two occasions. They have formally sent back to them on two occasions that they have not made a decision on that. They won't until after they have the public hearing session. He believes that the Commissioners should be represented and it is on his calendar for September 28<sup>th</sup> on the permit about which he spoke.

**Bob Knight**, 406 Chimney Road Lane, Sanford, NC, stated about this time last year, Sonny Keisler presented the Board with a letter wanting to declare Highways 15-501 and 87 from Pittsboro to the Lee County Line a scenic route. He would like for the Board to note that the signatures are all the same handwriting, which is his handwriting. He stated that some kin folks have come to him and told him they had gone to Mr. Keisler and asked him why he had put their name on it without their permission. His response was that he thought that they were all on the same page. That does not give one the right to send someone a letter with illegitimate signatures and that he wishes the Board would disqualify the letter and not be thinking about making 15-501 and 87 a scenic route. He wanted 3M to change their entrance to the plant for various reasons. He wanted the new fire department changed. The people on that road should be left alone to do what they wish with their own property instead of making a scenic route. By signing someone's name to it without their permission, is a dereliction of the law. They have thought about filing a law suit which he personally hopes that they do.

Chair Kost stated that the scenic corridor was in response to part of the Major Corridor Ordinance which they took public comment and made the decision not to do a total comprehensive major corridor ordinance for all of Chatham County. Instead as they are updating reviewing the Land Use Plan, look at each of the corridors as part of that area plan. She stated that she hears Mr. Knight's comments, but at this point, they are going to be receiving public input in looking at each of the corridors as part of the overall plan.

Mr. Knight stated that he hoped the Board would contact each person that lives on that route. Chair Kost stated that they would; that it will be a very public process with community meetings and taking community input as what they learned from the attempts of doing an overall ordinance is that it is not a "one size fits all", that what works on 15-501 North may not work on Highway 421 South. She stated that they regrouped after hearing what the citizens said decided that that was a better approach.

**Molly Matlock**, 145 Bynum Church Road, Pittsboro, NC, Director of the Chatham County Arts Council, stated that September is National Arts and Education Month. To celebrate National Arts and Education Month, she wanted to share statistics and update the Board on where the Arts Council is on addressing those statistics. The Center for Educational Policy reports that in a 2008 poll, 80% of Americans believe that it is important for schools to develop students' imagination, innovation, and creativity; 93% of Americans surveyed believe that arts are vital to providing a well-rounded education, yet the Center also found that 22% of American school districts have cut arts-related instruction. Numerous academic studies show that arts education promotes basic academic skills and helps to develop well-rounded students who are able to think clearly, express their thoughts and solve complex problems. As many know, not all students learn the same way or by traditional methods but most tracked have been privy to learn when arts is used as an educational tool because it is very engaging. Resident artists such as those in Chatham County may take students out into the woods to identify wood that is used to create local instruments, then they would use music to teach about sound waves, mathematical formulas, which wood is used to make guitars and then also use music to teach the social and historical contexts of the music. The Arts is being used to teach core curricular in a very effective and powerful way. Studies by the NC Arts Council reveal that students in classrooms that include such residencies are four times more likely to score higher on tests, to pursue higher education, and to even volunteer in their own communities. Schools with arts education and arts and

education residencies such as the ones Chatham County provide, decrease dropout rates, narrow the achievement gaps, engage at-risk youth, and help develop and engage citizens. A Guilford County study shows that the graduation rate for public high school students who are engaged in some form of arts education is 99.72%. Out of 11,088 total students, only 5 who had participated in arts education programming dropped out. Conversely, 974 who had never had any arts education experience did drop out. Over the past three years, the Chatham County Arts Council has brought arts education residencies to nearly 5,000 students. They brought a world-class performance in language arts residencies to 700 Jordan Matthews Students and Opera Carolina to every third through fifth grader in the County. They brought residencies that used arts to teach social studies, math, and science to every part of the County including Bennett, Bonlee, Moncure, Siler City, and Pittsboro. Starting last year, they expanded their programming to include an after-school outlet for at-risk youth in which professional film-makers teach stage alternative school students to make their own films which they present publically and then submit to festivals and in college applications. Chatham Arts just completed a dropout prevention grant to also include students from Jordan Matthews in this program. They had partnerships with the Chatham Together mentoring agency, CORA, and Chatham Transit to make the program more robust and extensive. She stated that she knows the Board of Commissioners have very difficult decisions and she appreciate the efforts the Board makes to contribute to the community, especially in education. She further stated that she hopes the Board will join Chatham Arts locally and statewide in support of arts and education.

### **MINUTES**

Chair Kost stated that she had asked that the August 16, 2010 Regular Minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda for discussion. She stated that she presented a couple of very minor corrections/typos to the Clerk. She asked that the "Scope of Work" table on the documentary be added to the minutes.

There were no objections from the Board.

Commissioner Lucier stated that he would like the August 2, 2010 Board of Commissioners' Goals discussion to be reviewed and revised as there were some discussions not captured.

Commissioner Vanderbeck moved, seconded by Commissioner Lucier, to approve the amended August 16, 2010 Regular Board of Commissioners Minutes. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

### **COMMISSIONERS' PRIORITIES**

#### **Employee of the Month: Presentation of September Employees of the Month**

Carolyn Miller, Human Resources Director, explained that the September 2010 Employees of the Month are Krista Jo Ritter and Ginny Jenrette from the Chatham County Animal Control, a division of the Chatham County Health Department. She stated that the nomination that was submitted happened surrounding a specific incident but that she feels it speaks to a larger role that they play.

An excerpt from her nomination form follows:

"On Friday, August 6, PetFinder™, the website used by the Chatham County Public Health Department to post dogs and cats available for adoption, sent a 'secret shopper' to the Chatham County Animal Shelter posing as a potential adopter of one of the dogs. Earlier they had contacted the shelter by phone to assess the customer service offered by the staff. The 'secret shopper' was so impressed by the customer service of Krista and Ginny that PetFinder™ awarded \$2000 to the Animal Shelter.

Kennel space at our shelter is extremely limited and Krista and Ginny consistently go over and above the call of duty to decrease the euthanasia rate in the shelter by promoting adoption and spay/neuter programs. They have both earned certification as euthanasia technicians and the shelter is opened on Saturdays – to facilitate adoptions - due to their

efforts. They are very well respected by the many animal welfare non-profit agencies in the county and have formed key partnerships that extend their ability to find homes for adoptable animals. Krista has been with the Animal Shelter for over 7 years and serves as the Animal Shelter Manager and Ginny has served as the Animal Shelter Attendant for almost 3 years. Both had experience as Veterinary Technicians prior to coming to the Shelter. The attitudes that they maintain, balancing their love for animals with the reality of a shelter operation are to be commended. They are responsible for the daily operation of the shelter, and must be proficient at multitasking. It is normal to find them, conducting intake of animals into the shelter, supervising youths assigned for community service, assisting the public with adoptions, and answering the many phone calls regarding animal issues that come into the shelter daily.”

Ms. Miller stated that Krista and Ginny have demonstrated leadership, commitment, teamwork, cooperative attitudes, pride in their job, concern and helpfulness to the public, and outstanding customer service.

Chair Kost congratulated Ms. Ritter and Ms. Jenrette stating that when she was in college, she was visited by a “secret shopper” and did not get an award. She stated that the Board, staff, and citizens very much appreciate what they do for Chatham County, and that when staff creates such a positive experience, it reflects very well on all in the County.

Commissioner Lucier stated as a Commissioner, from time to time he gets complaints about County government. One person, not too long ago, was complaining about a department. When he asked what groups in County government work in terms of customer service, he was told that there were two: Animal Control and Environmental Health.

### **COURTHOUSE UPDATE**

Update on the Chatham County Historic Courthouse

- **Courthouse Task Force Report** – Receive report and set public hearing

Warren Miller with Fountainworks and Co-Chairs of the Courthouse Task Force, Taylor Hobbs and Miriam Hanner, reviewed the objective and methodology, Task Force Process, the Executive Summary, and First Floor Courthouse Uses and Functions of the Courthouse Task Force.

Mr. Miller thanked the Co-Chairs, members of the task force, Commissioner Thompson, and staff for their hard work efforts.

Mr. Hobbs thanked Mr. Miller and Fountainworks stating they had the Task Force prepared for each meeting.

Ms. Hanner thanked Chair Kost for her direction at the initial meeting and Commissioner Thompson for attending several meetings after that.

Mr. Hobbs and Ms. Hanner reviewed the PowerPoint as follows:

## **Chatham Courthouse Task Force Presentation**

**September 7, 2010**

## *Objective and Methodology*

### *Task Force Charge*

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Charge: Identify possible functions/activities/purpose for the Historic Courthouse as the building is re-built.

### *Task Force Process*

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|------------------|---|
| <b>June 14</b>   | Task Force Kick-off Meeting   |
| <b>June 29</b>   | Public Forum  |
| <b>July 2</b>    | Public survey completed   |
| <b>July 20</b>   | Task Force Meeting: Review public input; discuss options              |
| <b>August 5</b>  | Task Force Meeting Review options for 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor courtroom |
| <b>August 17</b> | Task force Meeting -- Discussion and final voting                     |

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## *Executive Summary*



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### *Executive Summary*

- Task Force members believe the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courtroom should maintain a judicial function and be rebuilt to look similar to its pre-fire state.
- There is interest in expanding the use and flexibility of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor courtroom but it should not compromise the historic and functional integrity.
- The majority of Task Force members support a fixed seating option and a more flexible 'well area' in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor courtroom so that it will maintain its historic and functional integrity.
- There is interest in seeing the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor courtroom used more broadly than in the past.
  - ◆ Functions and use with less "impact" on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor have stronger support
- County should develop a formal policy for use/ and disseminate it



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### *Executive Summary*

- There is substantial interest in expanding public use of 1<sup>st</sup> floor space.
  - ◆ It should draw in visitors and residents, and serve as a meeting space.
- The Chatham County Historical Association should remain in the 1st floor.
- There is strong interest in establishing a visitors center on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
- Measures should be taken to ensure pedestrian safety and parking needs if the Courthouse will be accessed by more visitors and residents in the future.
  - ◆ This may include raised walkway, speed humps and flashing lights.



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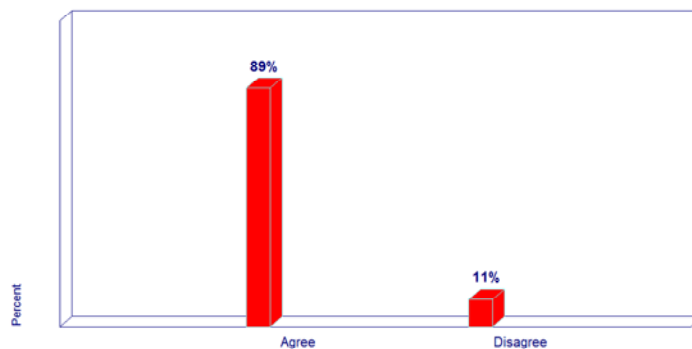
## *2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Options and Functions*

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### *The 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Courthouse should maintain a judicial function*

89% of Task Force members believe the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the courthouse should be rebuilt to function as a courtroom.

A- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor should maintain a judicial function

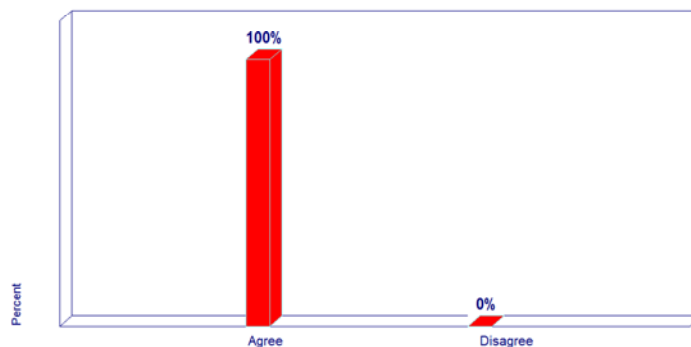


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### *The 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Courthouse should look the same as it did pre-fire*

All Task Force members support rebuilding the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor courtroom to its pre-fire state.

C- The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor courtroom should be rebuilt to look the same (or virtually the same) as its pre-fire state.

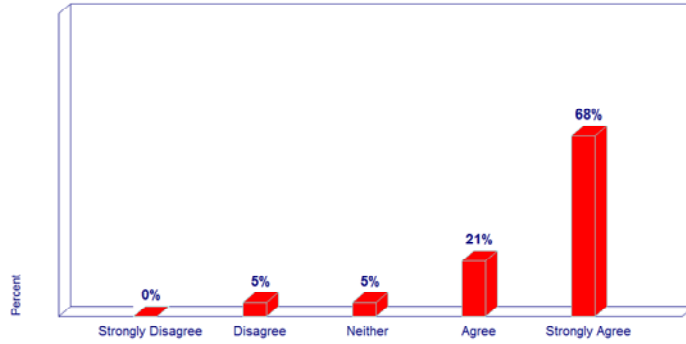




***The 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor should maintain the historic and functional integrity of the courtroom***

89% of Task Force members agree or strongly agree that the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor should maintain the historic and functional integrity of the courtroom.

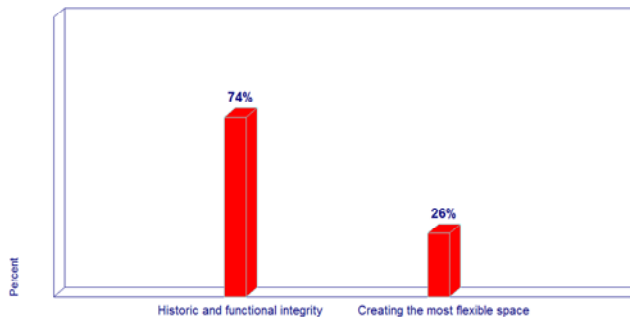
E- It is important to maintain the historic and functional integrity of the courtroom



***Historic and Functional Integrity More Important than Creating Flexible Space***

74% of Task Force members value historic and functional integrity over creating the most flexible space.

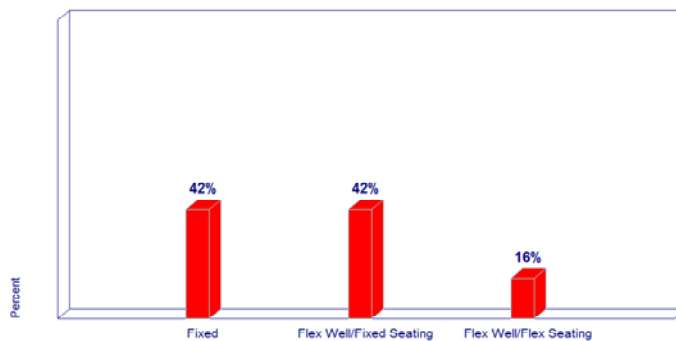
F- Please select the purpose which is most important to you



***Fixed seating is the preferred option for 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Courthouse***

A majority of Task Force members are interested in making the well area 'flexible' as a means for broadening use and functionality of the space.

A- Preferred choice for 2nd floor courtroom



### ***In Support of Historic and Functional Integrity***

"...a place of importance and reverence...commands respect and dignity."

"What if the (original legislative halls) in the State Capitol were to burn down? It would not be rebuilt as a flex space."

"The pre-fire courtroom...should be rebuilt as it was before so it can continue to serve as the common link between the past, present, and into the future. "

"The seldom use of the space as a courtroom should not sway us to do away with the history that is embodied within this building. The rebuilt courtroom would be the largest historical artifact in our museum inventory."

#### **Concerns**

"It would inefficient to use this as an actual courtroom and it would be rarely used as such."



### ***In Support of Creating the Most Flexible Space***

"...would provide potentially more opportunities for a variety of people to use the space, contributing to the space being more of a public space than a single use function would allow."

"A multi-functional space seemed to be the prevailing desire in the public input. As the structure is a county space, it would also be more likely viewed as a neutral space, and it's certainly centrally located.

"It is imperative that it is a lively active dynamic space for Pittsboro."

"Pittsboro does not currently have a space for large functions. These functions have to be held elsewhere...allows better use of taxpayers dollars. It is a golden opportunity."

#### **Concerns**

"If we get too flexible we serve nothing well. Every function is compromised."



### ***Other Considerations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courtroom***

"ADA compliance, technology, A/V for court and other presentations, selection of HVAC, windows, and other items with an eye (or an ear) towards the level of sound they either create or dampen."

"If a multipurpose, reception hall is needed... let's figure out how to meet it, either on the first floor of the courthouse, or in some other present or future county building."

"Charge to the design team: examine whether any furniture in the well area may suitably be flexible, considering the cost to store, move, repair, replace it, as well as its overall appearance and function in a working courtroom."

"Seating must be cushioned in some manner."



***Other Considerations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courtroom  
 ...Continued***

"Any movement in a flexible space would have to be done by a paid crew. This is expensive. And moving furniture, etc, will eventually bring damage and wear to the furniture. Again another cost upon the county."

"While there was substantial support for (b), I firmly believe that almost no one envisioned a completely flexible well area."

"Would like to see 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rebuilt for very broad uses by including "hidden" features that would allow community theater, speakers, small concerts/recitals, etc."

***2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Should be used more in the future for functions that will be a good fit for the space***

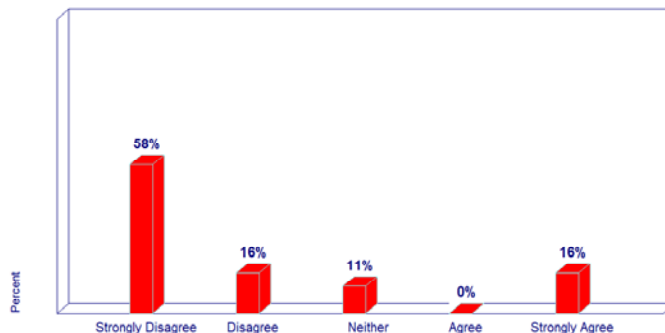
Chatham Historical Association programs rated highest among options

E-	Programs of the Chatham County Historical association	2.7
I-	Swearing in of officials	2.4
D-	Lecture series	2.4
F-	Choral groups	2.4
J-	Library Readings	2.3
K-	Citizens College	2.3
G-	Theatre	2.2
H-	Movie set/ Video documentary	2.2
L-	Conference	2.1
A-	Political party meetings	2.1
B-	Weddings	1.7
C-	High school play	1.7
M-	Receptions	1.7
N-	Dances	1.5

***Commercial/For Profit use should not be allowed***

Almost 75% of Task Force members oppose 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor for this use.

A- Commercial use and/or use by FOR-PROFIT organizations should be allowed in the 2nd Floor Courthouse space



### ***Other Considerations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Use***

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"Think: low impact. "

"...Security needs in courtrooms would increase difficulty in booking the space. "

"This topic (functions allowed) should not be approached one item at a time but rather should fall under an umbrella policy for the courtroom."

"Most people did not know that any space in the courthouse was available for public."

"Having a well-defined set of uses that are primarily related to community use, rather than commercial use would be best."

## ***1<sup>st</sup> Floor Courthouse Uses and Functions***

### ***1<sup>st</sup> Floor: Space for Residents/Visitors has Strongest Support-- Interest for Meeting Space***

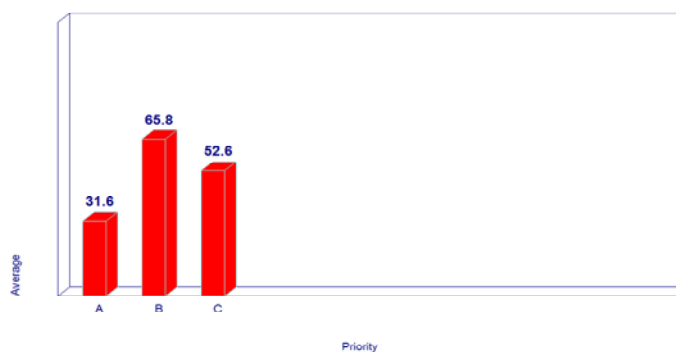
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Option A) Space for county government personnel

Option B) Space and functions to draw in Chatham residents and visitors

Option C) Space for meetings/ workshops/ events

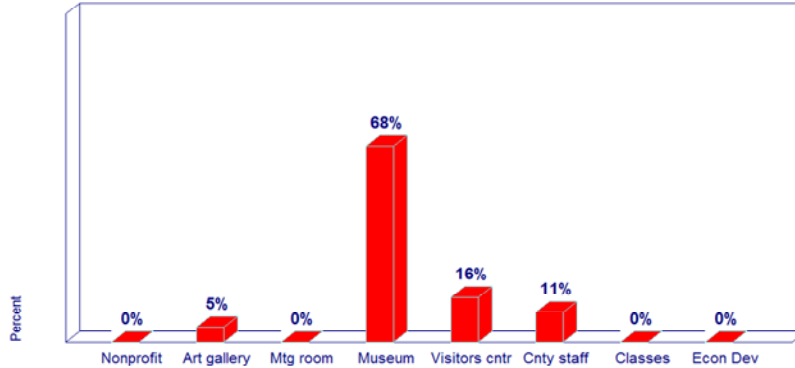
Average Response to all Polls



***1<sup>st</sup> Floor Top Choice: The Museum should remain on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor***

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A- Please choose your TOP CHOICE for a 1st floor function from the list below



***1<sup>st</sup> Floor: Draw in Visitors and Residents***

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"The Commissioners have a once in a lifetime opportunity...It could be a center or heart of the county where positive things can happen."

"Need to promote tourism in the county and to have a attractive gateway for potential investors and businesses to see what is available"

"It would also fit perfectly with promoting public events in the second floor."

"From visitors, to students to residents, the courthouse could be a welcoming place."

"It is almost as if the first floor is the "living room" of the county."

"Gateway to the County."

"If we can invite in residents and visitors, all the better."

***1<sup>st</sup> Floor: Ideas and Options***

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"There has been a precedent set for opening up the wall inside of the northeast quadrant. That space could be a large room...for meeting room, lecture room student classrooms to visit."

"Make it open and airy . It used to look like a tomb... it needs to be welcoming."

"Museum exhibits around the walls of the large open room and have moveable chairs in the middle with one or more conference tables."

"Space allocation on walls for county artists' work, using the hallways for rotating art exhibits."

### ***1st Floor: Ideas and Options***

"Showcase the county history through educational offerings to children and public through museum space."

"In conjunction with the museum/ tourist bureau, an interactive map with photos or video about attractions; and also basic information about all county services."

"Historic walking tours for all visitors could originate in the building and then visitors could walk through town either with a guide or with a descriptive map."

### ***Other Considerations for 1<sup>st</sup> Floor***

"A daily permanent presence by a county employee on the first floor is crucial."

"Should we choose to house the tourism and visitors center here on the first floor, it would be open during business hours."

"Consider the reality of a shrinking tax base and the inability of citizens to pay in more taxes."

"Keeping the building open for citizens and users requires a combination of on-site presence and popular attractions."

"County government personnel and staff should be first priority for 1<sup>st</sup> floor."

### ***Other Considerations for 1<sup>st</sup> Floor***

"An art gallery seems an attractive concept, but it also assumes a level of staffing to assure access and security that does not currently exist."

"Grant money for museums is often tied to the work it will do with student groups. That is one reason to have a space that can accommodate a classroom in folding chairs."

### ***Considerations for Parking, Pedestrian Safety, Signage***

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"Speed table/crosswalks...consider brick or brick-stamped sidewalks to highlight the crosswalks.

"Consider flashing light at crosswalk. Improve signage from government complex."

"Raised walk way/speed hump with flashing lights at every crossing in the circle...direct crossing to the front of the courthouse."

"Wide, raised crosswalks in the circle to make it more pedestrian friendly."

"The traffic circle is a nightmare to navigate on foot as things stand now."

"Bury the power lines that are on the circle."

### ***Courthouse Task Force: After a Job Well Done!***

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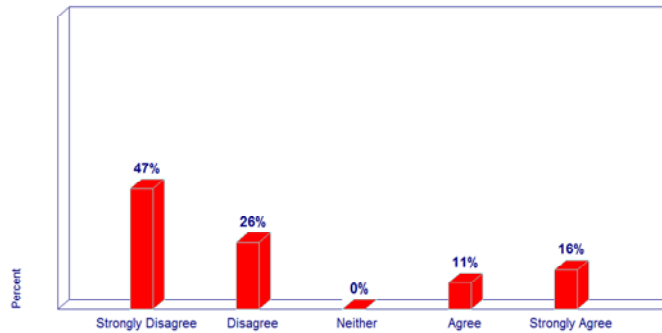


## ***Appendix***

***Creating the most flexible space and broadest use is less important***

73% of Task Force members disagree or strongly disagree that creating the most flexible space and broadest usage is important.

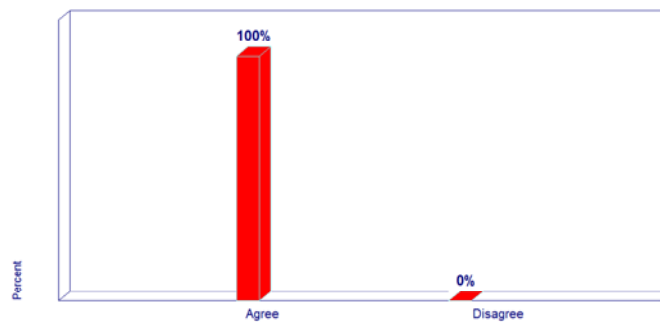
D- It is important to create the most flexible space and broadest usage of the courtroom space



***The 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Courthouse should be modernized and easily accessible***

All Task Force members agree: 2<sup>nd</sup> floor should be modernized with lighting, technology, sound – and accessible to those with special needs or disabilities.

B- The 2nd Floor Courtroom space should be ADA compliant and fully utilize technology

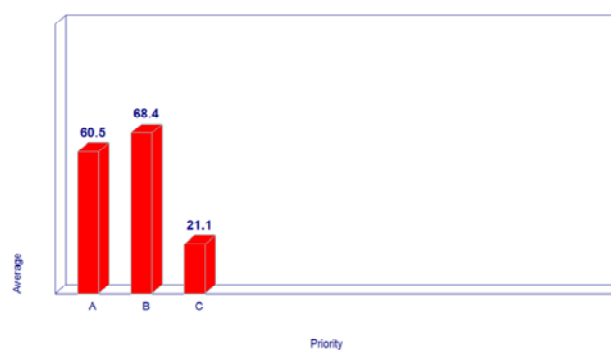


***The 'Fixed Seating' / 'Flexible Well Area' Option Slightly Favored***

PAIRED COMPARISON VOTING

- a) Fully Fixed Courtroom:
- b) Flexible Well Area/ Fixed Seating Courtroom:
- c) Flexible Well Area/ Flexible Seating Courtroom

Average Response to all Polls

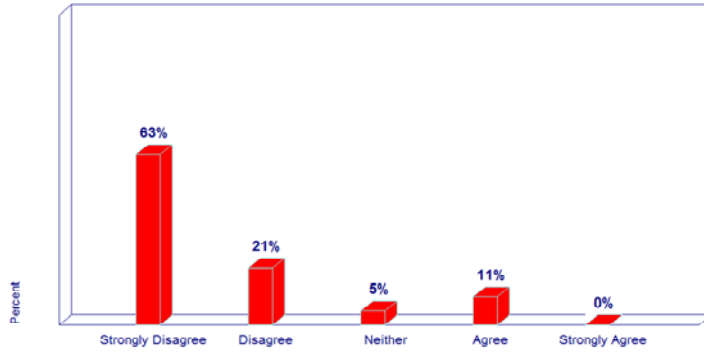




***Food should NOT be allowed on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor***

84% oppose allowing food on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

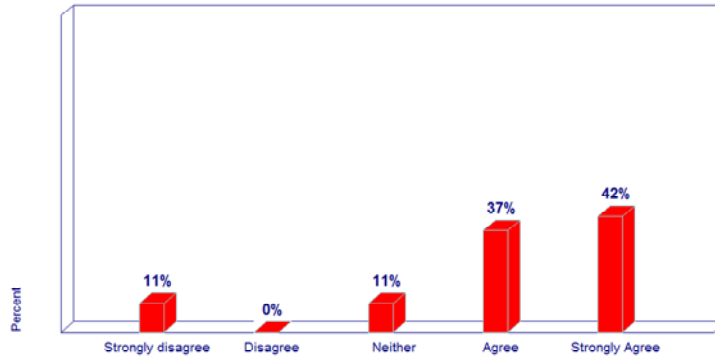
C- Food should be allowed in the second floor.



***The County should set a policy for Courthouse use***

79% support setting a formal policy for use.

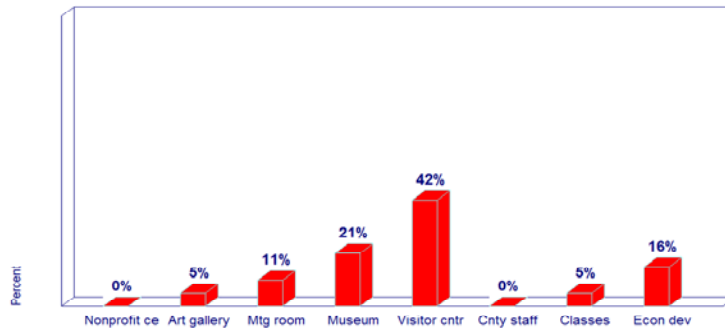
D- The County should set a formal policy for Courthouse use.



***2<sup>nd</sup> Choice for the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Functions***

63% prefer a visitors center as one of their top 3 functions/uses

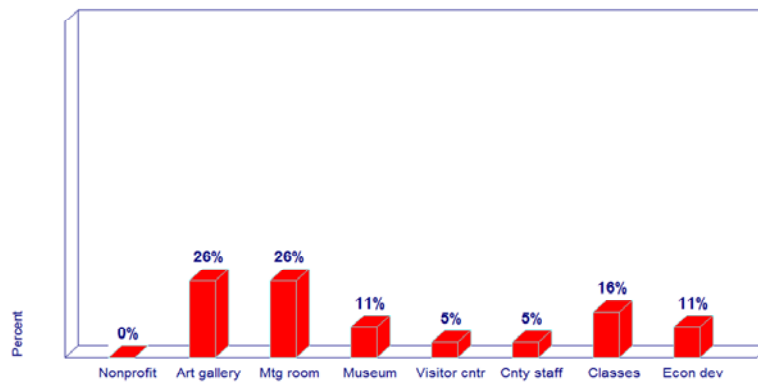
B- Please choose your 2<sup>nd</sup> CHOICE for a 1<sup>st</sup> floor function from the list below



### ***3rd Choice for the 1st Floor Functions***

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C- Please choose your 3rd CHOICE for a 1st floor function from the list below

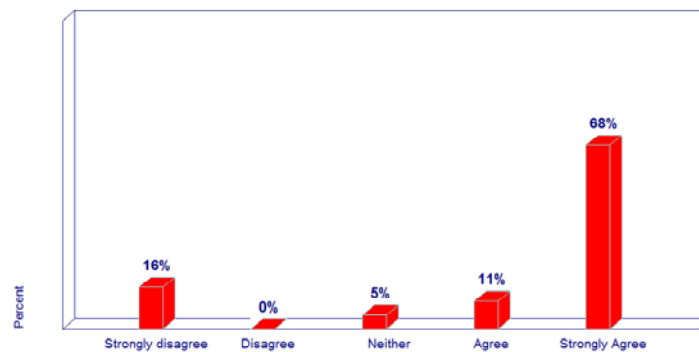


### ***The First Floor Should Have a Public Restroom***

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79% Agree/ Strongly Agree

A- The first floor should have a public restroom



Chair Kost thanked the members of the Task Force stating that they invested a lot of time and energy into the project. She stated that this was this most sought-after appointment of any in the County; that there were 51 applications; and that the Board will hold a public hearing in addition to the Task Force's work so that the entire community has had ample opportunity to weigh in on the project. She also thanked Commissioner Thompson for his work.

Commissioner Thompson stated that what he saw during the meetings was Chatham County and Chatham County's citizens at their best; that he was pleased with the diversity of the group in terms of regionalism and interest groups; that what he saw was a love of County and pride in the Courthouse as a symbol of Chatham County past and future; that it was a lot of hard work as it was not all fun and fellowship; that there was levity during the meetings and enough formality that things got done proficiently but there was enough informality that people felt comfortable; that the meetings lasted three hours; that Chatham County should be proud of the work they have done; that Mr. Miller and his group did an outstanding job and handled the meetings professionally; that the co-chairs did an outstanding job in helping Mr. Miller to keep things moving and showed great leadership; that he only made comments when he felt that they were necessary; and that it was a work of joy for him.

Commissioner Lucier stated whenever there is a committee of 19-20 people, the chance of getting something done on schedule and doing it with high quality is pretty small which was their concern. He congratulated the committee, the co-chairs, and Mr. Miller for keeping to the time table and doing the job well. He stated that the public hearing will be held on September 20<sup>th</sup> and the basis will be the report and whether they agree or disagree with the conclusions drawn and views of the Task Force. He stated with the help of the committee and the support of the citizens, the fire of 2010 can be made part of the history of the courthouse and not the end of it.

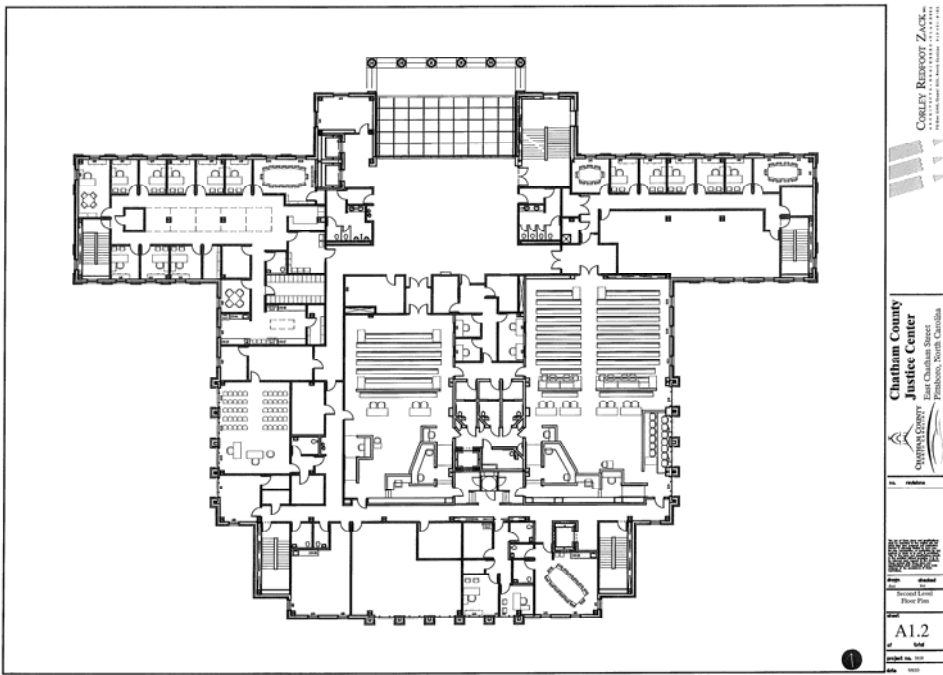
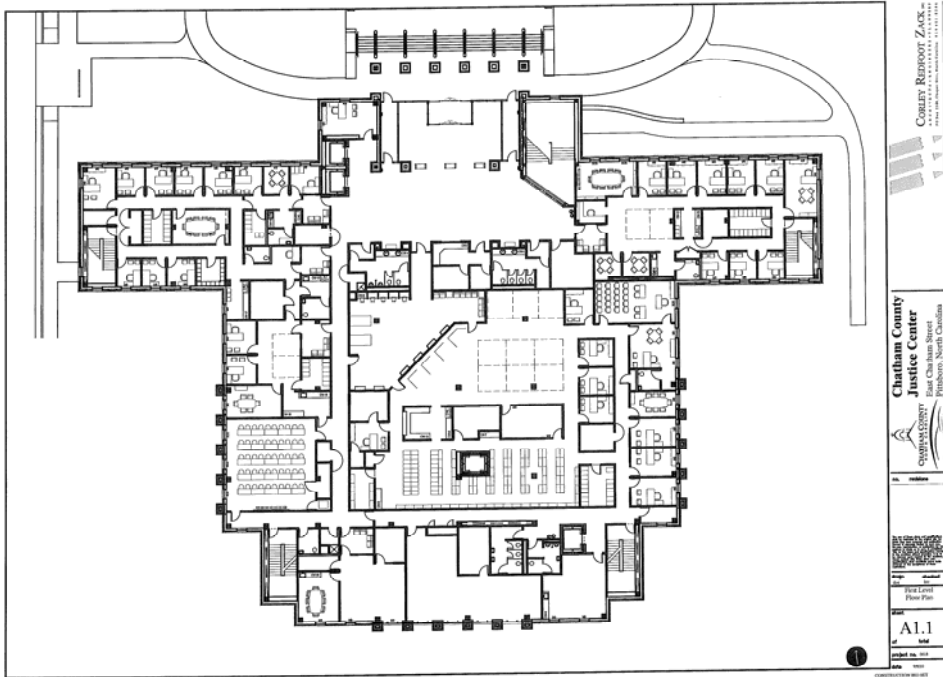
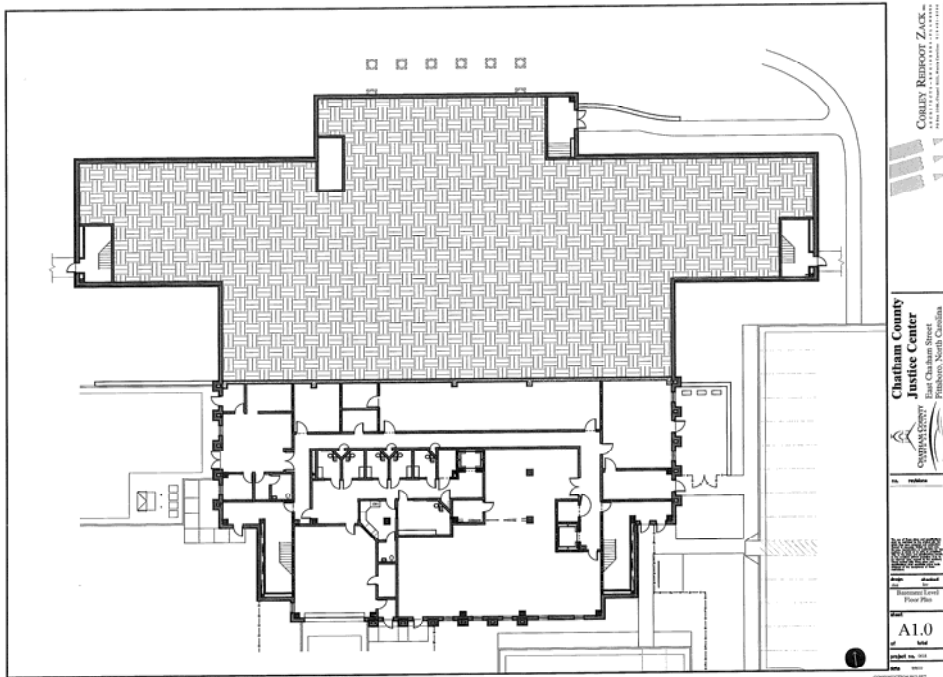
Chair Kost stated that the public hearing will be held on the report at the September 20, 2010 Board of Commissioners' meeting. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM due to the dedication of the new library.

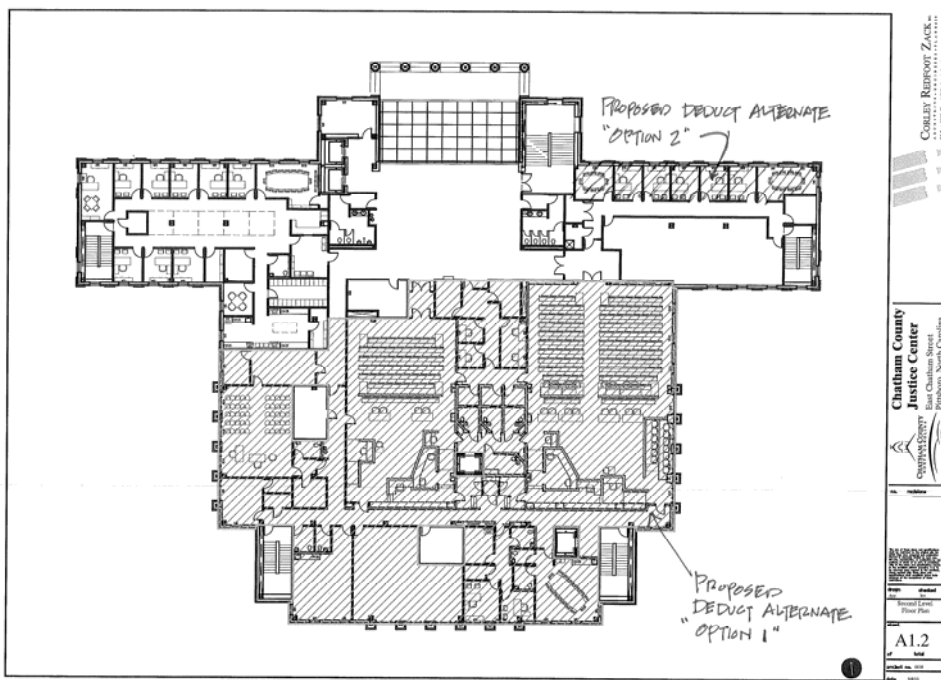
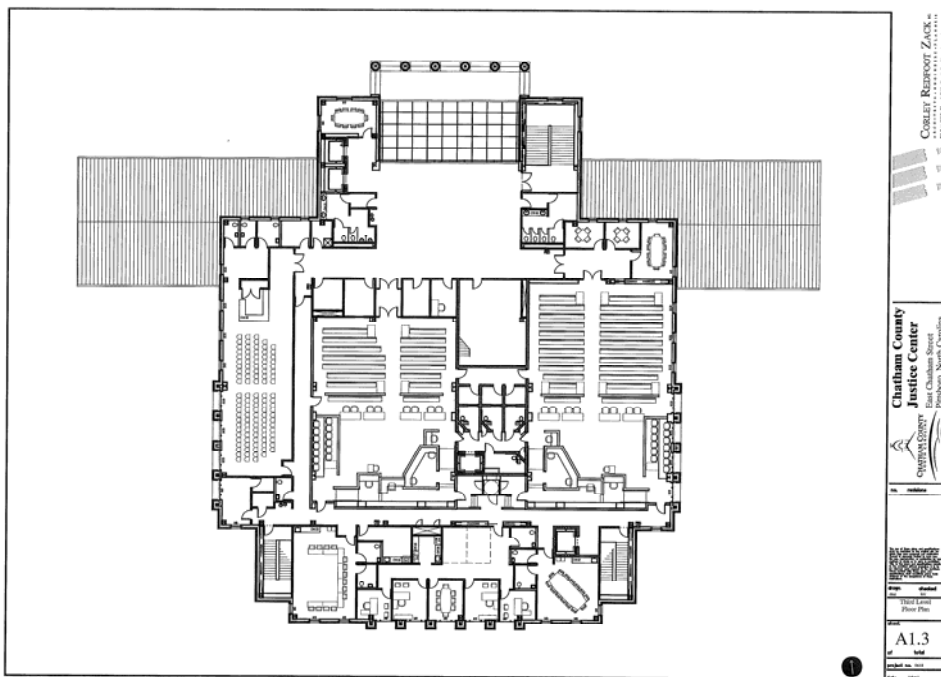
#### **Update of Historic Courthouse:**

David Hughes, Public Works Director, stated that after the fire, the decision was made to do a scope of work and design on up-fitting the shell space on the second floor adding some courtrooms; that subsequent to that, meetings were conducted with users of the space, primarily the district court, probation, Sheriff's Office, Clerk of Court's Office, etc.; that additional input was received which was used to start putting the plan back together; that they came to the realization quickly that this was a major change and that all of the spaces were interrelated and it was going to be more of an effort than just up-fitting a couple of courtrooms; that as the plan got put together, they realized that add-ons would be difficult to do during the bidding process; that they started getting more feedback and they have come to the realization a better approach would be to do a deduct alternate, a design which they were doing anyway, and then during the bidding phase, bid as a deduct instead of an add-alternate; that is how they are proceeding; that they have been meeting with the contractor and believe toward the end of the week they will have an accurate number of what the deduct alternate will come out to regarding dollar wise; and that the architect is present and has some information regarding the deduct and will be able to answer questions.

Chair Kost stated that by bidding it as a deduct alternate, it gets it to the same place of bidding it and taking it out and doing the alternate, which is where we are in time with the planning process, stating that this just makes more sense. She asked if she was correct. The reply was yes.

Ken Redfoot, Architect, distributed plans and explained where they are in the process. He asked that the Board concentrate on the second floor plans stating that the plans were basically the same on the basement which is the highly secured area where transportation of prisoners and inmates happen. On the first full level, the Clerk of Court and the Public Defenders Offices are located. The first level is basically a refinement of what was included in the past. The second level is the up-fit level area where the majority of the space was a shell-space but where the district attorney's office is one of the wings which is still located there. At this level, under the base bid, they would show the up-fit to the two courtrooms and that it includes a hearing room. There are approximately 230 seats in the large one and 110 in the smaller with gallery seating. In working with the judges, they preferred not to label the courtrooms as much as call them "Jury Courtroom" and "Non-Jury Courtroom" and were designed to take care of the district court. The "well area" has ample seating for multiple arrangements for attorney's tables, family advocate, domestic, dispute settlements, etc. would all occur in the different table arrangements. The clerk staff and judges are all in the built-in furniture in the "well area". On the third level, there is a similarly sized larger courtroom that would hold 230. At that level, there is a little more space for 154 in the other courtroom. The area to the left of the 150 courtroom is the jury assembly area. If they do a deduct of alternate, they have the area they propose as an alternate. It turns what was designed as court space into shell space and in the future could be built back as court space as hearing room space or any other function that is determined better fit to that area.





Mr. Redfoot further explained specifics of open offices/spaces for attorneys, staff, etc. to meet people, changes, and the red-hatched areas and answered questions from the Board.

Mr. Redfoot stated that they would work with the Board on the process and take the bids when they are ready to take them.

Mr. Hughes stated that they were looking originally to go to bid the middle to the end of September; that they are probably pushing toward the end of September or early October.

Chair Kost stated that she thought that would give them enough time. She asked if the Board was comfortable with the explanations of the second floor, conference room area and hatching it as it could be done one of two ways: bidding Option A and bidding Options A & B to give maximum flexibility.

Mr. Hughes stated that when the local bar reviewed it, they had some input about adding offices, which was a priority for them.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if he thought it should be kept in as an Option B. Mr. Hughes replied that he thought so as they will need extra floating office space.

The Board expressed appreciation for putting the plans together stating that it was helpful to see the entire thing.

Chair Kost asked if the courtroom furniture was fixed. Mr. Redfoot replied all of it was fixed.

Commissioner Thompson asked for an additional explanation of the area on the second floor.

Mr. Hughes updated the Board on the current construction of the courthouse stating that they are putting the rebar at the top of the wall, rebuilding the top of the wall; that they will be pouring the bond beam later this week; that they are scheduling the partial, southern closure for the circle for September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>; that the DOT representatives and the Town of Pittsboro have been notified; and that DOT will be handling the closure.

Reuben Blakley, NCDOT, stated that it would be similar to what was done after the courthouse fire.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if, on the judicial center site, the historical buildings would be relocated. Mr. Hughes replied that they were in the process of negotiating with a landowner that has three lots at the corner of Chatham and Small Streets that is in the historic district; that he has subdivided the lots and he will bring it to the Board within the next meetings to approve the contract to purchase. He stated that it had been run by the State Historic Preservation Office and they are enthusiastic about the location.

Commissioner Vanderbeck asked if this would continue to put them behind schedule on the judicial center. Mr. Hughes stated that he believed that they would be able to meet the schedule.

**Update on State Budget:** Presentation on how the State budget will impact Chatham County's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and Operating Budget

Sybil Tate, Affordable Housing and Green Building Specialist, explained that the NCACC released a study of the State budget impact on counties. She explained the highlights and gave an explanation of how these changes will impact Chatham County's Capital Improvements Plan and operating budget as follows:

Overall, the State budget reflects a 2.7% decrease in revenue growth, down from 3.3% (historical growth averages nearly 6%). Baseline sales tax growth is reduced to a 1.5% increase, which is below the average growth rates but is a much welcome relief after two years of near double digit declines.

Lottery Funds-Instead of providing the statutory 40% set aside for school construction, the State General Assembly will only provide 25.8%. The State plans to use the additional funds for classroom teachers and college scholarships. The State also removed the formula distribution of excess lottery proceeds to counties with an effective tax rate higher than the State average.

In anticipation of the State taking some lottery funds, Finance staff lowered their estimate of lottery fund revenues in the debt model to \$500,000. The NCACC provided an estimate of \$618,000 in lottery revenues for Chatham County. The debt model is also influenced by impact fees and property values, which have not rebounded as predicted. Ultimately, if economic conditions don't improve, the county may need to adjust its CIP timeline.

Mental Health - S897 fully restores the \$40 million in state-funded community mental health services and adds \$9 million in additional investments in local in-patient bed capacity. Mental health funding does not impact the county operating budget.

Beer and wine revenues - Beer and wine revenues were fully restored. The Board of Commissioners requested that these funds be restored in the FY2011 budget.

Chair Kost stated that the one thing she would find helpful before they receive the CIP is to have all of the assumptions that go into it from property taxes, lottery, and all of the revenue components of the debt model.

Commissioner Lucier stated that it would be good to see that, not in detail from his perspective, but a bullet summary.

**Northeast Park Construction Bids:** Approval of a request to award bid to lowest responsible bidder, approval of a contract with the Triangle Community Foundation, and authorization of the County Manager to execute contracts with Modern South and the Triangle Community Foundation

Renee Paschal, Assistant County Manager, thanked Robin James, Tracy Burnett, and Fred Royal for their help stating that they had spent a lot of time together the last three weeks.

She stated that using recreation fees, the County purchased 65.5 acres of land on Big Woods Road in 2007. The County received \$500,000 from the Park and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) to develop the land for a park. Phase 1 of the park includes a walking trail, baseball field, multipurpose field, restroom/concession building, picnic shelter, playground, parking, and an entrance road. The County received bids for Phase 1 construction on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The low bid was approximately \$259,000 over previous estimates provided by consulting engineers Cole Jenest and Stone. As part of the FY 2011 budget adoption, based on this estimate Commissioners reduced the transfer to the parks capital reserve by \$200,000 and thereby reduced the budget for the park.

Since opening the bids, the County has received notice that funds awarded by the Clean Water Management Trust Fund of \$208,486 will be released. County staff is working with the low bidder to come up with cost savings to make up the approximately \$20,000 deficit.

On July 22, 2010 Chatham County received bids for the construction of Northeast District Park. Staff is recommending that the bid be awarded to Modern South. Staff is also recommending that the bid be awarded to Modern South and that the value engineering ideas be accepted as noted on the Modern South value engineering document. The savings total \$52,464.

Commissioner Lucier stated that he had reviewed the bids as liaison to the Parks and Recreation Board and also with Ms. Paschal and that it works for him.

Ms. Paschal also shared that Carolina Meadows has agreed to donate \$50,000 towards construction of the picnic shelter, walking trail, and playground. These funds will be paid in yearly installments of \$10,000.

Finally, during the planning process, the County was contacted by the Triangle Community Foundation about constructing a tennis court during Phase 1. The foundation agreed to cover the cost up to \$80,000. The tennis court was bid as an alternate and the bid amount was \$74,900. The County also spent \$5,510 for the tennis court design work.

She stated that Staff requests that the Board give the County Manager authority to execute the contract with Modern South Construction. In addition, the County needs to have an agreement with the Triangle Community Foundation for release of funds for the tennis court. Staff requests that the Board award the bid, award Alternate 1 and alternate 2 (in the amount of \$5,000 credit), and authorize the County manager to execute the contract with Modern South and the Triangle Community Foundation.

The project will be funded through the following sources:

- \$500,000 PARTF grant
- \$208,486 Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant
- \$80,000 Triangle Community Foundation Grant for tennis court, \$80,000 (includes construction and design)

- Carolina Meadows contribution toward playground, walking trail, and picnic shelter, \$50,000
- Transfer from parks capital reserve, \$1,178,219

The following are cost elements:

- Design/Engineering/Construction Administration, \$196,280
- Construction, \$1,518,569 (Modern South is \$1,462,236 of this amount; other items include permits and signage)
- Equipment (lights, scoreboard, kitchen appliances, etc.), \$150,000
- Contingency, \$151,856

Total budget: \$2,016,705

Commissioner Lucier stated that this was a remarkable collection of grant money and contributions for this park. Starting out with the purchase of the property which had no impact on property taxes as it came from developer fees that paid (\$1.4 million for the 60+ acres; \$500,000 for the Parks and Receptions Trust Fund (PARTF) grant; \$208,486 Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant; \$80,000 Triangle Community Foundation Grant for tennis courts; Carolina Meadows contribution toward playground, walking trail, and picnic shelter, \$50,000; and an additional savings of \$5,000). The County is getting a multi-million dollar park for not much money. And a lot of people have worked hard to make it happen.

Commissioner Lucier moved, seconded by Commissioner Vanderbeck, to:

Award the base bid for construction of Northeast District Park to Modern South in the amount of \$1,392,336

Award Alternate 1 in the amount of \$74,900

Award Alternate 2 in the amount of a \$5,000 deduction

To allow the County Manager to execute the contract documents with Modern South and Triangle Community Foundation.

The motion carried five (5) to zero (0).

**Presentation of the First Donation from Carolina Meadows Toward Construction of Northeast Park:**

Kevin McLeod read a Certificate of Corporate Resolution Authorizing a Charitable Donation to Chatham County for Use in Construction of a Park in the Northeast District of the County signed by Tom Miller, Chair of the Board of Directors of Carolina Meadows. The resolution is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

He presented the Board with the first installment check in the amount of \$10,000. Installments of \$10,000 will be made every year for the next 5 years until the County has received a total of \$50,000.

Chair Kost stated on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, they really appreciate everything Carolina Meadows does for the community. She stated that when the conditional use permit was being reviewed, that Carolina Meadows said they were losing the soccer fields but that they were there for them as they were committed to the recreation function of the community.

Commissioner Lucier again thanked Carolina Meadows stating that this was going to be a great park, their help with it is very important to the County, and they appreciate what the entire Carolina Meadows community has done for Chatham County.

**MANAGER'S REPORTS**



**Board of Commissioners' Goals:** Adoption of Board of Commissioners' goals, which the Board has discussed and reviewed at numerous meetings. This action incorporates all the suggested changes, including minor changes made at the August 16, 2010 meeting.

Commissioner Lucier stated that he looked at two items to start. He stated that both items were not done from the last meeting; and that he did not go through the remainder of the goals as it was his impression that none of the goals were incorporated. He stated that the first change was under Conservation Sustainability; that the first strategy was taken out because it was duplicative of what was under Land Use Planning. The next was, under Cooperative Health and Social Services, and the ones he had turned in for the Department of Health were not included nor were the issues that were discussed in terms of clinical services, vaccinations issues, etc. For example, the Lead Intervention Program was not included; coordination of the obesity programs in the County was not included. They were located on a sheet of paper that he had given to staff at the time of the meeting.

Chair Kost stated that she was going to give the Board and staff a printout of her changes. She said that she feels that they need to make these changes and bring them back to the Board again.

Commissioner Lucier asked the County Manager if he had the copy he had given to him. The County Manager stated that he thinks it was located on the back page; that they may have missed something. To eliminate blood lead poisoning in Chatham County children by increasing the age appropriate blood lead testing rates by medical providers, educating parents of young children about the risk of lead exposure and assisting them with decreasing that risk through environmental interventions, obesity, Board of Health, Chatham County Schools, Public Health Department, partnership to promote student health, encourage and support efficient collaboration and non-duplication of services among Health, DSS, Council on Aging, Mental Health, and other Human services agencies and non-profits to meet the basic needs of vulnerable residents, support efforts to assure that County agencies are resourced and trained to assist residents in need of sheltering and support during natural and man-made disaster events.

Commissioner Lucier asked if that was to be included under Human Services as one broad set of goals because some of the ones in Social Services were duplicative with the ones in Public Health. The County Manager stated that it may be just mislabeled. Commissioner Lucier stated that the list must have some duplicity in it and that duplicity wasn't taken out. The way of doing it was to merge the Human Services, including both Social Services and Public Health.

The County Manager stated that staff would be happy to take those and make refinements. There are some places where they have added red lettering to capture what they think the Board has said. The Board will also note in a number of these areas where staff thinks they are duplicate, they wanted the Board to see them before staff deleted them.

Chair Kost stated that she provided a handout for the duplicates that she found that she feels could be removed without having any impact on the goals whatsoever. For the 2010-2011 goals, the status comments need to be deleted as they are out-of-date and update the year. The heading needs to be changed to 2010-2011. On page 7, #7 under Conservation/Sustainability: Change to read: "**Explore options to**" require developers to provide and/or fund trails and public parks to encourage walking, cycling and other recreation. (Add the words in bold.)

Commissioner Lucier stated that he thinks the Chair is right because we already have something with the recreation exaction fee that they actually do that. Somehow, he said, we have to do something to capture something beyond that. Chair Kost stated that it is residential developers, that it wouldn't include any commercial developers, so she doesn't think the Board is at the point that it can require them to construct trails for public parks for all developers. The Board needs to lay out what the options are.

Chair Kost stated that in dealing with the schools, page 14, #2 change "as soon as reasonably possible" to "January 2011". On page 18, #5 move this from "Other Goals/Issues" to "Public Safety."

Chair Kost asked to delete the section of Legislative Goals in that these goals have not yet been established by the Board of Commissioners, as they were last year's goals and need to be removed and the new goals will be the 2010-2011 goals.

Chair Kost asked to delete the section "Intergovernmental/Regional Relations" as these goals are duplicated elsewhere.

Chair Kost stated that in order to address Commissioner Lucier's concerns, they need to go back to the notes from the last discussion to make sure that they have captured all the changes.

Commissioner Lucier stated that one of the ones in eliminating the first goal out of "Conservation" was not in the minutes. Chair Kost concurred that the audio may have to be re-listened to.

Chair Kost stated, that if it is alright with the Board, the changes that she has suggested will be incorporated into the document, and staff will go back and listen to the audio so that Commissioner Lucier's concern can be addressed.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that there were some typos and a date regarding August 1<sup>st</sup> for the library which needs to be changed.

Chair Kost explained that the "status" is coming out. If the date was referenced in the "status" comments, it is irrelevant. She stated that their goal will be to approve the goals before the end of this fiscal year.

By Consensus, the Board agreed.

**Local Food Campaign Resolution: Approval of a request to adopt Resolution in Support of at least the 10% Local Food Campaign**

The County Manager stated that he was pleased to introduce the resolution and Debbie Roos is in attendance to elaborate. He stated that this could have easily been a Consent Agenda item, but he thought it was so exciting for Chatham County and local food producers that they wanted to make a short presentation in hopes that it would get captured by the newspaper and other media. The Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS) and the NC Cooperative Extension Service launched a state-wide campaign to encourage consumers to commit ten percent of their existing food dollars to support local food producers, related businesses and communities. The program is funded through the Golden Leaf Foundation. In each county, an agricultural extension agent is designated as the local foods coordinator. In Chatham County, Debbie Roos was selected to promote the campaign. In an effort to promote the campaign, the local foods coordinator is asking the Board of Commissioners to support a resolution to have a lunch once a month that contains at least ten percent local foods.

Debbie Roos thanked the County Manager and Sybil Tate for meeting with her. It is a state-wide initiative. They have had some press, it is being led by CFES which is actually a 2,000 acre research farm based in Goldsboro that is formed by a partnership with NC State University, A&T State University, and the Department of Agriculture. It has moved beyond that actual physical farm presence in Goldsboro. It is a true center and they do outreach throughout the entire state. This campaign sprang from last year's "farm-to-fork" initiative which was another state-wide effort. They had meetings throughout the entire state to get input from stakeholders on how to build the local food economy in North Carolina. This is one of the efforts coming forth that initiative. As the County Manager mentioned, CFES is leading the way and Cooperative Extension is the major partner. The entire effort is funded by the Golden Leaf Foundation which is a multi-year effort that has no end-point on the campaign. They hope that it will grow, perhaps into a twenty percent. The point of the campaign is to promote the consumption of locally grown foods which could be foods purchased from a farmer at a farmer's market or through community support agriculture. It can be food that one grows himself. There are major health benefits to eating locally grown food and economic benefits. In North Carolina we spend about 35 billion dollars per year on

our food supply. If everyone did just ten percent, it could have a 3.5 billion dollar impact on our economy. They felt like ten percent was something that was very doable for people and very approachable. Everyone may have heard about the local growers and the hundred mile diet where people try to eat, maybe for a month, locally grown. They wanted this to be very accessible. In Chatham County there is a wide range with people based in Pittsboro who probably eat, 70%, 80%, or even 90% of their food local, but others throughout other parts of the County may eat none. It will be a great effort to raise awareness of locally grown foods. The campaign has appointed extension agents in every county to be a local food coordinator and she (Debbie Roos) is the coordinator for Chatham County. This is an effort that is very dear to her heart. She is on the EFES Board of Directors and has been very involved in the campaign and they have been involved in building it up for a few years. The role of the local food coordinator is truly to coordinate so they don't want all the effort coming out of Cooperative Extension. As the Board is aware, they have been working since the 1990's on local food and the majority of her program is working with farmers. There are many other partners in the County that are also working on local food projects from non-profits (Carolina Farm Stewardship, RAFFI, Abundance) to the local Health Department and a lot of other departments. She wants to help coordinate the efforts and promote everyone working together. The job of the coordinator is to try and forge and improve on the partnerships and also help growing new farms and to connect farmers to consumers.

Ms. Roos stated that people can join on an individual level and pledge to support the campaign and do their part, but also to have the greater impact, businesses, governments, organizations can also join. There are different ways to support the campaign, one of which is: "Pledge of Purchase Partner" in which you pledge that 10% of your food dollars will be spent on locally grown or produced foods. She encouraged everyone to check the website to see who has joined the campaign (area restaurants, cafeterias, University of North Carolina, NC State, A&T) and are making big pledges, not only in their dining services, but also in their catered events. The NC Farm Bureau, NC Department of Natural Resources, and big players are joining the campaigns. Cabarrus County is probably taking the lead thus far in pledging that all of their catered events throughout county government will be 10% local. They are seeing a lot of excitement from people and from organizations and businesses. One can also be an "Employee Member" which is one who joins and promotes the campaigns to their employees and members of their organization in getting those individuals to join. Many of the same groups which she mentioned in the "Pledge of Purchase Partner" are also promoting it here. Organizations such as Blue Cross Blue Shield are also promoting it. The final way is the "Promotion and Outreach Partner" in which people join and pledge to help promote the campaign. Most people are doing it on all three levels as it is easy to do.

There are some tools that will help. That she has been building a "buy local" website off of the Chatham County Cooperative Extension website. Many may be familiar with the "Growing Small Farms" website. The "buy local" website was to make it easy for people to know where the farmer's markets are located, how they buy from a CSA and where they are located, where are the people that direct market beef and poultry and eggs. She is also going to be working with the Chatham County Tourism, the Chamber of Commerce, and other businesses to help people connect. It also gives people a platform to promote what they are doing in this realm. She said that she feels the resolution that is before the Board of Commissioners is exciting and she hopes that it can be viewed as a stepping stone down the line to explore making a further commitment for County government on how the 10% campaign can be supported.

Chair Kost asked when we refer to "local", do we mean Chatham County. Ms. Roos said, yes. Chair Kost stated that they were talking about not just buying from Chatham County vendors, but actually grown and/or raised in Chatham County. Ms. Roos said, yes. Ms. Roos said that when they were talking Chatham County 10% campaign, preferably they are talking Chatham County but in the broadest sense, they usually mean local. If one sells at a farmer's market, local means within a fifty mile radius of that market that it's grown. There is no hard and fast definition, but as local as possible. They are going to be highlighting efforts to do community gardens and also home gardening. It may not impact the economy in the same way, but there will certainly be many other benefits.

Commissioner Lucier stated that the Northwest Park is opening on September 24<sup>th</sup> and in the not too distant future, the Northeast Park will be opening. The Southwest Park is

already open. He asked if Ms. Roos had worked with the Recreation Department to establish community gardens at those parks.

Ms. Roos explained that the agent in Chatham County is Al Cooke to which she would direct that question.

Commissioner Lucier stated that specifically for the expanding park system which is expanding it would be nice to dedicate part of the parkland for a community garden for the local residents. He believes that now is the time to start working with the Recreation Department to make it happen. Ms. Roos stated that she would make a note of it.

Commissioner Lucier stated he supports the resolution but was a little confused about the "THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners commits to having a lunch once a month that contains at least 10% local foods." He stated that that was not much of a bar.

Ms. Roos stated that was a minimum, locally it would be easy. From the survey they have done, it is more like 2-3% statewide that people are buying local as an average. Around here, it seems very low from what people are used to. The way she has been promoting the campaign, is to look at it as increasing one's purchasing to 10% or if already doing so, then increase it by 10%. It would have a huge impact. If the Board wants to make it higher, she is totally in support of it.

Commissioner Lucier asked what kind of bar the Board would like to set for the meals it has for their meetings and what is their policy with that.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that it is currently healthy foods. We may want to encourage this or require a 10% some time in local catering for the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Roos stated that if one was eating local foods, it is automatically healthy. She stated that she is open to taking this further. She suggested that the Board might want to adopt the resolution today and look at beefing it up at a later date.

Chair Kost stated that her preference would be to adopt this resolution today and to look at perhaps doing more later.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he thought it was a good start.

Commissioner Lucier agreed with adopting the resolution but to look toward adding some more local foods to the resolution.

Commissioner Thompson stated that it might be that staff can make recommendations to the Board at a later date.

By consensus, the Board agreed.

Commissioner Lucier moved, seconded by Commissioner Vanderbeck, to adopt **Resolution #2010-49 In Support of the State's 10% Local Food Campaign.**

Commissioner Thompson stated that he supported the initiative from the standpoint of economic development and benefiting local farmers. He stated that Chatham County is one of the few counties in the State of North Carolina where there is an increase in the number of local farms. He believes that the positive aspects regarding the health perspective of this initiative have already been discussed, and that the linkage between the efforts towards economic development and better health care for our citizens, as a desired goal, is significant. He further stated that the idea of promoting the "farm to fork" concept has been promoted for years by Central Carolina Community College, as well as Ag Extension. One of the primary focuses of the culinary program which recently opened, as everyone knows, is using local farms produce, and instructing students in the importance of using not only local, but seasonal foods as well. He suggested that the presenter may want to collaborate with CCCC Sustainable Agricultural Coordinator, Robin Kohanowich, who may have some good ideas to benefit the program.

Ms. Roos stated that they were on each other's advisory committees.

Commissioner Vanderbeck suggested that Commissioner Lucier take it to the "trustee level" to take it from the top down.

Ms. Roos stated that the Board's lunch today was being catered by Angelina's Kitchen who is a real hero to the local farmers, stating that the majority of food that she purchases is from local farms, and that she cooks seasonally. She stated that she is very willing to work with other caterers who may not be as used to purchasing from local farms.

Chair Kost called the question. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0). The resolution is attached hereto and by reference made a part hereof.

Commissioner Thompson asked how we select vendors to do the Board's catering. He stated that there may be people who have a desire to prepare foods in that area, but do not have the knowledge or expertise to move in that direction. Ms. Roos stated she was there to help, and that it might increase business to promote locally.

Chair Kost stated that we have Carolina Meadows in attendance.

Commissioner Lucier stated that he thought the Board should have one of their meetings at the local community college and have the meal catered by the Culinary Arts Center. Commissioner Thompson stated that there may be food prepared by them at the dedication of the new library on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Rita Spina asked if there had been any connection to the schools. Ms. Roos stated that she had worked with the schools in the past and had conversations regarding buying from farms. There are a lot of obstacles and challenges, but she has met with the nutrition director for the school system and will continue to explore it.

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that there was currently a certification problem there.

Ms. Roos stated that there was also a budget issue, as they have very little money to purchase. There is also an issue that very few farms in the County are set up for large volume wholesaling.

The County Manager stated that they have talked on a number of occasions in years past to figure out how the schools might interface better with local food producers to get there, but there are those big obstacles that they have not overcome.

Ms. Roos offered to do a presentation to the Ag Advisory Board or to talk about the campaign stating that she would be happy to do so.

Commissioner Lucier stated that they would also be hiring someone to coordinate obesity programs in the County with the Health Department. They will also be working with the schools and the Extension Service. And whomever is hired, he expects would be a great help to Ms. Roos.

## **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

### **Lighting at Northwood High School:**

Commissioner Vanderbeck stated that he attended a football game between Northwood and Jordan Matthews High Schools. There was a half-time commemoration to those who provided funding and made a decision for the lights. It was a nice tribute to Board of Education and Board of Commissioners.

### **Human Trafficking:**

Commissioner Cross stated that he co-hosted the "Stop Human Trafficking" Regional Conference last Wednesday with the Optimist International in Raleigh. It was co-sponsored

by Triangle J Council of Governments which is seven counties that include a multitude of cities and towns. He stated that only two mayors and no other commissioners attended the conference. Pittsboro Chief David Collins and Lieutenant McCullough and the Siler City Police Chief attended so Chatham County was well represented. A meeting with Triangle J will be held shortly to figure out what they can do stating that it was very important and very prevalent in Chatham County.

**DOT Comprehensive Plan for Pittsboro:**

Commissioner Lucier stated that there is a DOT Comprehensive Plan for Pittsboro. He stated that he would have staff scan and send it to everyone. It relates to some of the changes that would occur when Chatham Partners and the folks that own the 7,000 acres southeast of Pittsboro when it is developed and what it might mean in terms of roads etc. for the future including the parkway and Pittsboro Bypass. It is the October 2009 draft map.

Reuben Blakley stated that someone is working on the Pittsboro Transportation Plan for Pittsboro. Nothing has been changed from the October 2009 draft of which he is aware.

Commissioner Lucier stated that he felt it would be good for the Board of Commissioners to see it to learn what is being thought about.

Mr. Blakely stated that from this point, there are no proposals that have been eliminated. They are trying to figure out, from the Pittsboro standpoint, what would work best for the Town and County.

**Chatham-Cary Subcommittee:**

Commissioner Lucier stated that on August 19<sup>th</sup>, they met with the Chatham-Cary Subcommittee and he had sent each Board member a copy of the statement that he read at the meeting basically saying that Cary needed to a local bill saying that their zoning decisions must be consistent with the adopted or amended Joint Land Use Plan and amendments to the plan require approval by both jurisdictions. They will not meet again until they have that agreement for the local bill with the Joint Chatham-Cary Subcommittee.

**Northwest Park Dedication:**

Commissioner Lucier stated that the Northwest Park is being dedicated on September 24<sup>th</sup> at which he will be making comments. It is 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

**Western Wake Partners:**

Chair Kost reminded everyone of the community meeting dealing with the wastewater line through Chatham County with the Western Wake Partners to be held on September 8, 2010 at the Moncure Fire Station at 7:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Cross moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried five (5) to zero (0), and the meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.

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Sally Kost, Chair

ATTEST:

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Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners