

Community and Health Stakeholders Meeting

Chatham County Comprehensive Plan

2/19/2016

Location: Dunlap Classroom

Introductions / Attendees:

Dr. Marcia Herman-Giddens, Board of Health

Dennis Streets, Director, Council on Aging

Karen Howard, Chatham County Commissioner

Del Turner, Chatham Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Chris Blice, Chatham County Schools

Mark Hall, Provost, CCCC

Megan Lynch, Chatham Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Staff:

Hillary Pace, Chatham County Planning Department

Meg Nealon, LandDesign

Jake Petrosky, LandDesign

Notes:

- Health and built environment is tied together. Access to education, opportunities for a healthy lifestyle is important.
- Parks and recreation in Chatham is still behind the times. Lots of different needs, diverse communities.
- 2 parks and land in another. Sorely missing facilities.
- Have benefited from Briar Chapel and impact fees
- Need to work with the schools for shared use. More cooperation needed.
- Need publicly funded and operated – private is costly
- 2 senior centers. Pittsboro and Siler City. Centers of excellence.
- 20,500 people >65. Exceeds younger population.
- Chatham Park's impact has yet to be seen.
- 85+ also growing older. Need health and support services.
- How to provide access to services. Maintaining mobility is a big issue.
- Need to engage all seniors in planning process.
- Council on Aging will help get older people into process.
- Continuing growth is an issue (with/without Chatham Park)
- Inequity of growth. Central zone losing students. Others growing significantly.
- Chatham county is a place where we work together. Schools/county have a good relationship. This is rare and is a huge accomplishment. And will be key to future success.
- School district is high technology compared to neighborhoods. Laptops for students is a huge asset. Saves \$ on books. This does not happen in Wake or Chatham. Paid for by partnership b/t school district and commissioners.

- This will benefit economic development efforts.
- Work is to move county from what we've always done to doing it better.
- People, esp seniors, living in isolated areas. Substandard conditions.
- Have an aging population. Will need to be supported by youth that are being trained now. CCCC has Central Carolina Works program [P3 – good example - private (i.e. Red Hat) and public partners]. Reps in high schools. Specialized classes. Chatham Central and Chatham Charter. Nursing aid class this coming year. Opportunity to get training in high school to get certificates. Will keep this talent in the county.
- Need to utilize seniors – marshal the skills and knowledge of older population to benefit younger (mentors, advisors, etc)
- Chatham Park hospital to Chapel Hill will be a medical corridor.
- Techs will be needed in Chatham Park. Associates degrees needed.
- Early college through CCCC – leverage state legislation to get HS students college credit without having to pay tuition
- Asset: Excellent health department in Chatham County
- Community Health Assessment in 2014.
 - #1 Obesity.
 - Promotion of physical activity and healthy eating is key.
 - 2010 CHA had ideas to deal with obesity – no traction – need to revisit
 - #2 Access to mental health services
 - Substance abuse is an issue.
 - #3 Access to health care
 - Rural areas and low income households without access.
- CC Health Alliance – org private and public - \$450 Duke Endowment Grant to address CHA implementation
- 2011 all state health etymologists were fired....
- Chatham county is the leader in tick borne illnesses in the state.
- Planning/design needs to reduce exposure to ticks. Warning signs need to be posted.
- Too many deer in the county.
- Public safety risk on highways.
- Plan needs to acknowledge the issue.
- Ex officio member on TAC for public health
- Safe routes to school project in Siler City.
- Heath clinic in Moncure and Siler City
- Dual language in 3 schools. Needs to be in all schools.
- Board of Housing Initiatives. Revolving security deposit fund. \$13K from County
 - Guarantee security deposits for low income tenants. Helps people move in and they pay back over time.
- Workforce housing is an issue. Apartments, townhomes, etc. Need clusters that are affordable?
- High end workforce housing. 2 family dwelling on 5 acres, instead of just 1.
- Homeless students is an issue. Need a place for a shelter, structured environment for these homeless
- Need more centers for services. Health, etc.

- Fracking is an issue. Protections need to be put in place for the sake of children.
- No recreation centers. There is an opportunity to co-locate with health service centers.
- Fitness trail between senior center to community college. May need maintenance plan and more benches.
- Problems with ability to deliver services. Mental health and education.
- Lack of population density contributes to the problem.
- Have been innovative in how to deliver services. More needed.
- Mental health bus. Goes to communities and helps.
- Lack of access to cultural resources and parks
- Affordable housing is an issue. Need to be careful with standards, as it can cause more homelessness and more housing issues.
- Housing conversation is a big accomplishment.
- Need to be aware of holes in our conversations and assumptions. Very important to involve all factions of the county population.
- Difference between relative affordable housing and true affordable housing. For teachers, fire fighters, police officers, etc.
- Tiny house program at college.
- Farm at penny lane. Tiny house village. UNC Center for Excellence. Housing for people with mental health disabilities.
- Siler City and western part of chatham have more opportunities for affordable housing, but then transportation costs are increased.
- Affordable teacher's village needed.
- SECU has partnered with down-east counties. Maybe beaufort county... Where Clinton is.
- Home for homeless students, parented by teachers. (600 homeless students)
- No shelter options for men with children...
- Tiny homes with universal design? Is that a thing?
- Roads and sidewalks uneven
- Can't walk places, would have to drive everywhere
- Only hospital, no small scale doctors/clinics
- Not enough for younger folks and good for 40-65, not friendly to older adults.
- Hillsborough sports plex is a great precedent for health clinic/fitness center
- Indoor pool is high on the list of parks and rec priorities (i.e. Cary aquatic center)
- Maybe Chatham Park?
- The Dunn Center in Harnett. Senior living, youth rec, community college is great precedent. County and city and community college partnered on it.
- Public/private partnership opportunities need to be pursued.
- Briar chapel has expressed interest in lifelong education center. Village, dining, arts, education center. Classes. Old adults would use it for seminars, cooking on weekends. As a community center. School of nursing need training.
- Trails and passive recreation is good. Lacking active recreation. Fields.
- Current rec programs run by non-profit (soccer and football and baseball). Basketball is run by county.
- Lack of facilities. Facilities need to be provided for multiple areas of the county.

- Transportation to senior center is an issue. Have tried to start senior centers without walls, by partnering with churches.
- Co-location and partnerships key.
- Could Siler City be a cultural destination (theater, shops, etc.)?