

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

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

9:25 A.M. Special Session
County Durham England Delegation

Minutes

Place: Commissioners' Room, second floor, Durham County Government Administrative Complex, 200 E. Main Street, Durham, NC

Present: Chairman MaryAnn E. Black, Vice-Chairman Ellen W. Reckhow, and Commissioners Philip R. Cousin Jr., and Becky M. Heron

Staff Present: County Manager Mike M. Ruffin; Deputy County Manager Carolyn P. Titus; County Attorney Chuck Kitchen; Public Information Officer/Governmental Affairs Director Deborah Craig-Ray; Assistant to the County Manager Heidi Duer; and Clerk to the Board Garry E. Umstead

Absent: Commissioner Joe W. Bowser

Presider: Chairman MaryAnn E. Black

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Black called the meeting to order. She asked everyone to introduce himself/herself.

The visitors from England were as follows:

- Ken Manton, Leader of Durham County Council
- Brian Walker, Councilor and Cabinet Member, responsible for economic development
- Kingsley Smith, Chief Executive of Durham County Council
- Mark Lloyd Director of Economic Development and Planning and Managing Director of County Durham Development Company
- Professor Anstee, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Durham University
- Rob Statham, Economic Development Officer, Durham University

Introductions

Chairman Black called on County Manager Mike Ruffin to make remarks and to introduce the program participants.

County Manager Ruffin introduced Mr. Reyn Bowman, President, Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau, to make a presentation on matters related to the Bureau.

Mr. Bowman presented the visitors an overview of Durham and Durham County. The first area of discussion was population, growth, and diversity. His second area of discussion dealt with economic development including visitors, land issues, growth, appearance, crime reduction, access to opportunity, education, communication, and accolades.

County Manager Mike Ruffin introduced Deputy County Manager Wendell Davis, who oversees Planning and Development and Administrative Support/General Government, and Deputy County Manager Carolyn Titus, who supervises Health and Human Services and Public Safety.

County Manager Ruffin explained the General Administration Organizational Chart to the guests and the manner in which County Government operates in North Carolina.

Discussion With English Visitors

Chairman Black called on Mr. Ken Manton, Leader of the Durham County Council, to lead his colleagues through the discussions about Durham County Council.

Each of the visitors made a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners about his area of responsibility. The visitors explained how their government works in the Durham County Council and County of Durham, England. All phases of life and government were discussed.

The Board of County Commissioners asked the visitors questions and made comments to which the guests responded.

Dinner Announcement

Chairman Black announced that the England Delegation and staff members were invited to dinner that evening at Duke University. The dinner would be informal. The Chairman asked that the sitting arrangement be such that the England delegation, Board of County Commissioners, and staff sit in alternate positions around the table. This arrangement would increase the opportunity to converse with our guests.

Human Services

County Manager Ruffin called on Deputy County Manager Carolyn Titus to lead a discussion on human services.

Deputy County Manager Titus began by presenting facts and figures to the delegation about the human services agencies in Durham County. Her presentation was a broad

overview of agencies that provide human services to the citizens in Durham County—the Department of Social Services, Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities/Substance Abuse Services, Public Health Department, and the Cooperative Extension Services. The Board of County Commissioners also fund nonprofit agencies each year that provide services to citizens in need.

Deputy County Manager Titus introduced the department managers of the three largest human services departments—Mr. Daniel C. Hudgins, Department of Social Services; Ms. Ellen Holliman, Mental Health Department; and Mr. Brian Letourneau, Public Health Department.

Mental Health Department

Deputy County Manager Titus called on Ms. Holliman to comment about the human services provided by the Mental Health Department to the citizens in Durham County.

Ms. Holliman gave the visitors and the County Commissioners an overview of the Mental Health Department using a PowerPoint presentation. She discussed all phases of the Mental Health Department and the services that it provides to Durham County citizens. The Mental Health Reform program was also presented.

Ms. Holliman answered several questions for the delegation from County Durham, England.

Social Services Department

Chairman Black called on Mr. Hudgins for his presentation. He spoke about the following subjects in his presentation:

- Family Outcomes
- Process Outcomes
- Services to Vulnerable Children and Adults
- Family Self Sufficiency
- Program support
- FY 2002 Revenues
- FY 2002 Expenditures
- Child Placement Performance Indicators
- Child Day Care Outcomes
- Work First Caseload Indicators
- Child Support Performance Indicators
- Medicaid Caseload Indicators
- Food Stamp Caseload
- County Share of DSS Budget

The English Delegation asked Mr. Hudgins several questions about the Social Services system in Durham County.

Chairman Black asked Public Health Director Brian Letourneau to made his PowerPoint presentation explaining the Public Health Department organization and the various services that the department provides to the citizens of Durham County.

Mr. Letourneau said that the presentation would be an overview of the Public Health Department. The following areas were discussed:

- Missions and Goals
- Service Areas
- Collaborative Efforts
- Transition Efforts
- Various Needs

The Delegation asked several questions about the Public Health system in Durham County.

Lunch

Chairman Black stated that the Delegation was scheduled to have lunch at the Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau at 12:00 noon.

Exchange of Gifts

Chairman Black stated she would like to take this opportunity to present some small tokens to our Delegation from Durham County, England. She mentioned that the Delegation received gift baskets in their rooms last night. The small tokens were just a way to remember us.

Discussion Points

Chairman Black stated that she wanted an opportunity to talk about what the Delegation would like to gain, not just from this visit, but how it sees us progressing in the future to develop a partnership between Durham County, England and Durham, North Carolina. She asked how the Delegation would like to see the partnership work.

A representative of the Delegation responded to Chairman Black's remarks about the partnership.

Exchange of Gifts

The Delegation presented Chairman Black a letter signed by Prime Minister Tony Blair and an original watercolor picture of the Durham Cathedral.

On behalf of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, Chairman Black accepted the gifts presented to Durham County.

Action

No official action was taken at this Special Session.

Adjournment

Chairman Black adjourned the Special Session at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Garry E. Umstead, CMC
Clerk to the Board