

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

Tuesday, March 2, 2011

1:00 P.M. Conversation with Commissioners

MINUTES

Place: Durham Center for Senior Life, 406 Rigsbee Avenue, Durham, NC 27701

Present: Chairman Michael D. Page Vice-Chairman Ellen W. Reckhow and
Commissioners Becky M. Heron, Brenda A. Howerton, and Joe Bowser

Staff: County Manager Mike Ruffin; Assistant County Manager Drew Cummings;
Interim Deputy County Manager Marqueta Welton; Michael Davis, Assistant to
the County Manager; Pam Meyer, Director of Budget & Management Services;
Bo Gattis, Budget Analyst; Lowell Siler, County Attorney; Michelle Parker-
Evans, Clerk to the Board; and Dawn Dudley, Public Information Specialist

Presider: Chairman Page

Chairman Page welcomed citizens to “Conversations with Commissioners,” a community meeting to allow citizens the opportunity to give input on the FY 2011-2012 County Budget. He noted that this session was the best attended thus far.

County Manager Ruffin introduced County staff. He proceeded by explaining how County dollars are spent.

Chairman Page entertained questions and discussion from the audience. The following issues were presented to the Board:

- Restricted parking at the Senior Center;
- Senior Center budget (more funding needed);
- Lack of instructors and exercise equipment;
- Seniors now have to pay a fee for using the activities at the Senior Center. The Board was not aware of this change, and agreed to look into the matter;
- Encouraging more parent participation in the schools;
- Pharm Assist moving out of the building. The attendees felt the move would be a hardship on them by not having the needed services in one location;
- Lyon Park Senior Center – closing and missing equipment;
- Mental Health services for senior citizens;
- Inequity in food stamps received by seniors and those who have contributed to the tax base. The Manager was directed to have the DSS Director contact the citizen regarding her food stamps.

There being no further business, Chairman Page adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

BoardofCountyCommissioners
"ConversationswithCommissioners"
March2,2011

Respectfullysubmitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "V. Michelle Parker-Evans". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "V" and a long, sweeping underline.

V.MichelleParker- Evans
ClerktotheBoard