



Central Pines Regional Council Board of Delegates

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 23, 2023, 6:00 – 8:00 pm Hybrid
Town of Apex Town Hall, 73 Hunter Street, Apex, NC

Delegates & Alternates Attending:

Wilma Laney, Aberdeen
Bob Smith, Angier
Brett Gantt, Apex
Thomas Beal, Broadway
Jennifer Robinson, Cary
DeDreana Freeman, Durham
Ken Marshburn, Garner
Kathleen Ferguson, Hillsborough
Butch Lawter, Johnston County
Jessica Day, Knightdale
Bill Carver, Lee County
Katy Garcia, Micro
Steve Rao, Morrisville
Jeff Morgan, Pinehurst
Donald Rains, Princeton
Rebecca Salmon, Sanford
Bill Haiges, Siler City
Andy Moore, Smithfield
Linda Vandercook, Whispering Pines
Larry Loucks, Zebulon

CPRC Staff Attending:

Alana Keegan, Local Government
Services Director

Jenny Halsey, Assistant Executive
Director
Tammy Russell, Administrative Support
Specialist
Hope Tally, Chief Finance Officer
Hunter Fillers, Housing Program
Manager
Avery Plachcinski, CPRC Intern
Doug Plachcinski, DCHC MPO Executive
Director
Beth Davis, Member Engagement
Coordinator
Lee Worsley, Executive Director
Lindsay Whitson, Community &
Economic Development Director
Tyler Queen, Lead for NC Fellow
Shuchi Gupta, Senior Planner

Guests Attending:

Charles McCall, Southeast Raleigh
Promise
Tashana Gaskins, Arise Collective
Jared Harber, Oaks & Spokes

1. Call to Order

6:00 pm

- a. Call to Order and Welcome
Official: DeDreana Freeman, Chair
- b. Roll Call
- c. Declaration of Quorum
Official: DeDreana Freeman, Chair

Chair Freeman called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Alana Keegan, Local Government Services Director, completed Roll Call and it was determined there was a quorum present at the meeting.

2. Review of Agenda

6:05 pm

- a. Review of Agenda
Official: DeDreana Freeman, Chair

Action: Chair Freeman declared that the agenda was approved as presented.

3. Presentations and Recognitions

6:10 pm

- a. New Employee Introductions
Presenter: Jenny Halsey, Assistant Executive Director

Jenny Halsey, Assistant Executive Director, announced three new staff members who have joined the CPRC team since the beginning of the Fiscal Year, including Tammy Russell, Hunter Fillers, and Doug Plachcinski.

Lindsay Whitson, Community and Economic Development Director, introduced Hunter Fillers, Housing Program Manager who started working with CPRC at the end of June. Mr. Fillers shared his background in AmeriCorps and in the housing field. He's also a big Bruce Springsteen fan.

Ms. Halsey introduced Tammy Russell, Administrative Support Specialist. Ms. Russell shared that she has over 20 years of administrative background experience. She's a mother of 4, grandmother of 4 and has one grandchild on the way.

Ms. Halsey introduced Doug Plachcinski, Executive Director of the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization. Mr. Plachcinski has quite a bit of experience in zoning, transportation, and capital improvement programming. He enjoys pottery, cooking, home improvement projects, and traveling to new places.

- b. Triangle Transportation Choices Program: Equity & Inclusion Pilot
Presenters: Shuchi Gupta, Senior Planner & Equity Partners
Potential Action: None – Informational Only

Shuchi Gupta, Senior Planner, introduced the Triangle Transportation Choices Program: Equity & Inclusion Pilot, a transportation demand management (TDM) grant program administered by CPRC. This provides funding on an annual basis for traditional (established) local and regional TDM programs, innovative projects, and equity-based initiatives to encourage Triangle residents and workers to use alternative transportation modes, including but not limited to carpooling, vanpooling, transit, biking, walking, teleworking, flexible work hours, and compressed workweeks.

Charles McCall, from Southeast Raleigh Promise, a small nonprofit and community initiative to end the cycle of intergenerational poverty

presented on their participation in the program. He shared that many people in the area were using personal vehicles, but they are encouraging residents to bike and walk through education and awareness about alternative transportation modes. Southeast Raleigh Promise is looking at reaching the 55+ age group to educate this group on ways they can navigate the area.

Tashana Gaskins from Arise Collection, a nonprofit organization in Wake County that provides services for women who are housed in North Carolina prisons and women returning from prison presented on their efforts. Over 2,300 women are currently housed in North Carolina prisons. This grant provides safe and viable congregant transportation options among the formerly incarcerated women in Wake County, primarily those in Arise Collective's Women's Reentry Project, but to extend to women in other transition homes throughout the area. Many of these women have appointments they have to attend and need transportation to those appointments. They have decreased single occupancy rideshare trips by almost 50% since the inception of the funding. They have also introduced bike riding as a transportation option. They plan to promote safe walking, biking, bus, carpooling, vanpooling, car sharing, etc. in Fiscal Year 2024.

The final presenter was Jared Harber, Executive Director at Oaks and Spokes, an advocacy organization centered around cycling for fun and for transportation. They provide free bike donations and bike repairs at four quarterly events in partnership with the US Committee of Refugees and Immigrants. Oaks & Spokes collaborates with community organizations and businesses for quarterly events. They aim to empower individuals in need of reliable transportation, particularly among immigrants and refugees served by USCRI. Things they learned through this project: Bikes are still seen as toys for fun and for kids, however they'd like to get in front of more adults who could benefit from these services. For Fiscal Year 2024 they plan to work with Oak City Cares, a homeless resource center, to promote biking as a transportation option. They plan to provide locks, lights, helmets, and other cycling accessories as well.

There was a fourth presenter who couldn't be present, but the video will be shared with the Board after the meeting (Black Girls Do Bike). The presenter could not attend due to a conflict but prepared this video specifically for this meeting. Board Members were encouraged to watch the video once it's sent out.

Delegate Bill Carver asked about mental health and reentry from prisons. Ms. Gaskins shared that mental health services are not provided in-house, but they do collaborate with other service providers.

Delegate Ken Marshburn asked Ms. Gaskins if there was an average length of stay in the program before women are able to become stable. Ms. Gaskins shared that there are three levels of housing in which individuals can progress through before they leave the system.

Delegate Kathleen Ferguson asked Ms. Gaskins if/how they are following rapid rehousing and best practices. Ms. Gaskins responded that they rent houses from landlords in Wake County.

Chair Freeman requested that questions be focused more on transit and mobility and the program presented.

Delegate Brett Gantt asked what Mr. Harber's experience is with providing advocacy for bikes as well as repairs. Mr. Harber responded that Oaks & Spokes doesn't focus on policy/lobbying, but rather outreach, education, awareness. They do run into some issues with NCDOT state-maintained roads. They have a great relationship with the City of Raleigh (where they mainly work).

Delegate Butch Lawter asked about piloting an equity portion of project prioritization and if will CPRC be involved in that. Ms. Gupta stated that we have been involved in that process. Mr. Plachcinski shared that they could use this plan to implement more programs like these.

Chair Freeman wanted to know if the steering committee is an ongoing committee. Ms. Gupta shared that it was a standing committee. The grant is an annual grant but is very strong and stable. The grant has been around since 2008 but the equity portion was new this year.

Lee Worsley, CPRC Executive Director, commended Ms. Gupta for pursuing this project and how it underscores CPRC's Organizational Principle of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Mr. Worsley thanked each of the presenters for their time and presentation.

4. Business

6:45 pm

- a. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Nominating Committee Slate and Election of Central Pines Regional Council Board Officers

Presenter: Ms. Kathleen Ferguson, Immediate Past Chair

Potential Action: It is recommended that the Board receive this report, open the floor for additional nominations, and consider approval of the recommended slate.

Immediate Past Chair Kathleen Ferguson presented the slate of officers for the Central Pines Regional Council Board of Delegates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Ms. Ferguson shared a little bit about the nominating process to give perspective on how officers were chosen. Ms. Ferguson

recommended that we refer to the office of Secretary-Treasurer as Secretary since the officers do not handle money. Mr. Worsley noted that in CPRC's Charter, the office is officially referred to as Secretary-Treasurer. Officer nominations are as follows:

Chair: Butch Lawter, Johnston County
1st Vice-Chair: Brett Gantt, Town of Apex
2nd Vice-Chair: Vacant
Secretary-Treasurer: Wilma Laney, Town of Aberdeen
Immediate Past Chair: DeDreana Freeman, City of Durham

Delegate Ferguson asked that the Board accept the slate of officers, however, to offer the floor for nominations. Chair Freeman opened the floor for nominations. Delegate Donald Rains officially nominated Butch Lawter, Johnston County, for Chair. Delegate Donald Rains officially nominated Brett Gantt, Town of Apex for 1st Vice-Chair. There is an opening for 2nd Vice-Chair, however no nominations were offered. Delegate Rains nominated Wilma Laney for Secretary-Treasurer.

Action:

Motion made by Delegate Ken Marshburn.

Motion seconded by Delegate Bob Smith.

Ms. Keegan facilitated a roll call vote.

Vote: The Board unanimously voted to approve the proposed slate of officers.

New Past Chair Freeman officially turned the gavel over to New Chair Butch Lawter. Mr. Lawter shared that it was an honor to serve in this position, and the relationships he's built over the years with this group have meant a lot.

- b. Resolution Honoring the Life of Jane Hogeman
Presenter: Lee Worsley, Executive Director
Resolution #2023-08-01

Mr. Worsley acknowledged the life of Board Alternate Jane Hogeman by recommending that the Board adopt a Resolution of Sympathy. He shared information on how involved and engaged Ms. Hogeman was and how she wanted the best for Pinehurst and Moore County.

Delegate Jeff Morgan, Village of Pinehurst, thanked the Board for honoring Ms. Hogeman. Delegate Wilma Laney, Town of Aberdeen, also shared how much she appreciated Ms. Hogeman and her contributions.

Chair Lawter read the Resolution aloud and noted that it would be added to the Consent Agenda.

- c. Adoption of Chatham County Urgent Repair Program Policies
Presenter: Lindsay Whitson, Community & Economic Development Director
Potential Action: Consider adopting as part of the consent agenda
Resolution #2023-08-02 approving the Chatham County URP Program Policies

Lindsay Whitson shared details about the Chatham County Urgent Repair Program Policies. These two policies provide an overview of the program, who is eligible, and processes, as well as the procurement process and making sure we are compliant in administering these funds.

Ms. Whitson noted two changes that had been made since the agenda packet was distributed.

Delegate Bill Carver inquired more about how the funding worked. Mr. Worsley clarified that Chatham County asked CPRC to administer the funds on their behalf.

Immediate Past Chair DeDreana Freeman asked if there was a vetting process before repairs are done. Ms. Whitson shared that Jack Watson, Housing Planner, works with applicants on eligibility. Ms. Freeman noted that it was refreshing to see that homes with potential lead hazards are being addressed.

Chair Lawter noted that this item will be added to the Consent Agenda.

- d. FY23-24 Budget Amendment
Presenter: Hope Tally, Chief Finance Officer
Potential Action: Consider adopting as part of the consent agenda
Resolution #2023-08-03 approving Budget Amendment #2

Hope Tally, Chief Finance Officer, reviewed Budget Amendment #2 with the Board. There are 4 new projects, all of which are noted in the agenda packet. Ms. Tally explained some changes to current project funding, specifically regarding DCHC MPO joining CPRC.

Chair Lawter noted that this item would be added to the Consent Agenda.

5. Consent

7:10 pm

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by a single motion unless a member of the Board or Delegates requests an item be removed. Any item that is removed from the Consent Agenda will be considered individually after the Consent Agenda.

- a. DRAFT Minutes: May 24, 2023

- b. Resolution #2023-08-01: Recognition of Life of Jane Hogeman, Village of Pinehurst
- c. Resolution #2023-08-02: Adoption of Chatham County Urgent Repair Program Policies
- d. Resolution #2023-08-03: FY23-24 Budget Amendment #2

Chair Lawter reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda and asked if any items needed to be moved. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Action: Adoption of Consent Agenda with amendments as noted

Motion made by Immediate Past Chair DeDreana Freeman.

Motion seconded by Delegate Kathleen Ferguson.

Ms. Keegan facilitated a roll call vote and the Consent Agenda was approved unanimously.

6. Items Removed from Consent Agenda 7:15 pm

7. Public Hearings

8. Executive Director's Report 7:20 pm

a. Executive Director's Report

Presenter: Lee Worsley, Executive Director

Potential Action: None – Receive as Information

Mr. Worsley thanked Past Chair Freeman for her support and her work throughout the year. We will be sure to recognize her at the October Board of Delegates meeting. He also thanked the Town of Apex for hosting the past few meetings while CPRC's office was being renovated. The next CPRC Executive Committee Meeting and Board Meeting will be held at the CPRC Office.

Mr. Worsley gave an update on the CPRC office renovations. CPRC received a Certificate of Occupancy on August 1. Contractors have partially installed AV/IT equipment. The furniture should be installed next week. Branding and graphics will be installed the first week of September. Open House for staff will be September 12 and CPRC offices will be open to the public at that time. Demolition of the front suite (Suite 130) will begin September 13. When completed, this suite will hold the large board room. This work is scheduled to be done by mid-November. Board of Delegates meeting will be shifted to the large board room in January. It is anticipated that the January Board of Delegates meeting will be the official Ribbon Cutting with Board photos and we will have an open house for everyone.

CPRC is currently in the transition phase of the rebrand. Several staff members are modeling new shirts. CPRC is transitioning email and website

to centralpinesnc.gov on September 12. Mr. Worsley stated that he thinks CPRC will be the first regional council to have a .gov domain in the nation. The .org domain has led people to believe CPRC is a nonprofit.

Mr. Worsley introduced Tyler Queen, CPRC's NC Lead Fellow through the UNC School of Government. He is a recent graduate of UNC Chapel Hill and is working 4 days a week in Micro supporting them with the work they are doing. Mr. Worsley commended Micro Delegate Garcia and their Council for the improvements they are making in Micro.

9. Chair's Report

7:25 pm

a. Chair's Report

Presenter: Board Chair

Potential Action: None - Receive as Information

Ms. Freeman thanked Mr. Lawter for taking on the office of Chair. She also thanked CPRC staff for their support this past year.

10. Around the Region

7:30 pm

a. Around the Region Reports/Updates

Potential Action: None – Receive as Information

Chair Lawter asked for reports.

Delegate Rebecca Salmon, Sanford shouted out their partnership with Pittsboro for working regionally. They signed a historic utility merger agreement in which the City of Sanford and Pittsboro Utilities are now one. This will benefit residents of both municipalities. She stated that their participation with TJCOG/CPRC helped build bridges to help them move forward with this project. She stated that regionalism is an amazing thing and can really work.

Delegate Jeff Morgan, Pinehurst shared that they had a water scare this past week. Residents were asked by the County to boil water because of possible contamination. Fortunately, there was no contamination. This reiterated the importance of working regionally on water issues and making sure we are communicating well. It's also important to assess the growth and demands of water systems. He also brought up the issue of casinos in the area, and finally thanked the Board for the acknowledgement of Jane Hogeman.

Delegate Larry Loucks, Zebulon shared that they just hit 10,000 citizens.

Alternate Delegate Steve Rao, Morrisville mentioned Morrisville has won a lot of national awards for Smart Cities. He also shared that Major League Cricket is becoming a big thing in Morrisville. In July, Morrisville hosted the

Major League Cricket championship, hosting 4,000 people. They are now being considered for the World Cup. Mr. Rao encouraged everyone to come out and watch.

Delegate Brett Gantt, Apex shared that NCDOT is working with several municipalities on the S-Line rail project, in hopes of making it a commuter rail. The next phase of the study will be around sites and applicability of sites. This project gives Apex great ideas for planning around their Downtown area.

Delegate Bob Smith, Angier shared that he will not be running again, after serving 11 years on the Board, 4 as Mayor.

Delegate Bill Carver, Lee County shared his appreciation for the grant assistance program. He said CPRC staff went above and beyond to answer his questions about the program.

Delegate Ken Marshburn, Garner shared that he will not be seeking reelection as Mayor, after serving 16 years, 4 years as Mayor. He hopes to spend more time with his grandchildren who live out of state.

Delegate Kathleen Ferguson, Hillsborough said that the Town has formally adopted a Comprehensive Sustainability Plan. They are in the process of evaluating structure, water, and sewer. September 15-16 will be Hog Day. All proceeds are shared with nonprofits.

Delegate Don Rains, Princeton stated that the Town's top priority remains water and sewer. Mr. Rains shared that Johnston County and the municipalities in Johnston County are discussing a Water and Sewer authority with CPRC's assistance. He commended the Town of Micro for the work they are doing.

Immediate Past Chair DeDreana Freeman, City of Durham commended Duke Energy for being on top of getting the storm damage cleaned up from last week. They are a city of 300,000 now. She also shared that if you have buildings that have multiple levels with elevators, make sure generators work in the event of power outages. People who cannot use stairs need a way to escape.

Delegate Katy Garcia, Micro wanted to come in person to meet everyone face to face and thank CPRC for their support of Micro. Their community building has been in disrepair, now being rehabilitated thanks to CPRC.

Chair Butch Lawter, Johnston County mentioned that there is a lot happening with water and sewer. They recently achieved a AAA bond rating by S&P. He discussed the many staff hours from Johnston County

staff needed to achieve the improved rating. They passed their land use plan update, the last one was 2011. They are in the midst of a transportation plan update. Mr. Lawter acknowledged the work that the staff at CPRC do to support the towns, cities, and counties represented by CPRC.

Immediate Past Chair DeDreana Freeman also mentioned that she has entered the race for Mayor of Durham.

11. Other Business 7:45 pm

- a. Other Business
Presenter: Chair

12. Adjournment 7:50 pm

- a. Adjourn the Meeting
Potential Action: Motion to Adjourn

With there being nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

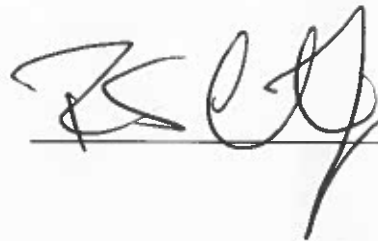
Action: Motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Delegate Kathleen Ferguson.

Motion seconded by Immediate Past Chair DeDreana Freeman.

Vote – Unanimous

Duly adopted this 25 day of October, 2023 while in regular session.



R. S. Lawter, Jr.
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Beth Davis
Clerk to the Board
Central Pines Regional Council