

One Boro Commission Minutes

February 15, 2021

The meeting was on Zoom

Present: Voting Members: April Schueths, Chair, Stacy Smallwood, Vice-Chair, Jacek Lubecki, Secretary, Julie Pickens, Treasurer, Janice Cawthorn, Suzanne Shurling, Nandi Marshall, Que`Andra Campbell, Johnny Gamble, Freddie Hagan; Absent: Annie Hills

Ex-Officio Members Present: Marcus Toole, Saba Jallow, Deion Byrd, Jesse Hartlett, Julie Chance
Absent: Saba Jallow, Deion Byrd, & Jerry Bradley

COS Representative: Demetrius Bynes, HR Director; GSU Intern, Jelani Crawford & Ash Strickland; Mayor's Intern: Berenice Zundi

Meeting called to order to 5:35 by April Schueths

Meeting agenda – April asked for an amendment to add Johnny is on the works force subcommittee. The amended motion was made by Stacy, second by Janice, motion approved

Approval of Minutes from 1/4/21 & 1/30/21. Stacy pointed out an error on the minutes from 1/30/21. April will correct the minutes from 1/30/21 and we will vote on them at our next meeting; asked for a motion to accept the minutes from 1/4/21; Janice made a motion to approve the minutes from 1/4/21 and Stacy seconded; motion approved

No public comments

Report from Demetrius, COS: Planning from upcoming violence prevention meeting was the most important item on his One Boro agenda. The meeting was confirmed to be held on Sat. 3/6 at 8:30 am at the GSU Military Science building. Organizations that confirmed participation are Georgia Southern Police Department; Bulloch County Sheriff's Office; Teal House, and Safe Haven

Janice: Question is about the identity of the building.

A discussion of the question followed. Making sure that people know where the building is an important consideration.

Demetrius: reassured the folks that a zoom transmission will be available.

Further discussion of the facility followed.

Equity metrics: Janice reported no updates

Demetrius agreed to follow up with the Department heads. Likewise, face-to-face training will happen when COVID-19 concern lessens.

Training: April reported Julie is working on scheduling a sub-committee meeting

Longest Table: Barb reported no updates

Violence Prevention subcommittee: Stacy reported no real updates. March 6 meeting will be used as a kick off for it. Demetrius described the agenda for the meeting. Breakfast, presentations, and facilitated sessions involving Stacy.

Berenice Zundi, the Mayor's new intern was welcomed to the meeting. Berenice joined the meeting after it had already started; we will do formal introductions at the next meeting

Workforce development subcommittee: Jesse reported the last meeting of the subcommittee took place on 2/9/21 and provided an overview. Transportation and accessibility are one of the key discussed as agenda items. Jerry decided to step down from co-chair and Julie Chance agreed to take Jerry's place.

The subcommittee meetings will take place on the second Wednesdays of the month at 6 pm.

Stacy provided an update on transportation, provided by Jason Boyles. He discussed potential bus-routes with Mayor McCollar. Stacy shared these with the rest of the committee on share-screen. Stacy described the new routes. Stacy will forward this information to all the members. The Mayor wanted to share it with us, with a possible rollout in the summer. Members were asked not to share the transportation information publicly

Julie Chance inquired about whether the route goes to industrial park, even just during shifts

Stacy reported that the route does not appear to go the industrial park.

A lively discussion of the routes followed.

The need to encompass the industrial park was voiced by most members of the Commission.

Que inquired on the reason for multiple stops at near Georgia Southern. Stacy clarified that the stops are at apartment complexes close to the campus.

Freddie stated he can confirm that non-college students live in many of these apartment complexes close to the campus. A bus route that goes there is important and beneficial.

Johnny inquired whether the routes serve underserved communities. Stacy described how the bus routes serve underserved communities.

A discussion of the issue followed. Specific details were discussed, for instance, how close the route comes to the High School.

Stacy brought out the issue of disability access, sidewalks, etc. Julie Pickens seconded Stacy's concerns.

Stacy mentioned there are multiple proposals on the table regarding cost

Demetrious reported that he texted Jason and he indicated that industrial park was included in the route due to funding concerns.

Freddie inquired whether employers could help with the cost for the workers. Marcus agreed that companies in the industrial park could support the public transportation scheme.

Janice questioned whether the COS could utilize Bulloch County Schools transportation resources. Julie Chance discussed that access to the industrial park is an important issue and suggested talking with industry folks. There are thousands of jobs there, and these jobs are better paid than typical service jobs downtown. Suzanne also agreed and suggested that this County struggles with poverty and that access to transportation could help reduce poverty

A discussion followed.

Que questioned whether the route would go to Publix. Stacy reported the route does not go by Publix.

Stacy suggested that we consult with City leadership before talking with industry.

Demetrious will reach out to Jason Boyles to discussion transportation at our next meeting

Bernice joined the meeting and was asked to introduce herself. She is the intern to the Mayor. April welcomed Bernice.

Logo and the Longest Table: Jelani presented the logo on share screen. A discussion followed. Members of the committee discussed the aesthetic value of the suggested different designs of the logo. Preferences for simple and well-visible designs were expressed. Many members of the committee participated in the discussion. Members agreed that Jelani, Julie Pickens, and Suzanne will make the final decision as the logo is due to the City by 2/24.

New Business: Stacy inquired on when Ash will have qualitative findings from the Listening Sessions. April asked Ash if a preliminary report could be presented in the next month and a half. Ash agreed that they will present preliminary findings on March 31

A motion to adjourn. Janice made a motion; Barb seconded; motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jacek Lubecki, One Boro Secretary

Our next One Boro meeting is Mon. 3/1/21 at 5:30 pm