

**Minutes - Draft**

**PECS-Planning, Economic Development & Community Services  
Committee**

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Tuesday, February 8, 2022

2:00 PM

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*This meeting will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Simultaneous public access to the meeting will be available*

*(1) via live stream on DCTV's webpage,*

*(2) on DCTVChannel23.TV*

Meeting Started At: 2:00PM

Attendees: Commissioners Johnson, Davis Johnson, Rader, Bradshaw, Cochran-Johnson, Terry

**Present**      3 - Commissioner Larry Johnson, Commissioner Jeff Rader, and  
Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson

**I. MINUTES**

**2022-1192**      Commission District(s): ALL  
Minutes for the January 25, 2022 Planning, Economic  
Development, and Community Services Committee Meeting  
**MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by  
Jeff Rader, that this agenda item be approved. The motion  
carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and  
Commissioner Davis Johnson**

**II. AGENDA ITEM**

*Previously Heard Agenda Items:*

2022-1045

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

To Renegotiate the 1984 Grady Operating Agreement between DeKalb County, Fulton County, and the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority

**This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/22/2022 .**

*-information provided by Attorney Phillips*

*-terms sheet is currently in development; the attorneys will have a meeting on 2/11/22 to discuss processes ahead of the negotiation*

*-LJ: requests commissioners provide any input after review of the terms document*

*-LJ: commissioners let me know if quarterly meetings work for your schedules and we will coordinate with staff from there*

*-Question JR: are you referring to what I sent regarding suggestions for the agreement?*

*T Phillips: at least 2 commissioners have provided comments. I can share what will be appropriate to share in this public setting*

*-LJ: requests Attorney Phillips send the document commissioners provided feedback on; requests the first meeting be with Fulton and DeKalb counties together*

*T Phillips: I will invite your counterparts from Fulton who will spearhead this discussion*

*-JR: our support for Grady operations has been a point of interest for years; I would like to develop a way in which those costs would be regular and uniform as opposed to responding to annual budgetary considerations of the institution, so that we can use a framework and formula to plan for ongoing years.*

*-Question MDJ: there was discussion in the last meeting about Grady being added the contract with HDHA. I believe the attorney for Grady stated that was in the terms sheet already; that may have been addressed. What is the timeline on the terms sheet being adopted?*

*T Phillips: the initial proposal didn't include a deadline for completing the negotiation outside the 2 year window. If you desire a deadline that is something I can share on your behalf*

*-LCJ: my concern remains to see an expansion of Grady's work to improve some of our local entities that are providing services; I would like to see those individuals have an equitable share. There are local partners that are extremely valuable in our county that are providing similar services. I would like to see some provision to incorporate them that are on the front line*

*-LJ: be prepared Mr. Phillips to help us navigate that conversation*

*-TT: I would echo that community based health services being addressed; sometimes traveling to Grady is a barrier, and having more community-based health resources would be a benefit*

*-Question MDJ: I wonder if some of these services would be duplicate, and what type of relationship could be had with these independent community-based clinics. There is outreach of Grady with facilities throughout the community; the conversation could also include community outreach through these clinics. When you begin adding independent units together, that has to be worked out regarding funding, liability, and other issues. Part of the conversation could also be that as well as additional clinics for patients within DeKalb County*

*-LJ: we need to come up with a timeline and start having discussions in March. Commissioner requests Chief of Staff Obeng send times that work with commissioners for meeting jointly with Fulton in March*

*-LCJ: time really flies and before we know it we will be at a 2 year point. I would ask that in the next 2 years we be very diligent. We could explore what a local relationship would look like in terms of providing those services, ahead of time. I want to ensure we are exploring all potential opportunities within the County to meet the needs of the people in DeKalb.*

### III. DISCUSSION

FY22 Proposed Budget - Departmental Changes

Community Service Board

-presentation by Fabio Van Der Merwe

-requests additional \$750,000 within FY22 budget. \$130,000 for infrastructure repairs and enhancements for the DeKalb Regional Crisis Center; \$85,000 for infrastructure repairs at the Clifton Springs, Fox, and North DeKalb locations; \$500,000 for Opioid Residential Program

-Question JR: is the \$500,000 an annual cost, and would that be recurring?

F Van Der Merwe: that would be recurring; after 2 years the state commitment is around \$450,000 each year for the next 2 years

-Question JR: the other costs are capital correct?

Yes

-Question JR: were these requests included in the CEO's budget recommendation?

Van Der Merwe: they were; we submitted our proposal and were added into the budget

-Question TT: as a representative on the CSB, the Opioid Residential Program uses the evidence based approach and has been successful. Could you share some of the successes?

Van Der Merwe: About 95% of the individuals show no signs of recidivism after discharge. 85% receive therapy after discharge. This was the only program that was in the County

-Question TT: are you all addressing the unsheltered?

Van Der Merwe: Many of our individuals are unhoused; we found we needed to create this program because many had no place to go after they leave the crisis unit. This would be a treatment centered next step in a stable housing environment; we work with them to find more permanent housing as well to have a path forward

-LJ: there are many homeless shelters we support that we don't have the numbers. For the true homeless county Director Mitchell should have that, as well as the funding we get for homeless shelters and nonprofits

-LJ: the DeKalb BOH and CSB are state agencies. They have the power to do bonds to build facilities as well

-Question MDJ: does the opioid program include any other drug addiction?

Van Der Merwe: at this time it is only opioids; at this time there are few other providers that will house those individuals but they are very limited; this program includes individuals that may be using heroin and fentanyl's as well. We would love to treat everyone but for us it is a matter of resources and using that to treat the most at risk in the community

-LJ: that's a discussion that we need to have as well

#### Economic Development - DeKalb Entertainment Commission

-presentation by Shelbia Jackson

-Question JR: is this \$305,000 included in the CEO's recommended budget?

Z Williams: yes that is the case

TJ Sigler: that is correct

-Question TT: for the revenues that flow from permitting where does that go?

S Jackson: The revenues in unincorporated DeKalb go into the Development Fund

-Question TT: is there going to be a point in the future where we have too many sound stages, or is the demand justified?

S Jackson: I don't know that we'll get to a point that we won't have enough; the demand is so high that the state is reaching out to us to find stage space, and that needs to be a certain type of building. We anticipate demand to be high for the next several years

#### Health Board

-presentation by Dianne McWethy, BOH Director of Administration

-Question TT: the BOH had some workers making under \$15 and now they have addressed this? D McWethy: that is correct

#### Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Affairs

-presentation by Director Ellis

-Question MDJ: requests \$500,000 added to Parks budget for planning a new recreation center at Lithonia City Park & Amphitheater

-Question TT: regarding lighting investments and security improvements, will that be through GA Power program?

C Ellis: That depends on the location; I can send you a list of where we've been working to determine where in the parks it is best served

-Question TT: regarding PATH maintenance, there are many repairs to Stone Mountain trail

C Ellis: that's for maintenance services

-TT: I would like to include in the parking lot a Parks - trails repair budget of \$250,000 to add to the \$500,000 requested

-Question JR: there is a Parks Master Plan that will inform some of the decisions we make about new facilities. There is also a Park update for Mason Mill park to identify ways to meet needs in that area

#### Human Services

-presentation by Director Scott

-Question JR: is your budget fully reflected in the CEO's budget?

-LJ: Committee members could we have a special called meeting on the 17th at 10AM - 12 PM to continue the Planning discussions and the 2 parking lot items?

MDJ: the 17th works for me

#### Planning & Sustainability

-discussion not heard in committee

## IV. AGENDA ITEM

### *New Agenda Items:*

[2022-1102](#)

Commission District(s): 2 and 6

Rename Rehoboth Park to Pea Ridge Park

**This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/22/2022 .**

-item not heard in committee

[2022-1103](#)

Commission District(s): 4 and 6

Memorial for Mrs. Sadie Sims at Washington Park

**This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/22/2022 .**

-item not heard in committee

[2022-1208](#)

Commission District(s): 4 & 7

Golf Cart Purchase for Mystery Valley

**This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/22/2022 .**

-item not heard in committee

Meeting Ended At: 3:33PM

**MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Jeff Rader, that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Rader, and Commissioner Davis Johnson**

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Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC