



# KNIGHTDALE OLD TOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

**May 12, 2016**

The Knightdale Old Town Advisory Committee met at 7:00 p.m. at the Knightdale Chamber of Commerce Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Chairman Billy Wilder, Mike Marsh, Donald Joyner, Bernice Dupree
LURB MEMBER LIAISON PRESENT:	No One
TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	Councilor Chalk
ABSENT:	Brandon McLean
Staff Members Present:	Jason Brown, Senior Planner Long Range; Donna Tierney, Planning Technician

Meeting called to order by Chairman Wilder at 7:01 p.m.

ITEM I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
...**Motion by Mr. Joyner to approve the minutes of April 14, 2016. Motion seconded by Ms. Dupree and carried unanimously.**

ITEM II. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ITEM III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Railroad Crossings/John Rex Endowment Grant Update

Senior Planner Long Range Jason Brown announced there are no new updates on this topic. The Town is still awaiting NCDOT's response to review comments.

Mr. Marsh expressed concern that when the railroad crossing is closed, a large amount of traffic will be placed onto Smithfield Road. Mr. Brown explained that when the original proposal came before OTAC, there was not support from the committee. DOT's idea is to mitigate traffic by improving the intersection. Staff will try to suggest changes based on best practices.

B. Caboose Museum Follow-Up

Mr. Brown gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the Underground Railroad caboose museum in Little Washington. He highlighted how they will use a TV monitor to address the handicap accessibility issue. The monitor is removable so that it can be taken off and put away each day. He also explained that the city added sidewalk as an in-kind donation

since it is located on city property. The museum is operated by a local woman and her husband.

Ms. Dupree asked about the temperature inside the caboose. Mr. Brown said that it did not have an AC unit and was quite warm, but the doors will remain open when the museum is in use. Additionally, the museum used laminated copies of photos instead of originals, so that originals would not be ruined by the change in temperature.

Members discussed the idea of finding a local champion for the project, along with using volunteer work to bring down the anticipated cost. If a local person or group is interested, Staff could look into in-kind donations from the Town.

The existing pavers were discussed and if they would be considered handicap accessible. If so, no additional hard surface would need to be added.

Members agreed that the two highest costs would be handicap accessibility and adding an HVAC unit. Mr. Marsh suggested using a unit much like they use in hotels, which would bring the proposed cost down drastically. He will check to see what the bottom line cost would be for this type of unit and report back next meeting.

Councilor Chalk suggested talking to Communications Director Brian Bowman about making a story and putting it out on social media to gauge if there is any local interest.

#### C. Mural Discussion Follow-Up

Chairman Wilder explained he had spoken with building owner Gayle Johnson and confirmed that she had received the Town's letter. He has not had any further conversations with Kim, the artist who painted the mural at Knightdale Seafood.

Councilor Chalk stated the mural idea was mentioned at a recent budget meeting but had not been programmed into the budget. Before moving forward, Town Attorney Clyde Holt will have to draft a letter to be signed by the building owner granting permission to proceed with a mural.

Several ideas were discussed regarding content of the mural. Chairman Wilder said he would reach out to Kim about her ideas and report back next meeting.

#### D. Front Yard Parking Ordinance

Mr. Brown explained this topic was presented to the P&E Committee on Monday, May 9. Staff received direction not to pursue the ordinance any further at this time. Mr. Brown encouraged Ms. Dupree to contact Code Enforcement Officer Matt Christian if she continues to see issues.

Councilor Chalk, who is a member of the P&E Committee, spoke about the committee's process for determining not to pursue the issue.

### ITEM IV. MEMBER INQUIRIES/REPORTS

#### A. Staff Follow-Up on Previous Month's Inquiries

Last month Chairman Wilder inquired as to why there is not a designed left turn lane into the Glenmere subdivision on Fayetteville Street. Mr. Brown explained that DOT has a minimum threshold of 3,000 vehicles a day to include a left turn lane.

B. New Inquiries/Reports

Councilor Chalk stated that he thinks the railroad crossing closing needs to be looked at again and suggested having another meeting with DOT. Several other members agreed with this idea and expressed their concerns about the closing. Councilor Chalk requested to know the findings from DOT's last two traffic counts.

Mr. Brown said he will discuss the options with Development Services Director Chris Hills and report back.

Mr. Brown announced that the new Public Works Director, Robbie Worrell, started on Monday May 9. The committee will meet Mr. Worrell soon, as he will occasionally provide updates.

ITEM V.

ADJOURNMENT

**...Motion by Mr. Marsh to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Joyner and carried unanimously.**



Billy Wilder, Old Town Advisory Committee Chairman



Donna Tierney, Planning Technician