

# City of High Point

*Municipal Office Building  
211 S. Hamilton Street  
High Point, NC 27260*



## Minutes

**Wednesday, October 9, 2019**

**9:00 AM**

**3rd Floor Conference Room**

## **Prosperity and Livability Committee**

*Jason Ewing - Chair*

*Members:*

*Wesley Hudson,  
Monica Peters, and  
Jeffrey Golden*

**Prosperity and Livability Committee - Council Member Jason Ewing, Chair****Present:**

Committee Members Jeff Golden, Wesley Hudson, and Monica Peters

**Absent:**

Chairman Jason Ewing [serves as Council liaison to the PART Board; conflict with PART meeting in Greensboro]

**Staff Present:**

Randy McCaslin, Deputy City Manager; JoAnne Carlyle, City Attorney; Eric Olmedo, Managing Director; Laura Altizer, Budget and Performance Manager; Roslyn McNeill, Budget Analyst; Mary Sizemore, Library Director; Jeron Hollis, Director of Communications & Public Engagement [joined meeting at 9:16 a.m.]; Greg Venable, Transportation Planning Administrator; Scott Dingus, Engineering Services; Chris Bingham, Engineering Services; Chris Andrews, Development Administrator; Mary S. Brooks, Deputy City Clerk; and Lisa B. Vierling, City Clerk

**Others Present:**

David Wall, Treasurer, High Point Library Foundation  
Steve Ilderton, High Point Rotary Club  
Mark Pierce, High Point Rotary Club

**News Media Present:**

Pat Kimbrough, *High Point Enterprise*

*Committee Member Golden chaired the meeting in the absence of Chairman Ewing.*

*Interim Chairman Golden called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.*

**Present** 3 - Wesley Hudson, Monica Peters, and Jeffrey Golden

**Absent** 1 - Ewing

**[2019-462](#)****Presentation-Proposed "Sensory" Garden at the Library**

Staff will present a presentation on a Proposed "Sensory" Garden at the Library

Note: The following handouts were distributed during the meeting and will be attached in Legistar as a permanent part of these proceedings.

- ✓ PowerPoint Presentation- A Sensory Garden for High Point
- ✓ Sensory Garden Concept Proposal (dated July 12, 2018)

*Mary Sizemore, Library Director, introduced guests: Steve Ilderton and Mark*

*Pierce who are present representing the High Point Rotary Club, and David Wall, who is the Treasurer of the High Point Library Foundation.*

*Ray Gibbs, Executive Director of Forward High Point, is assisting the city in coming up with a concept design for a proposed "Sensory Garden" to be located at the corner of Main Street and Sunset at the Library. He provided an overview of the proposed project and is estimating that the total project will come in about \$350,000 although there is no final design at this point. The project will be a partnership between the city of High Point, the Library, the High Point Rotary Club, and Forward High Point. They plan on incorporating the existing Clock Tower into the concept design for the "Sensory Garden." The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:*

- ✓ *Project Announcement: November 2019*
- ✓ *Grand Opening planned for November 2021*

*The "Sensory Garden" is designed to stimulate the various senses, looking closely at feel, touch, sound, visual, color, sun, shade, texture, tastes, etc.... and is a great tool for teaching children with autism and is also used for seniors. The site for the proposed garden is the corner of Main Street and Sunset and contains about 7,000 sq. ft.*

*Some components of the "Sensory Garden" are:*

- ✓ *Raised garden beds for wheelchair accessibility*
- ✓ *Herb planting wall*
- ✓ *Sensory wall*
- ✓ *Conversation/Welcome area*
- ✓ *Sensory panels*
- ✓ *Texture changing pathway*
- ✓ *Moving water*
- ✓ *Reflection/Garden area*

*Mr. Gibbs advised they are not asking Council for any budgetary funds at this time other than simply providing staff support to assist in the project.*

*Steve Ilderton, President of the High Point Rotary Club, reported that fundraising efforts are already underway and advised that the Rotary Club plans to pledge \$100,000 towards the project. The High Point Library Foundation will hold the money and since they are a 501(c)3, they will be able to accept donations and apply for grants, etc.... Mark Pierce, with the High Point Rotary Club, mentioned the significance of the proximity to the Nido and Mariana Qubein Children's Museum proposed for the corner of*

*Lexington/Hamilton. He advised that Dr. Qubein sees the “Sensory Garden” as a means to complement the museum.*

**Committee Member Golden moved to accept the “Sensory Garden” concept proposal and forward it to the City Council with a favorable recommendation with special reference to the clock tower. Committee Member Peters made a second to the motion, which carried by a unanimous 3-0 vote of the Committee. [Chairman Ewing was absent]**

**Committee Member Golden moved to accept the “Sensory Garden” concept proposal and forward it to the City Council with a favorable recommendation with special reference to the clock tower. Committee Member Peters made a second to the motion, which carried by a unanimous 3-0 vote of the Committee. [Chairman Ewing was absent]**

## [2019-463](#)

### **Presentation-Proposed Cassell Street Greenway**

Staff will present a Proposed Cassell Street Greenway

Note: The following handouts were distributed during the meeting and will be attached in Legistar as a permanent part of these proceedings.

- ✓ PowerPoint Presentation- Southwest Greenway (from Vail Avenue to West Ward Street)

*Scott Dingus with Engineering Services provided an overview of the conceptual plan for the Southwest Greenway. Staff is recommending using existing infrastructure (Cassell Street) to utilize an underutilized road, which will result in a big cost savings. The concept includes components such as bike lanes, walking path, etc... Some interest has been expressed to have the community paint the streets so that residents could take ownership and make it more attractive. From a safety perspective, bollards, pavement markings, painted walkways, vegetation, etc... could be used. A brief discussion ensued regarding the roundabout and the possibility of putting something in the middle of the roundabout to make it more attractive. Some suggestions were: artwork, low growing plantings, etc....). Staff is estimating a cost of \$75-\$80,000 to put in thermoplastic, concrete, and striping for 1,200 feet; bollards and paint would be an additional cost.*

*Greg Venable, Transportation Planning Administrator, pointed out there is no funding currently dedicated or available for this project.*

**Committee Member Golden moved to accept the Southwest Greenway conceptual plan for the Cassell Street area and forward it to the City Council for funding consideration. Committee Member Peters made a second to the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous 3-0 vote of the Committee.**

[Chairman Ewing was absent]

Committee Member Golden moved to accept the Southwest Greenway conceptual plan for the Cassell Street area and forward it to the City Council for funding consideration. Committee Member Peters made a second to the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous 3-0 vote of the Committee. [Chairman Ewing was absent]

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for discussion by the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m. upon motion duly made and seconded

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa B. Vierling, City Clerk

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Jeff Golden, Interim Chairman