

LEE COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

Committed Today for a Better Tomorrow

ECONOMIC GROWTH SUMMIT PRESENTED BY THE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MARCH 1, 2013

The Economic Growth Summit meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Lee, State of North Carolina, convened at 8:30 a.m. at the McSwain Education and Agriculture Center, 2420 Tramway Road, Sanford, North Carolina, on said date. Commissioners present were Amy M. Dalrymple, Dr. Ricky D. Frazier, Charles T. Parks, Kirk D. Smith, and James K. Womack. Commissioners not in attendance were Dr. Andre Knecht and Robert T. Reives. Staff in attendance included County Manager John Crumpton, Assistant County Manager/Finance Director Lisa Minter, Law Clerk Kerry Schmid, and Clerk to the Board Gaynell Lee.

Chairman Parks called the meeting to order for the Lee County Board of Commissioners.

Mayor Cornelia Olive called the meeting to order for the Sanford City Council.

Broadway Mayor Donald Andrews stated they did not have a quorum present.

Commissioner Jim Womack delivered the invocation.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The meeting was turned over to Dan Parks and Ted Abernathy from NC State University, SBTDC who facilitated the meeting and discussed the following topics:

- Today's Purpose; Today's Process - Your Outcomes
- Overview, How We Got Here
- Current Reality
 1. Economic Overview
 2. Survey Results
 3. Group Discussion
- Group Aspirations for Economic Development

Commissioner Frazier left the meeting shortly after lunch to attend an out-of-town meeting.

Donnie Oldham, Chairman of the Lee County Economic Corporation and Bob Joyce, President of the Sanford Chamber of Commerce presented ideas for the creation of a new Economic Development Corporation. Chamber member Brad Simpson, who was unable to attend the conference, provided a written statement expressing his support of the above referenced proposal, a copy of which is attached to these minutes and by this reference made a part hereof.

Mr. Parks and Mr. Abernathy will provide to the County Manager, a written summary of discussion points from the meeting.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Commissioner Dalrymple moved to adjourn the meeting of the Lee County Board of Commissioners. Upon a vote, the results were as follows:

Aye: Dalrymple, Parks, Smith, and Womack
Nay: None
Absent: Frazier, Knecht, and Reives

The Chairman ruled the motion had been adopted unanimously.

The City of Sanford adjourned their Board and the Town of Broadway adjourned their Board.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



Charles T. Parks, Chairman
Lee County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Gaynell M. Lee, Clerk to the Board



Keeping Business
Well Centered

March 1, 2013

Charlie Parks, Chairman
Board of Commissioners
Lee County Government Center
P.O. Box 1968
106 Hillcrest Dr.
Sanford, NC 27330

Dear Charlie Parks, Chairman:

We have a tremendous opportunity before us as a community. Sanford/Lee County stands poised to become a destination for business growth in the coming years. We possess resources that others in our region covet. Our water, sewer, land, educational institutions and workforce enable our city and county to become a leader not only in North Carolina but the Southeast and globally. When these resources are coupled with our cultural opportunities and strong community values there is no reason that Sanford/Lee County is not amongst the leaders of our region in the future.

In order to realize the potential that many in our past have worked so hard to position us for we must focus on our common goal: to see Sanford/Lee County grow and prosper. We must work together to achieve this objective. Sanford/Lee County is too small a community to pursue divided agendas for economic growth. By coming together and looking forward we will see success.

The proposal that we submit to you today puts the job of economic growth, recruitment and retention under the direction of one entity. It brings all of our current organizations together in order to benefit the taxpayers of Sanford/Lee County. This corporation will be tasked with retaining our existing businesses, supporting small business growth, promoting our existing resources, developing retail opportunities, stimulating agri-business, etc. All of this will have a multitude of benefits for our citizens. By growing our local economy and increasing our tax base we move closer to being able to reduce the tax burden on us all.

I believe that action is a function of circumstance and timing. Past initiatives failed to succeed for many reasons none of which dictate this situation. What we know now however is that we cannot afford to fail in this endeavor. Our fellow Chamber members and your constituents demand it. If necessity is

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truly the mother of invention then we must reinvent ourselves right now in a way that ensures prosperity for this and future generations. We ask for your support of our proposal and to join with us to work for its success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Simpson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brad Simpson, Chairman