

## Minutes - Draft

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

*Chairperson: Commissioner Michelle Long Spears, District 2*

*Member: Commissioner Robert Patrick, District 1*

*Member: Commissioner Larry Johnson, District 3*

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Tuesday, February 27, 2024

3:30 PM

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Meeting Started At: 3:52 PM

Attendees: Commissioners Long Spears, Johnson, Patrick, Terry, Cochran-Johnson

**Present**      3 - Commissioner Michelle Long Spears, Commissioner Larry Johnson, and Commissioner Robert Patrick

#### I. MINUTES

**2024-0293**      Commission District(s): ALL  
Minutes for the February 14, 2024 Planning, Economic Development, and Community Services Committee Meeting  
**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Patrick

#### II. APPOINTMENT INTERVIEW

[2024-0245](#)      Commission District(s): All  
Appointment of Whitney McGinniss to the DeKalb County Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs Citizen Advisory Board  
**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and  
Commissioner Patrick**

*-interview conducted by the PECS Committee to Ms. McGinniss*

### III. AGENDA ITEM

*New Agenda Items:*

#### Human Services

[2024-0297](#)

Commission District(s): All

To add 60 additional cold weather warming station activations through June 30, 2024, for Frontline Response to assist DeKalb County in serving those experiencing homelessness and/or in need of warming center services Fall/Winter 2023-24. Cost \$211,000 including 23 beds for males by New Life Community Alliance to provide warming center for those experiencing homelessness and/or in need of warming center services.

*-item passed at the 2/27/2024 BOC meeting; no action needed*

#### Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA)

[2024-0247](#)

Commission District(s): All Districts

Additional Funding of \$83,730 for BOOST After School Grant Year 3

**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and  
Commissioner Patrick**

*-information provided by Director Ellis*

[2024-0259](#) Commission District(s): Districts 2 and 7  
Park Pride Grant for Briarlake Forest Park  
**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Patrick**

*-information provided by Director Ellis*

*Previously Heard Agenda Items:*

#### **Chief Executive Office**

[2024-0179](#) Commission District(s): Districts 2 and 6  
Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Amendment to Rental Agreement  
**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 2 - Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Patrick**

**Abstain: 1 - Commissioner Long Spears**

*-information provided by Director Ellis, County Attorney Ernstes*

#### **Planning & Sustainability**

[2023-0601](#) COMMISSION DISTRICT(S): All Districts  
Application of Director of Planning & Sustainability to amend the DeKalb County Zoning Ordinance to revise definition of "Drive Through Facility" and revise description of land uses and how they are permitted in land use table relating to "Drive Through Facility" and for other purposes. This text amendment is County-wide.  
**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Patrick**

*-information provided by Zoning Manager Brandon White - Planning & Sustainability*

*-Question LJ: will this impact underserved areas that don't have the type of facilities in other areas, where this SLUP will give these areas the opportunity that other don't have?*

*B White: that's correct; additional response provided by Mr. White*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Patrick*

*-Question RP: unrelated but it is referenced adult entertainment venues; it might be worth to take a look at that*

## Board of Commissioners - Super District 6

2023-0526

Commission District(s): District 3, 6, and all commission districts  
A Resolution to Encourage DeKalb County CEO Michael Thurmond to End the Executive Order Closing Intrenchment Creek Park and to Reopen It to the Public As Soon As Possible

**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for withdrawal to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Patrick**

*-information provided by COO Williams*

*-Question TT: how quickly can we advertise the park naturalist position?*

*-response provided by COO Williams*

*-Question TT: regarding Entrenchment Creek Park and the South River Forest, I would suggest that we discuss the ARC South River Forest report. Is the vandalism happening only at the training center site and not at Entrenchment Creek Park? Z Williams: not in a while but there had been some at that location*

*-TT: if we could defer this item and potentially merge some aspects from this resolution with the agenda item later on this agenda, to get consensus from the Administration on the long range plan regarding this work, and work on the short term goals as well*

*-comments provided by COO Williams*

*-Question LJ: why would you put a worker in harm's way regarding the park naturalist?*

*TT: the naturalist is just for the South DeKalb parks*

*-Question LJ: where else in the Southwest part of the County? What will they do in those parks?*

*Z Williams: we can give you the job description and information needed*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Johnson*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Terry*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Patrick*

*-TT: I would be in support of withdrawal of this depending on the disposition of a following item*

2023-1137

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts  
Resolution Encouraging the DeKalb County Governing Body to Collaborate with Metro Atlanta Counties and Their Health Departments to Support Access to Abortion Health Services and Resources

**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and  
Commissioner Patrick**

*-information provided by Commissioner Terry*

*-comments provided by County Attorney Ernstes*

*-LJ: motion to defer to second PECS meeting in March (April 9th BOC)*

2023-0835

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution to Commit to the Transformation of the South River Forest by Adopting the Recommendations of the “Explore South River Forest” Report and For the Administration to Prepare and Deliver an Implementation Plan

**MOTION was made by Larry Johnson, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/12/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and  
Commissioner Patrick**

*-information provided by Commissioner Terry*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Johnson*

*-Question LJ: Law have you approved the MOU present to form that we need to sign in DeKalb?*

*-response provided by County Attorney Ernstes*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Johnson*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Terry*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Patrick*

*-LJ: motion to defer 30 days to second PECS meeting in March (April 9th BOC)*

#### **IV. DISCUSSION**

Committee Goals

*-discussion not heard in committee*

Committee Meeting Location

*-discussion not heard in committee*

#### **V. STATUS UPDATE**

Indian Creek MARTA Station TOD Master Plan

*-presentation provided by Josh Turner - MARTA*

Meeting Ended At: 5:01PM

**MOTION was made by Robert Patrick, seconded by Larry Johnson, that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Long Spears, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Patrick**

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Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC