

D R A F T

Minutes – One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee Thursday, April 19, 2012

Members Present

Lee Berg
Johnny Brown
Bill Carver
Marline Elkins
Murray Homan
John Pape
Michael Rhett
Alice Summerour
Connie Taylor
Frank Wigington

Cobb County & Other Officials Present

Eddie Canon, Director – PRCA (Parks)
Virgil Moon, Agency Director, Support Services
Dan McDuff, Deputy Director - Cobb DOT
Bob Galante, Construction Eng - Cobb DOT
Bill Volckmann, Division Manager, Finance
Diana Belanger, Finance, Accountant III
Tom Bills, Project Manager, PRCA
Nancy Rouse, Admin, Cobb DOT
Wade Kelly, Atkins, Program Manager
Russell Small, Moreland Altobelli, Program Manager
Mary Ann David, Business Mgr., PRCA
Amanda Godo, Communications, DOT

Absent:

Dania Aponte
Scott Johnson
Virginia Gregory
David Hong

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the 36th meeting of the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:00 p.m. on April 19, 2012, in the Board of Commissioners Conference Room. Ms. Summerour introduced the newest committee member, John Pape, who was appointed by Commissioner Goreham.

As a quorum was present, the minutes from the February 16, 2012 meeting were approved.

Bill Volckmann introduced himself and Diana Belanger from the Finance Department and discussed the current 2005 and 2011 SPLOST financial reports. Two payments have been received for the 2011 SPLOST program totaling \$20.5 million, \$2.2 million over projections. This is \$1.1 million higher than this time last year and \$600,000 than the year before. We are done with the 2005 SPLOST collections – as a firm cut-off, all payments now, will be applied to the 2011 SPLOST program.

It was discussed that the Chairman has been in touch with the Georgia Department of Revenue but there has been no response or resolution regarding the final January payment for the 2005 SPLOST.

Randy Bowens, Public Works Director, and Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director, from the City of Austell gave an update on the status of their 2005 and 2011 SPLOST projects.

Eddie Canon, Director, and Tom Bills, Project Manager gave an overview and update on the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (PRCA) 2011 program. Tom Bills gave a thorough presentation:

- Noted that Parks has two organizations overseeing their projects: the Recreation Board and the Citizen Oversight Committee.
- Introduced Russell Small, their Program Manager with Moreland Altobelli
- Mountain View Aquatic Center – a big project with a tight schedule. Only had 1 bidder, with which they are currently negotiating. Think the tight schedule of July 9th to October 15th played a factor.
- Gave a detailed presentation of all that has to be considered with the Parks projects since they work with so many sports organizations and scheduling factors.

- Reviewed the Board of Commissioners approved changes for obtaining professional services and construction.
- Discussed the Design/Build process - advantages and disadvantages.

Dan McDuff, Deputy Director and Bob Galante, Construction Engineer, gave updates on the 2005 and 2011 programs:

- 296 project starts out of 306 in the 2005 program. The projects remaining have GDOT involvement.
- 25 project starts in the 2011 program which is 5 more than projected.
- Discussed the drainage projects – 15 drainage failures already identified as projects.

Connie Taylor asked about the Floyd Road projects and these were discussed and how the concepts will be controlled by the budget.

Lee Berg asked about the Jamerson Road paving – and the issues with the paving sub-contractor were discussed.

Connie Taylor mentioned the Block Party being held by Public Safety this weekend in the Six Flags area. Dan McDuff discussed the “HAWK” system pedestrian pilot project which be completed by May 31, 2012, this is the first in the county. The project will provide a signalized mid-block crossing. There is a video on the DOT website showing how the system works.

Additional comments and discussions regarding various other projects were held.

Bob Galante gave a report on the sidewalk program:

- How selected and prioritized.
- Average sidewalk cost is \$500,000 per mile (one side only).
- \$15M in the SPLOST budget for sidewalks, with County goal for sidewalks on thoroughfares estimated cost of \$194million.
- Distributed list of the sidewalks scheduled for this year – 27 projects (\$4.7 million)
- A County sidewalk crew to be hired exclusively to build less complicated sidewalks at a savings to the county of approximately \$175k per mile

Connie Taylor suggested that priority should be given to workers who live in Cobb County to go along with the “Keep It In Cobb” program, if this was feasible.

Dan McDuff gave an overview of the new DOT project fact sheets on the website. This has not been given a full “rolled out” yet but is still in a testing stage – request COC members go in and provide us with feedback. Once the “bugs” are fixed, each of the departments will provide information for their SPLOST projects as well. Dan also noted the Oversight Committee site showing the Points of Contacts for each District, which includes an email address for any questions or comments.

The next order of business was the election of a new Vice-Chairman. Lee Berg was nominated and the motion seconded. Lee Berg was unanimous elected as Vice-Chair.

Bill Carver made a suggestion for the Committee members to consider doing site visits to Parks project sites and to exploring the possibility of an afternoon or all day field trip to ride around to various sites. This was put under consideration.

The next meeting will be held on June 21, 2012. The meeting was then adjourned.