

Minutes – One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee
Thursday, May 16, 2019

Members Present:

Alice Summerour
Barkley Russell
Bill Carver
Frank Wigington
Gene Lewis
Jay Cunningham
Kenneth Jones
Lindsay Edwards

Members Present Cont.:

Marline Elkins
Marty Williamson
Roger Sandbothe

Absent:

Dee Gay
Susan Tucker
James Brock
Sally Riddle

Cobb County & Other Officials Present:

Dr. Jackie McMorris, Deputy County Manager
Tom Bills, PARKS, Program Manager
Jimmy Gisi, PARKS, Director
Wade Kelly, SPLOST Program Manager, DOT
Meagean Diaz, Admin, DOT
Priscilla Parton, Finance

City of Austell:

Bo Garrison, Public Works Director
Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director

Chairperson Alice Summerour called the One Percent SPLOST Citizen Oversight Committee to order at 3:00 PM on May 16, 2019.

As there was a quorum present, a motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2019, meeting. Motion was made and seconded; minutes were approved unanimously.

Priscilla Parton, Finance Department, gave the monthly financial report regarding the 2016 SPLOST Summary.

Bo Garrison, Public Works Director, City of Austell, gave an update on the City's SPLOST program pertaining to Transportation. The 2016 SPLOST projects highlighted were various resurfacing projects, the purchase of maintenance equipment, and projects under consideration including resurfacing Grace Street, roadway striping of Jefferson street and drainage improvements to Sherwood Street.

Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director, City of Austell, gave an update on the City's PARKS and Public Safety SPLOST programs. The 2011 SPLOST projects highlighted were upgrades to Threadmill Complex, multiple purchases of PARKS equipment and the purchase of a new facility.

Questions/Answers for City of Austell:

Q. Does the City create their own signs?

A. No.

Q. Do you work with Cobb DOT to assist with signs?

A. The City has worked with the County to create signs.

Q. Can you provide more information about the new facility?

A. We will create an event center at Suggs Park to hold approximately 200-300 people. We will work to design it this year and complete it next year.

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Q. Will it be a rental facility?

A. Yes.

Tom Bills, Program Manager, PARKS, provided an update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST projects. The 2011 program is 98% complete, 2% in design and the 2016 program is 72% complete. He highlighted two additional small projects added where funds were freed up from the Milford Park project including a new score stand and a storage building, Green Meadow Preserve Rehabilitation is 75% complete including the renovation of the historic home on the property, Acworth Community Center, Mable House Amphitheater and other additional projects.

Questions/Answers for PARKS:

Q. Milford Park: The funds that were freed up, how did that occur?

A. Monies were not used so it was repurposed for another component of the project.

Following PARK's presentation, the committee discussed potential meeting locations for the remainder of the year. Possible suggestions were provided and the County will work to schedule the locations prior to the next meeting. In addition, the committee discussed the changes to the number of updates received from the cities each year. They are looking into hearing from cities twice a year and receiving updates from two cities at each SPLOST COC meeting beginning in 2020.

Wade Kelly, SPLOST Program Manager, DOT, provided a quarterly update on the 2011 and 2016 SPLOST program. The 2011 SPLOST currently has 95.7% projects completed, 2.9% in construction and 1.4% in design. Some highlights for the 2011 SPLOST program include Lower Roswell Road, Shallowford Road Sidewalk and Cobb Parkway at Windy Hill Road. The 2016 SPLOST currently has 98 projects completed, 24 in construction and 66 in design. Some highlights for the 2016 SPLOST program include Cherokee Street, McCollum Parkway at Ben King Road, Covered Bridge, Westside Drive, and other various projects including Resurfacing Projects.

Questions/Answers for DOT:

Q. Any insight on the widening of I-285.

A. It is in the 10 year plan for the state and currently underway.

Q. Resurfacing: Is resurfacing/sidewalks always bid out and is there a time of the year this occurs?

A. We do have a resurfacing season which is during the warmer months. Sidewalk repairs are occasionally done in house, anything else is bid out.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.