

**FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
FY 2015 FEDERAL ADVOCAY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT MINUTES  
CONFERENCE ROOM # b  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
1225 RAMSEY STREET  
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28301  
FEBRUARY 18, 2014  
7:30 A.M.**

Present: Mayor Nat Robertson

Council Members Kady-Ann Davy (District 2); Robert T. Hurst, Jr. (District 5); Lawrence O. Wright, Sr., (District 7)

City of Fayetteville Present:

Theodore L. Voorhees, City Manager  
Kristoff Bauer, Deputy City Manager  
Jay Reinstein, Assistant City Manager  
Scott Shuford, Development Services Director  
Victor Sharpe, Community Development Director  
Rebecca Rogers-Carter, Strategic Planning Manager  
Pamela J. Megill, City Clerk

Cumberland County Present:

Commissioner Jeannette Council, Chair  
James Martin, County Manager  
Amy Cannon, Deputy County Manager  
James Lawson, Assistant County Manager  
Quentin McPhatter, Assistant County Manager  
Rick Moorefield, County Attorney  
Melissa Cardinali, Finance Director  
Sally Shutt, Public Information Director  
Candice H. White, Clerk to the Board

Others Present:

Mr. David Gogol, Vice Chair, FedfreBD  
Mr. Nick Weber, Director, FedfreBD  
Ms. Benna Patel, Managing Advisor, FedfreBD

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Rebecca Rogers-Carter thanked everyone for attending and introduced the FaefreBD Consulting Team: Mr. David Gogol, Mr. Nick Weber, and Ms. Benna Patel. Mr. Gogol stated FaefreBD is committed driving goals and said they would look to items that are measurable, resource oriented, and of sufficient importance. Mr. Gogol asked for all attendees to introduce themselves. Mr. Gogol asked each elected official to highlight the major concerns and issues their respective governing body is facing.

Cumberland County Commission Chair Council stated the Commission had not decided on a group as to what the priorities are. She also stated Education is a large factor of County government, and we have a large amount of federal students and students with learning difficulties. We are in need of additional veteran services, and have mental health issues. Our detention centers are full, and we need help for our service connected families. The demands are huge, and we do not have discretionary funds.

Mayor Robertson stated the City Council recently participated in a Strategic Planning retreat and the top priorities identified were crime, economic development, and parks and recreation; quality of life. Burglary and human trafficking are a major concern as related to our crime issue.

Mayor Pro Tem Davy stated she would like to see more grant opportunities and perhaps identify partnering grant opportunities with the County. Mayor Pro Tem Davy stated she was concerned with the homeless, transit, and industry economic development.

Council Member Wright stated he was concerned about crime and stated we need community involvement to take our city back. He further stated he acknowledged the good working relationship between the City and the County and concluded by stating we need to develop our recreational facilities.

Council Member Hurst stated he appreciates the relationship between the City and the County; it is a good thing to see these two governments working well together. Council Member Hurst stated he would like to see grant opportunities for the newly initiated Gateways and Roads Committee program and for the Fayetteville Beautiful program. He concluded by stating he would like to see workforce training initiatives.

Ms. Rebecca Rogers Carter, Strategic Planning Initiatives Manager, stated one of the points brought forward from the citizen survey highlighted the need and desire for more public swimming pools.

Mr. Theodore Voorhees, City Manager, stated the City of Fayetteville is unique by the way that this City is the hub for retail, medical, and service industries; we have approximately 208,000 residents but we may have up to 500,000 people inside our city that have travelled here from the neighboring counties and smaller neighboring towns. Traffic congestion is a direct result of this influx of non-residents entering our city. Mr. Voorhees also noted that Fayetteville has the lowest property tax base of the major cities in the State of North Carolina and so we have a very thin stream of revenue to operate from. Mr. Voorhees stated we have over 100,000 residents that are federally connected (Ft. Bragg) and 48% of our employment is military connected. Mr. Voorhees questioned the obstacles that prevent us from acquiring economic growth. We are in close proximity to I-95. We have a good school system. We are only one hour away from the Research Triangle, and we have a continual flow of well-trained military service people looking to join the workforce.

Council Member Wright stated he was prior military and had resided in Fayetteville since 1976. He said we need to focus on building and start thinking outside of the box. We need to have the right people at the table.

Mr. Martin, Cumberland County Manager, stated the Federal Advocacy Program is in itself a great opportunity and a great challenge. All the issues brought forward this morning are relevant. There are two keys that address these issues: Find a way to create jobs and capital investment.

Mr. Victor Sharpe, Community Development Director, stated there are various agencies in the community that provide programs and assistance to the homeless, many of these are faith based and non-profit organizations. We need to raise awareness of the homeless.

Ms. Rogers-Carter thanked all the attending elected officials for their participation in the meeting.