

Greensboro Neighborhood Congress (GNC)
Meeting Notes
Thursday, October 9, 2014



GNC Co-Chairperson **Susan Taaffe** convened the **October 2014** GNC meeting at the Central Public Library beginning with our traditional introduction of all participants followed by presentations by guest speakers. A moment of silence and reflections were shared after announcement of the recent death of a GNC founding member, **Peter Kauber**.

Guest speakers:

Lane Harvey Brown, Guilford County Schools Director of Volunteers, Partnerships & Grants, reviewed the purposes for which a proposed quarter-cent local sales tax increase is considered on the November 4th election ballot. Sixty percent of revenues from the sales tax increase would support teachers, assistants, instructional materials and supplies, with 40 percent going toward maintenance and repairs. Sales of unprepared food, prescription medicine, motor vehicles and gasoline would be exempt from the tax. If passed, our sales tax would change from 6.75% to 7% in 2015. School volunteer opportunities are available for persons of all skill and experience levels at any of Guilford County's 127 schools which combined support over 72,000 K-12 students. Contact Brown to inquire about volunteerism at 336-370-2342 or brown12@qcsnc.com.

Linda Sutton, Central NC Organizer for Democracy NC, and **Willie Taylor, Board member with the League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad**, discussed voting rules passed by the NC Legislature and very recent changes to those rules. Whenever a Guilford County resident changes their place of residence they should update their address with the Guilford County Board of Elections, 301 West Market Street, P. O. Box 3427, Greensboro NC 27402, whose offices are open 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Early voting is available October 23 through November 1 for the November 4, 2014 election. Visit http://www.co.guilford.nc.us/elections_cms/ for voter ID requirements, sample ballots, early and regular voting locations, etc. or contact cfox@co.Guilford.nc.us or phone 336-641-3836. Encourage every eligible voter to register to vote. Watch a very informative YouTube video which reviews **major changes in NC voting laws including voter registration, early voting, absentee voting, and election day voting** at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8Tqbl5UBj0&feature=youtu.be>. Vote November 4, 2014.

Committee Reports:

Membership – GNC members are repeatedly reminded to please sign in at each GNC meeting and to update your neighborhood leaders' contact information to Sadie Blue at spoyldsadie@yahoo.com or 336-988-5009.

Issues and Bylaws – This committee continues work reviewing GNC bylaws. This committee's meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 5:30 p.m. at College Park Baptist Church.

Treasurer – No funds have been expended since the September meeting.

Announcements:

- Due to anticipated 2015 City budget reductions, expect drastic reductions in **Neighborhood Small Projects** annual funding and possible termination of several City staff positions.
- **Community Fun Day** is Saturday, October 11, 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at J. Van Lindley Park, organized by the Textile Park Neighborhood and open to all residents of GNC neighborhoods.
- If you want your neighborhood's entrance sign to be shown, along with others on the GNC website, send a digital photo of your sign in a horizontal format to Ann Stringfield at InfoCrofters@triad.rr.com.
- **Saturday, November 8, 9:00-11:00 a.m.** is the next GNC meeting at the Central Greensboro Public Library. Our speaker will be LaVelle Donnell, the City Water Education Program Coordinator.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Stringfield of the Fisher Park Neighborhood, October 12, 2014.