

**Greensboro Neighborhood Congress (GNC)  
Meeting Notes  
Thursday, August 13, 2015**

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GNC Co-Chairperson **Susan Taaffe** convened the **August 2015** GNC meeting at the Central Public Library beginning with our traditional introduction of all participants followed by presentations by guest speakers.

**Guest speakers:**

**Lynn Wooten** of the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro (CFGG) announced an upcoming City Arts project named "*Rise Together Greensboro*" taking shape September 9-28 throughout Greensboro's **17 Days** festival and the **National Folk Festival**. Everyone is invited to lend ladders of any size to Floyd, VA artist Charlie Brouwer who'll create a temporary, large-scale **sculpture of ladders** on the future GPAC site downtown. New ladders may be purchased at cost at North Greensboro Ace Hardware. After use in this project, any unclaimed ladders will be donated to Habitat for Humanity. Visit [www.RiseTogetherGreensboro.org](http://www.RiseTogetherGreensboro.org) for details.

**Mike Kirkman**, City Planning Manager, presented **Zoning 101**, a detailed review of how zoning and rezoning requests and decisions are handled in the City of Greensboro. Zoning ordinances -- intended to balance public safety, health, welfare, and esthetics within private property rights -- regulate land and building uses, size, scale, placement, and site layouts. Zoning regulations are documented in Greensboro's **Land Development Ordinance (LDO)** including detailed **Permitted Use Tables** within zoning districts defined as residential, commercial/office, industrial, public & institutional, mixed use, and special/overlay districts. Anyone with zoning questions or anticipating rezoning are encouraged to promptly contact City Zoning staff who offer to lead you through initial discussions, zoning applications, hearings, impact studies, staff reports, and Zoning Commission or City Council decisions. Citizens interested in serving on the City Zoning Commission are invited to apply through their City Councilpersons. To avoid zoning disputes, always ensure that any **conditional zoning uses are specifically documented** to alleviate erroneous assumptions or implications. Greensboro's zoning enforcement is complaint-based, not proactive. For details contact Mike Kirkman. [Mike.Kirkman@greensboro-nc.gov](mailto:Mike.Kirkman@greensboro-nc.gov) or 336-373-4649.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership** – Several GNC volunteers have managed check-in and membership updates. In September, **Michelle Jenkins** will seek appointment as GNC Membership Committee Chairperson.

**Issues and Bylaws** – **Mike Pendergraft** reported this Committee is investigating and seeks GNC member input on several potential issues such as changes to the LDO regarding setback requirements for handicap ramps connected to residential buildings, the language of "protest petitions", the definition of "Truck Stop", and changes to the minimum housing codes.

**Treasurer** – **Jack Zimmerman** reported GNC bank accounts have \$550.96 in checking and \$259.75 in savings for a total of \$810.72 as of July 31, 2015.

**Announcements/News:**

- **August 18, 2015, 4:00-8:00 p.m.** is an Open House for the City of Greensboro Urban Area Transportation Plan to review Greensboro's 2016-2025 transportation improvement program, bicycle, pedestrian, and Greenway plan, Triad air quality analysis, and the 2040 metropolitan transportation plan. 300 W. Washington Street or visit [www.guampo.org](http://www.guampo.org) or call 336-373-4368.
- **October 12 and October 19, 2015** are GNC's annual City Council Candidate Forums.

The next GNC meeting is **Saturday, September 12, 2015, 9-11 a.m.** at the Greensboro Central Public Library. Guest speakers will be our City Manager and County Manager.

Visit the GNC website at [www.GreensboroNeighborhoodCongress.org](http://www.GreensboroNeighborhoodCongress.org) for notes of previous GNC meetings.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Stringfield of the Fisher Park Neighborhood, August 14, 2015.