



County Council Committee Minutes

Livability Committee July 15, 2019

The Livability Committee of Spartanburg County Council met on Monday, July 15, 2019, in County Council Chambers of the County Administrative Office Building. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of this meeting was provided in advance to the local news media and other interested parties. The following were in attendance: Honorable Jack Mabry, Chairman; Honorables Manning Lynch and David Britt, Committee Members; along with Honorables Michael Brown, Bob Walker, and Roger Nutt, Council Members. Also attending were Cole Alverson, County Administrator; Earl Alexander, Deputy County Administrator; John Harris, County Attorney; and Ginny Dupont, County Attorney. Honorable Whitney Farr, Council Member, was absent.

I.

Chairman Mabry called the meeting to order.

II.

- A. Ms. Yvonne Harper, Executive Director, and Mr. Tom Barnet, Board Vice-Chair, presented information on Fifty Upstate. Mr. Terry Cash, Board Member, was also present. (Presentation included in backup) Fifty Upstate is fairly a new nonprofit that came about many years ago when the County came together with concerned citizens to come up with a way to address the Spartanburg Senior Wellness Initiative. Fifty Upstate is the product of great foresight years ago. Fifty Upstate was birthed in January. Today, adults age 50+ represent 76 million people, which is 28% of the total U.S. population. In Spartanburg County, approximately 40% of adults are over the age of 50. Fifty Upstate has many purposes. Fifty Upstate exists to enhance life for those 50+ in our community. They are also the gateway connecting older adults to vital community services and opportunities that can help them stay healthy and independent. Fifty Upstate is well supported by the community and is a true community collaborator. Fifty Upstate oversees Spartanburg's seven Aging Well Centers located across Spartanburg County. Ms. Harper thanked Council for their support.
- B. Mr. Todd Stephens, County Librarian, Spartanburg County Public Libraries, presented an Update on the **Inman Library Construction**

Project. (Slides included in backup) In 2000, County Council approved the release of \$9 million in bonds to complete and conduct construction on the Landrum Library, the Chesnee Library, the Cyrill-Westside Library, the Cowpens Library, and the Woodruff Library. The Library Board of Trustees knew that the Inman Library would be the next one up. The purpose was to pay off the debt and then ask Council to allow the Library to have the debt back to keep the millage the same. The Library now has \$11 million in bonds to do some construction, primarily at Inman, and to do some work at the Headquarters Library. The Inman Library was built in 1991 on a concrete slab. The Board of Trustees plan is to acquire about a half of an acre beside the existing property which would give them a little over two acres, to demolish the two quadruplexes, to demolish and move the existing Library, and to build a new Library. They plan to turn dirt in February with a construction plan of nine to twelve months.

C. Information received regarding activities of the Parks Department.

Meeting adjourned.