

MINUTES OF MEETING WITH
CITIZENS ACADEMY PARTICIPANTS
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANFORD
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

The City Council met at the Sanford Municipal Center, 225 E. Weatherspoon Street, on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at 5:30 p.m., in the West End Conference Room to receive feedback from Citizens Academy participants. The following people were present:

Mayor T. Chet Mann
Council Member Charles Taylor
Council Member James Williams
City Attorney Susan Patterson
Public Information Officer Kelly Miller

Mayor Pro Tem Sam Gaskins
Council Member Norman Charles Post, III
City Manager Hal Hegwer
City Clerk Bonnie Davis

Absent:

Council Member Byron Buckels
Council Member Rebecca Wyhof

Council Member Jimmy Haire

Citizens Academy Participants Present:

Michelle Bunnell, Kathy Carroll, Yenly Clancy, Gabby Murrillo, Denise Roethlisberger, Greg Stoch (Jeff Griffith and Lisa Whalen, absent)

Mayor Mann opened the meeting by thanking Citizens Academy (CA) participants. Public Information Officer Kelly Miller presented a photo slide show of participants and facilities they toured during this third CA session, which ran from February 16 through April 12.

The following feedback was received:

- The format (class time followed by field trips) was popular with participants;
- Presentations were interesting, especially those by:
 - the Planning Department (with background and information on the department's long-term goal of improving citizens' lives);
 - the Police Department and the mobile crime unit;
 - the Waste Water Treatment Plant;
 - the sign shop (participants were unaware that the city made its own signs);
- Replacing police vehicles every two years (after warranties expire) is an efficient use of resources since it reduces maintenance costs.

Mayor Mann noted that the program's goal is for graduates to increase their knowledge of local government and demonstrate how the system works. He encouraged them to share this knowledge with their neighborhoods, to participate in National Night Out activities and organize block parties. Council Member Taylor also suggested they become involved with Neighborhood Watch groups, which have been very helpful in local communities.

Suggestions for future CA sessions included:

- Adding information on and a visit to the Sanford/Lee County airport;
- Expanding the session on economic development, including information on and a visit to the Central Carolina Enterprise Park.

Mayor Mann reminded Council that CA graduates are great candidates for positions on local boards, commissions and committees. Kelly Miller, Public Information Officer, requested that she be informed if any of the CA graduates were interested in serving on a citizen panel for future redesign of the city website.

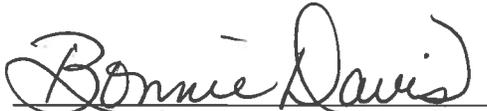
Mayor Mann reviewed and briefly explained the agenda for the Council meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. and closed the meeting by thanking participants and staff. He invited participants to stay for the meeting, where they would be recognized for their participation.

Respectfully Submitted,



T. CHET MANN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BONNIE DAVIS, CITY CLERK