

## **Action Minutes – Council Naming Committee**

Meeting Date/Time: April 11, 2024 at 4 pm, Hybrid Meeting – Zoom & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room, Town Hall

Members Present: Jess Anderson (Chair), Karen Stegman, Paris Miller-Foushee, Melissa McCullough

**Staff Present:** Chris Blue (Town Manager), Atuya Cornwell (Parks & Recreation), Sarah Viñas (Affordable Housing & Community Connections), Shenekia Weeks (DEI Officer), Susan Brown (Communications), Alex Carrasquillo (Communications), Molly Luby (staff liaison)

Agenda Item	Discussion Point	Motions/Votes	Action
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 4 pm	n/a	n/a
Old or Ongoing Business	Molly Luby provided an overview of the Council Naming Committee policies and processes.  Susan Brown provided an overview of the Town's Marketing Partnership policy.	n/a	<ul> <li>Council Member Miller-Foushee suggested a policy review around naming rights being restricted to people who are no longer living. The committee is interested in considering a policy that includes honouring people during their lifetimes.</li> <li>Staff will review and draft possible new policy for the committee to review.</li> </ul>
New Business	Atuya Cornwell shared three existing avenues for donating in support of the Town's Parks and Recreation programs and facilities: sponsorship through the Town's Marketing Partnership policy, donations to the Friends of Chapel Hill Parks, and amenities purchased from the Parks and Recreation Contributions Catalog (PaRC).	n/a	<ul> <li>Committee Members requested a review of the existing policies with the following goals:         <ul> <li>Ensuring that names and sponsorships reflect the values of the Town of Chapel Hill</li> <li>Assessing the opportunities to expand marketing partnerships to increase available funding for Town programs and facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Staff will review existing polices and draft options for the committee to review.</li> </ul>
	Sarah Viñas requested feedback from the committee on two strategic opportunities in Affordable Housing and Community Connections:  1. Forming a "Friends of" organization to help fund and support community engagement and housing efforts and 2. Developing a more deliberate and cohesive strategy for naming Town-initiated affordable housing projects to align with the Town's values and community history.	Full committee agreement	<ul> <li>Staff will move forward with exploring the formation of a Friends of AHCC group.</li> <li>Staff will work with the Town's DEI office to develop a preliminary process for naming Town-initiated affordable housing projects and submit that process to the committee for review.</li> </ul>



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	Molly Luby presented a petition from the community group Change the Names "to remove and replace racist street signs." The petition calls for renaming Cameron Avenue, Pauli Murray Avenue as a first step.  Cameron Avenue is maintained by both the Town and NCDOT and partially runs through UNC's campus.  Without 100% property-owner agreement, the decision to rename Cameron Ave falls to Town Council.	n/a	<ul> <li>Committee members expressed agreement with the spirit and motives of the petition as well as concern about the challenges of beginning such a process with Cameron Avenue.</li> <li>Mayor Anderson requested that staff report on the feasibility of a comprehensive process for reconsidering Town street names.</li> <li>Staff will draft a proposal for the committee to review.</li> <li>The committee will reconvene to review the proposal and make a recommendation for next steps.</li> </ul>
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm	n/a	n/a