

**Report on the July 11, 2013 Guilford County Commissioners
Meeting
Submitted by Kimrey Dillon**

On July 11, 2013 my family attended the Guilford County Commissioners meeting. The meeting was held on the second floor of the Old County Courthouse. At approximately 5:40 the meeting began with an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairwoman Linda Shaw called the meeting to order. Commissioner Davis read a proclamation proclaiming July as "Minority Mental Health Awareness Month". Next St. James Church was presented a resolution honoring its 100th Anniversary.

The meeting proceeded allowing speakers from the floor to address the board. A man complaining about the Sheriff Department's handling of a noisy dog complaint was the only speaker.

The board then discussed whether or not to accept a \$2,000 donation to the Richardson-Taylor Preserve in exchange for naming a trail. The only concern presented was the lack of set guidelines for a donation of this kind. All the commissioners voted to accept the donation. In addition, it was decided that at the next work session guidelines for donations would be discussed.

A presentation was then given by members of the War Memorial Board asking to break ground on the project although the project was not yet fully funded. The project is a joint project between Guilford and Forsyth Counties. Their original agreement with the counties stipulated that ground would only be broken after being fully funded. However, in order to receive \$500,000 in conditional pledges, the project must be started. The Commissioners voted and gave approval to begin the War Memorial. Approval from Forsyth County was also needed.

The last item of business discussed before my family left was the school system asking permission to transfer "Qualified School Construction Bonds" from one project to another. Unused funds to the amount of \$1,585,895 were left from the Allen Middle School Project. The school system was asking that the leftover funds be put towards the renovation of the Allen Jay Rock Gym. The Commissioners approved the school system's request.

On the ride home my family discussed the meeting, who we agreed with, and how speakers had presented themselves. Attending the meeting allowed me to see the various issues that arise in county government and the handling of these issues by our commissioners.