

**City Council of the City of Greenville
Retreat**

**Thursday, January 26, 2023 – 4:30 p.m.
Huguenot Mills, 101 W. Broad Street**

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL: Mayor Knox White and Councilmembers John M. DeWorken, Kenneth C. Gibson, Wil Brasington, and Dorothy H. Dowe

Absent: Lillian B. Flemming and Russell Stall

CITY STAFF: Deputy City Manager Brandon Madden; Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin; City Attorney Leigh B. Paoletti; Deputy City Clerk Sherry Scoggins

Mayor White called the retreat to order.

Panel Discussion – Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Mayor White introduced Carlos Phillips with the Greenville Chamber, Lelia King with Build Carolina, Eric Weissmann with NEXT, and Bryan Davis with The Hill Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Furman University) to participate in a panel discussion facilitated by Rhonda Rawlings.

The panelists expounded on the following: define success; how should city of Greenville measure success; how to attract people to engage; how to recruit and engage indigenous talent; how to put texture to talent; and why is Greenville not known as an innovative city.

Councilmember Dowe asked that the term indigenous not be used in marketing. Councilmember Dowe stated there is a pattern of young persons who do not want to come back to Greenville, and she questioned how to affect their experiences while in Greenville. Councilmember Dowe questioned when has the Council received a suggested policy from the Youth Commission. Ms. King stated it is harder to show what is available at a work site when a person prefers to work remotely. Ms. King stated an opportunity to show the work that is occurring at physical locations and being flexible so that persons could work remotely.

Council discussed the recent ordinance amendment for food trailers and added the campaign was well organized and supported by the food industry. Mr. Davis offered the expertise of the panelists as consultants when exploring new ideas. Councilmember DeWorken expressed his appreciation of the panelists for being a resource and asked that the panelists be aggressive with Council when they are aware of an opportunity.

Mr. Weissman stated the panelists attend and support each other's events and they are all in this together. Mr. Weissman added that a start-up does not mean technology. Councilmember Brasington requested periodic updates of what is wanted in Greenville in the form of a bulleted list.

With no further discussions, the meeting recessed at 5:45 p.m.

Sherry Scoggins, MMC
Deputy City Clerk

Meeting notice posted on January 23, 2023.