

A regular meeting of the Carrboro Board of Aldermen was held on Tuesday, August 15, 1995 at 7:30 P.M. in the Carrboro Elementary School Auditorium.

Present and presiding:

Mayor:	Eleanor G. Kinnaird
Aldermen:	Michael Nelson
	Randy Marshall
	Hank Anderson
	Frances Shetley
	Jacquelyn Gist
	Jay Bryan
Town Manager:	Robert W. Morgan
Town Attorney:	Michael B. Brough
Deputy Town Clerk:	James E. Spivey

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY RANDY MARSHALL AND SECONDED BY JACQUELYN GIST THAT THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 08, 1995 BE APPROVED. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL.

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### REQUEST TO RESCHEDULE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS/ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FOR THE PROPOSED ALTA SEASONS APARTMENT COMPLEX AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW LOT IN THE WR ZONING DISTRICT

MOTION WAS MADE BY RANDY MARSHALL AND SECONDED BY HANK ANDERSON THAT THE PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FOR THE PROPOSED ALTA SEASONS APARTMENT COMPLEX AND THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW LOT IN THE WR ZONING DISTRICT BE RESCHEDULED FROM AUGUST 22, 1995 TO SEPTEMBER 05, 1995. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL.

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### PUBLIC HEARING/GUN CONTROL STUDY COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this public hearing was to receive comments from Orange County citizens on the recommendations made by the Gun Control Study Committee.

Anna Fink, recent graduate of Chapel Hill High School and Carrboro resident, voiced support for reasonable gun control because fellow high school students had been involved in gun-related criminal activity.

Bonnie Bechard, a Carrboro resident, voiced support of any gun control legislation that the Town would pursue, even if the legislation is eventually overturned by the courts.

Diana McDuffee, a Carrboro resident and Gun Control Study Committee member, voiced support for stricter gun control laws and explained how the Committee came to vote on a ban of handguns as an option for Carrboro to consider.

March Wakeford, a Carrboro resident, told of an incident in which a man shot his brother-in-law and urged the Board to act on behalf of safety and to act to make handguns more difficult to acquire.

Chris Pepper, a Carrboro resident, stated that he wanted to speak on behalf of people who would like to maintain their constitutional right to have guns. Mr. Pepper voiced opposition to a handgun ban.

David Giffiths, a Carrboro resident and Gun Control Study Committee member, stated that the United States is the only nation in the industrialized world which allow the promiscuous ownership of handguns and also has a murder rate which far exceeds the murder rate in other countries. Mr. Griffiths voiced support of stricter handgun legislation. Mr. Griffiths informed the Board that during the Gun Control Study Committee's

deliberation of this matter, he suggested that gun owners be required to get liability insurance, similar to auto insurance.

Michael Robinson, a Carrboro resident and Gun Control Study Committee member, reviewed facts cited in an article, "The Unspoken Tragedy: Firearm Suicide in the United States", and urged the Board to pursue stricter legislation than State statutes. Mr. Robinson stated that if stricter laws are passed by Carrboro and then overturned by court, he supports the liability suggestion of David Griffiths.

Scott Jens, a Carrboro resident, stated that local municipalities in the State of North Carolina, have to abide by the laws of the State. Laws cannot be made at the local level that supersede or take the place of State laws. Mr. Jens commended the Gun Control Study Committee in its efforts to educate itself regarding this issue.

Robert Horne, a Carrboro resident, reminded the Board that their sworn oath of office states that each member would uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent there with. Mr. Horne stated that if the Board implements a gun ban, it would definitely be in conflict with State law.

Melva Okun, a Carrboro resident, voiced support of a gun control ordinance being adopted by the Board. Ms. Okun recalled incidents in which Carrboro led other municipalities in setting legislative precedence and urged the Board to adopt stricter gun control legislation.

Alan Belch, a Carrboro resident, urged the Board to be careful in its efforts to ignore State legislation. Mr. Belch voiced his outrage with the Board for holding this public hearing which, in his opinion, nothing more than a campaign rally. Mr. Belch voiced opposition to the proposed gun ban.

John Kessler, a Carrboro resident and Gun Control Study Committee member, addressed the Board regarding the minority report which does not support the proposed gun ban. Mr. Kessler urged the Board to look closely at the recommendations made by the minority in the executive summary. Mr. Kessler voiced his resentment of the treatment of the proponents of the gun ban during the Gun Control Study Committee deliberations. Mr. Kessler urged the Board to support the existing North Carolina state law.

Hilliard Caldwell, a Carrboro citizen, stated that he would like to see the minority report and urged the Board to postpone action regarding this matter until after the election. Mr. Caldwell stated he had been told that if the gun ban is implemented there would be an increase in the criminal activity of guns being made available.

John Gude, a Carrboro resident, voiced support of stricter gun control legislation.

Alex Zaffron, a Carrboro resident, voiced support for any effective and legally enforceable measures taken by the Board to control the proliferation of handguns. Mr. Zaffron encouraged the Board to be cautious in choosing its legislative battles.

Chris Carlson, a Carrboro resident and Gun Control Study Committee member, voiced support of a ban on possession of all handguns in the Town of Carrboro with the exception of peace officers and the ban on the possession of semi-automatic assault weapons as defined by federal law.

Thomas Banks, a Carrboro residents, voiced opposition of the proposed ban of firearms in Carrboro. Mr. Banks explained that it is a Constitutional and God-given right for citizens to arm themselves for self-protection.

Ashley Stanford, a Carrboro resident, voiced opposition to stricter gun control.

Lisa Price, a Chapel Hill resident and President of North Carolinians for Gun Control, commended the Gun Control Study Committee for its efforts in developing recommendations regarding gun control. Ms. Price urged the Board to pass laws which are stricter than those passed by the State.

Jorie Long, a Chapel Hill resident, voiced opposition to stricter gun control laws. Ms. Long recalled a personal incident of physical assault and voiced support of citizens' right to arm themselves.

Robert Murdaugh, a Chapel Hill resident, voiced opposition to a ban of handguns.

Roderick Long, a Chapel Hill resident, voiced opposition to stricter gun control. Mr. Long stated that a ban of handguns would re-distribute gun power from the law-abiding citizens to the criminals.

Mike Swaim, a Chapel Hill resident, voiced opposition to a ban of handguns. Mr. Swain informed the Board that a ban of handguns in Carrboro would only make Efland a safer town to live in.

David McFarling, a Chapel Hill resident, voiced opposition to a ban or the possession and sell of guns in Carrboro. Mr. McFarling stated that all Board members who support the proposed ban are violating their oath of office; they are not upholding and supporting the laws of the State of North Carolina.

Arthur Finn, a Chapel Hill resident, voiced support of stricter gun control laws. Mr. Finn stated that contrary to popular belief there is no constitutional right for the individual citizen to arm her/himself.

Rebecca Taft, a Chapel Hill resident and Chapel Hill High School student, voiced support of stricter gun control legislation.

David Barnes, Mt. Carmel Church Road resident, stated that gun control legislation seems to be a philosophical debate and urged the Board to carefully write an ordinance which would include practical, enforceable, and applicable laws.

Eric Pratt telephoned his comments of opposition to stricter gun control and Mayor Kinnaird read his comments.

Mayor Kinnaird explained that the Board would deliberate this matter at a later date and thanked the citizens for their input.

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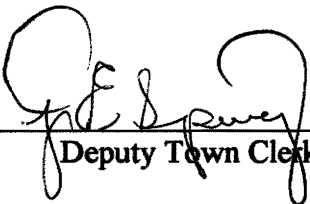
**III. CHAPEL HILL NORTHWEST SMALL AREA PLAN**

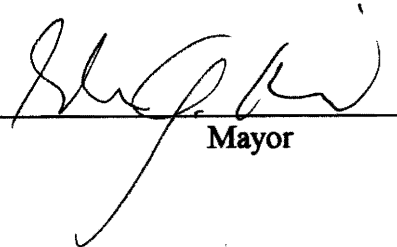
Alderman Jay Bryan volunteered to attend a 5:30 P.M. August 30, 1995 worksession meeting in Chapel Hill regarding the Northwest Small Area Plan.

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MOTION WAS MADE BY JACQUELYN GIST AND SECONDED BY RANDY MARSHALL THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:35 P.M. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL.

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Deputy Town Clerk

  
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Mayor