

Community Support Group Forms

By Laurie Searle. 04/06/08

The old saying "It takes a village to raise a child" can be easily adapted to the city of Chattahoochee Hill Country.

In our case, the child is our new city, which was birthed by the community when it voted on June 19, 2007 to incorporate. And the village? It is the 2,000 plus residents who are committed to supporting the city, protecting its vision, and preserving its heritage.



Mayor announces a Community Support plan

Last month, Mayor Don Hayes announced a Community Support plan to help residents form volunteer groups to support the city. In his plan, he outlined the city's goal and intent, a suggested volunteer structure based on five service areas, and a communications strategy for linking the volunteer groups to the city government.

According to the mayor's plan:

- The city's goal is to identify the support needed and focus volunteers on activities to make our city successful. It is not the intent of the city to manage and control the volunteer groups.
- The volunteer support to the city can be most effective when organized around city operational functions and services. Those five areas are: public safety, environment & public improvement, business & commerce, citizen services, and cultural activities.
- Each group will have a city council representative assigned to facilitate the first meeting, answer questions about the city, and act as a communications liaison back to the city government.

Five volunteer groups are based on city's service areas

The Community Support five volunteer groups and their council liaisons are as follows:

Public Safety - Rodney Peek

Police auxiliary, fire auxiliary, emergency medical support, emergency management, and other public safety activities.

First meeting: April 7, 2008 | 5:30 pm | City Hall

Environment and Public Improvement - David Hanson

Recycling program, adopt-a-mile, clean & beautiful, river & stream clean-up, path and recreation support.

First meeting: March 30, 2008 | 1:00 pm | City Hall

Business and Commerce - Faye Godwin

Assist the City Planning Commission and Board of Zoning with research and planning to facilitate quality growth and development. Assist in programs and activities to attract quality business that will fit with the culture and values of the city. Assist in developing strategies to improve commerce without sacrificing our rural ambience.

First meetings: April 29, 2008 | 7:00 pm | City Hall and May 5, 2008 | 7 pm | City Hall

Citizen Services - Carl Hattaway

Communications with the community, senior citizens programs, education, city celebration and activities such as parades, Christmas programs, holiday decorations, welcome new citizens.

First meeting: March 25, 2008 | 7:00 pm | City Hall

Cultural Activities - John Taylor

Library, arts & recreation, parks and nature programs, area history, community tours.

First meeting: April 15, 2008 | 6:30 pm | City Hall

It's a new day in the city of Chatt Hills

When I attended the first two meetings of the volunteer groups, I came away with a new perspective. I no longer saw neighbors who disagreed over whether or not they should form a new city. I saw neighbors anxious to work together in order to preserve a common vision of preserving our community and heritage. It's a new day in our city of Chatt Hills and I'm proud to be one of the many villagers that will help raise our child. Won't you join us?

To volunteer for a Community Support group, contact the city council liaison or send email to info@chatthills.org.

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