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Meadowmont Approved After 5-Year Debate

In a 6-3 vote, the Town Council decides the proposed development will be a reality.

BY LAURA GODWIN
ASSISTANT CITY EDITOR

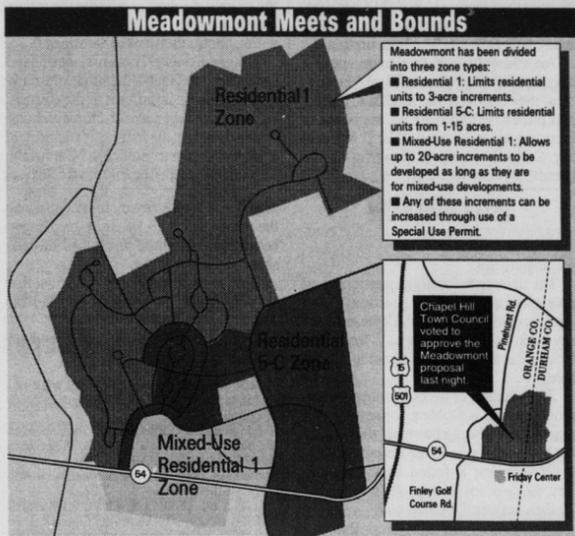
The Chapel Hill Town Council voted Monday night to approve the controversial Meadowmont development proposal, ending five years of public hearings and petitions.

The proposal was contested by some residents of Chapel Hill until the last second. At the start of Monday's meeting, town attorney Ralph Karpinos informed members of the council that a lawsuit had been filed and delivered to the town that afternoon, just a few hours before the beginning of Monday's meeting.

"It is a lawsuit challenging the action that is now under consideration to rezone the property which is the subject of Meadowmont," Karpinos said. Karpinos explained that the lawsuit asked for a temporary restraining order against the town to keep the council from acting on the proposal Monday night.

Karpinos told the council that because he had not received any information stating the court order had been issued, the council was to proceed with their deliberations of the matter.

In his final presentation to the council, Roger Perry of East West Partners, the development team in charge of Meadowmont, changed the direction of Meadowmont Lane and officially offered to donate 16 acres of land to the town for the construction of a new school, rather than the 10 acres he had originally pro-



SOURCE: MEADOWMONT MATERIALS; READERS GUIDE

DTH/CHRIS KIRKMAN AND DANIEL NIBLOCK

posed.

Mayor Ken Broun read a letter by Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Superintendent Neil Pederson calling the donation of the school land "a workable site that can work with careful planning."

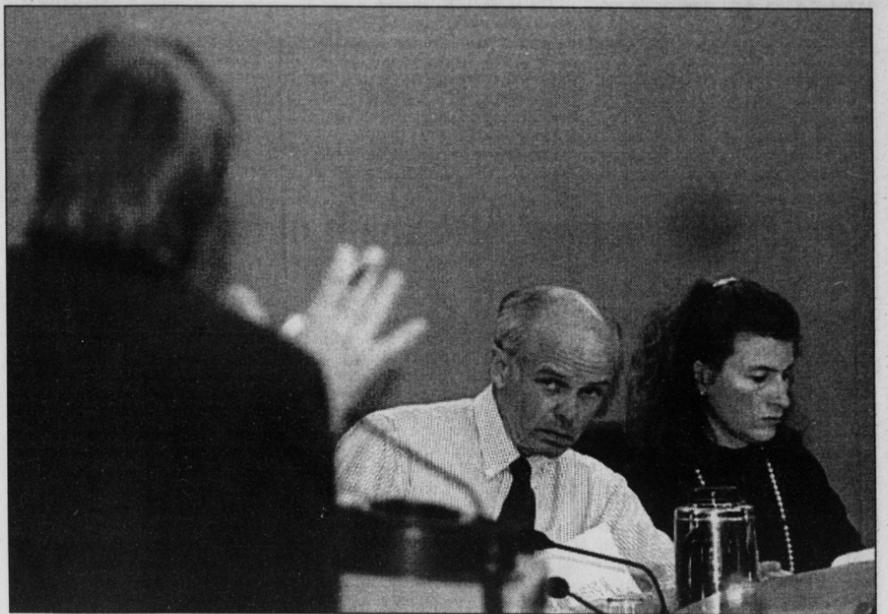
Broun said he thought the proposal, with the changes added by Perry, was a sensible solution.

"In reflection on looking at this, it strikes me that the proposal that is now set up makes sense."

Council member Lee Pavao said the changes made by Perry were more than what the council asked from the developers in the previous meetings.

"We basically asked for this, and he has come back with something that is better than what we asked for," Pavao said.

Council member Joyce Brown cautioned that the connection of Meadowmont to existing areas would not be an easy one. "This is not connecting neighborhoods to neighborhoods, this is connecting major



Chapel Hill Town Council member Joe Capowski listens to an argument from a representative of the development team in charge of the Meadowmont project Monday night at Town Hall. Capowski voted against the measure.

DTH/JOHN WHITE

transit areas to major transit areas," she said.

After the vote, Perry said the council had a lot of courage to approve the plan. Perry also said the revised plan was acceptable to him.

"What they approved tonight is just as satisfactory as what they approved the other night."

Perry said he had never been in a development process that had taken as long as this one has. "We've never been through

any other process that has taken even one-fourth of this time."

The final vote was 6-3 in favor of both rezoning requests, with council members Brown, Joe Capowski and Mark Chilton voting against both rezoning requests.



DTH/MURRAY DAMERON

Tom Wolfe speaks in the Faculty Lounge of Morehead Planetarium on Monday. Wolfe was the speaker for the first Douglass Hunt Lecture.

Novelist Tom Wolfe Describes Decline in American Morals

BY DEAN HAIR
ARTS & DIVERSIONS EDITOR

In a Monday night lecture, author and commentator Tom Wolfe said American political life in the 1990s has shifted its focus to ethics and morality more than ever before.

"Every historical period has its own moral tone, and no matter how much you may want to resist that moral tone, you cannot," Wolfe said. "It is going to influence your life deeply, no matter what your idea may be."

Wolfe delivered the first Douglass Hunt Lecture to more than 100 people, a part of the Carolina Seminars Program, in the Morehead building on Monday evening. Designed as a vehicle to serve the people of North Carolina, the program enables diverse groups to address a broad range of social and scholarly problems.

Recognized as one of the greatest social commentators of modern time, Wolfe presented a lecture commenting on American mass culture titled "Moral Fever in the 90s."

During his lecture, Wolfe spoke of how great a change has occurred regarding morality and ethics in the last century and how it affects people individually. He remarked that politics in the '90s have been focused on ethics and cultural codes rather than the "money fever" of the '80s.

America currently has a "moral fever," which is not necessarily a good or bad thing, Wolfe said. "A fever is just a fever, it's information," Wolfe said. "It doesn't mean things necessarily change."

Wolfe said he believed there was a definite need for improvement in morality in America. "I would not mind seeing morality improve, particularly if you have children," Wolfe said in a press conference held earlier Monday.

"When I was growing up there was a word, co-habitation; this word was a stigma for an unmarried male and female past the age of puberty living together. Now co-habitation is the standard form of American courtship at every level of the population. There used to be a thing called dating; now everyone just hangs out, gathering in a place where there might be some action."

For over two decades Wolfe has chronicled and analyzed American culture, carefully weaving a modern web of social satire in his written works.

His runaway best sellers "The Bonfire of the Vanities" and "The Right Stuff" carefully commented on the politics of New York City and the lives of Mercury astronauts.

Considered by many to be the father of "New Journalism," Wolfe has brought irony and cynicism into his subject matter.

Nicole Quenelle contributed to this story.

Hooker Cancels Brochure on Sex

A proposed pamphlet offering students suggestions on alternatives to intercourse will not be published.

BY JOHN PATTERSON
STAFF WRITER

After an administrative review, Chancellor Michael Hooker announced Monday afternoon that Student Health Service would not publish a brochure called "Outercourse."

SHS's Health Education Section proposed the brochure, "Outercourse (Being Sexual Without Intercourse)," as a means of promoting abstinence. However, Hooker canceled the pamphlet after he deemed it an inappropriate expenditure of student fees.

Chief of Staff Elson Floyd said Hooker made the decision at Monday's Administrative Council meeting. "It was the chancellor's view that student fees should not be used for this brochure," Floyd said. "That (student fees) was clearly a primary concern of Chancellor Hooker."

SHS Director Judith Cowan said "Outercourse" was intended to focus on the growing emphasis on abstinence. "This (brochure) was initiated out of our Health Education Section," Cowan said. "I think what we have become aware of is an increased awareness of students practicing abstinence."

Now was not a good time to produce "Outercourse" because of the publicity the brochure had received said Edith Wiggins, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

"It is going to be real hard at this time to design a booklet or brochure to serve the purpose that it was intended for," Wiggins

said. "It really does call into question whether this is the best use of student fees."

Hooker made the right decision when he chose to cancel the brochure, said William Armfield, chairman of the Board of Trustees. "I applaud the decision by Chancellor Hooker," Armfield said Monday night. "I thought (the brochure) was absolutely ludicrous. When somebody first told me about it, I thought it was a joke."

Armfield said he did not think "Outercourse" would have been popular with the other members of the BOT. "It is difficult for me to believe that any other member of the Board of Trustees would approve of this," he said. "I think the good news is that the chancellor has done what is right."

Cowan said although the proposed brochure had stirred up controversy, it was important to remember that there never was an actual brochure. "I think some

people have registered their displeasure, but there have not been any complaints to us," she said. "If I can stress one thing, it is the fact that there never was a brochure published."

The emphasis of "Outercourse" was directed at those students and members of the University community who needed help making decisions about sexuality, Cowan said.

"I think this is really aimed at something much broader than just the technical question of what abstinence is," Cowan said. "The students need a choice, or a chance, to choose a healthy alternative. Whatever the peer pressure may be, they have the choice to choose."

SHS set up a booth in the Pit last week and asked students to name creative ways to avoid AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Student responses were to form the backbone of the brochure.

INSIDE This Issue

Community Banking: Heineman wants banks to give back to the community. *State & National News, Page 3*

Student Fee Increase: Officials want more money to support the free U-bus and e-mail services. *University News, Page 3*

OIT Week: The University is looking into offering a minor in information technology. *University News, Page 3*

Back to Basics: Leon Johnson led a rejuvenated UNC running attack Saturday against Wake Forest. *Sports, Page 7*

Weather
TODAY: Mostly sunny; high 75.
WEDNESDAY: Mostly sunny; high 70.

Student Protests Open-Container Law in Civil Disobedience Action

BY MARY-KATHRYN CRAFT
STAFF WRITER

After a two-week effort, a UNC graduate student got his wish Friday night: He was cited for possession of an open container.

Jonathan McMurry said he has been trying to receive a citation by using nonalcoholic beverages to prove the town is "wasting its time" pursuing people who are breaking the open-container law.

"There are a number of sympathizers that visit bars that believe that the Chapel Hill Town Council's open-container law is infringing on our civil liberties," he said.

McMurry said he had an Old Milwaukee nonalcoholic beverage in a cup Friday night when he was cited for the violation by University Police officers. McMurry

said there was no case against him because the officer did not taste the beverage.

He filed a harassment complaint against the University Police on Monday, and he plans to file a complaint in Chapel Hill also.

In response to his citation, McMurry has formed an organization called The Sons of Liberty to advocate beer drinkers' rights.

University Police Lt. Angela Carmon said officers are not allowed to sample



JONATHAN McMURRY was cited for an open container, which he says held nonalcoholic beer.

beverages when citing people for violation of the open-container law. "If it was definitely not alcohol, he (McMurry) can say that in court," she said.

McMurry said he intends to force the issue to trial by refusing to cooperate with law enforcement officials and refusing to answer questions about the case.

He said he plans to visit bars to tell people about the open-container law. He said he also plans to make fliers informing people how to launch their own protests.

Carmon said complaints such as the one filed by McMurry are extremely rare. "This is a total random incident," she said. "This is the first time I have heard of this type of complaint."

McMurry said he did drink beer earlier in the evening, but he was not drinking beer at the time of his citation.

Six Jurors Seated in Williamson Trial

BY WENDY GOODMAN
CITY EDITOR

HILLSBOROUGH — The scene in Orange County Superior Court House on Monday was one of intense and strategic moves, as defense and prosecution attorneys carefully selected jurors for the first phase of the trial of double-murder suspect Wendell Williamson.

Six jurors — five females and one male — were seated on the jury at court's adjournment Monday. More than 30 people from the jury pool were questioned and evaluated based on a series of questions from the prosecution and then the defense.

Jury selection for the remaining six jurors

will resume today at 9:30 a.m. with a new jury pool.

Judge Gordon Battle instructed potential jurors at the beginning of the morning that they would not be asked to decide the death penalty in this part of the trial. The first phase of the trial focuses on the mental state of Williamson.

Battle also explained that Williamson had entered a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity to the charges, and the jury would have to reach a verdict concerning the mental state of Williamson based solely on the evidence presented during the course of the trial.

The overriding theme of questioning by both the prosecution and the defense attor-

neys was whether various complications with the trial and the publicity surrounding the trial "would prevent you (the juror) from being fair and impartial."

Orange-Chatham District Attorney Carl Fox began questioning potential jurors about the publicity that has surrounded the Chapel Hill shootings. He asked jurors whether they had formed an opinion of guilt or innocence in the case and whether anything they had read or heard could prevent them from being fair and impartial.

Most members of the jury pool said they had heard of the incident and recalled

See WILLIAMSON, Page 2

Sex is natural, but not if it's done right.

Unknown