



Jacksonville Waterways Commission Lynette Self, Chair

The monthly meeting of the Jacksonville Waterways Commission was called to order on Thursday, November 2, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., in the City Council Chambers, by the Commission's Chair, Council Member Lynette Self.

The minutes for the October 5, 2006 Commission meeting were approved.

Margo Moehring, Division Chief, Strategic Planning, Planning & Development Department, made a presentation on the ownership of the marshes proposed for a Land Use Map Amendment at Atlantic Blvd & the Intracoastal Waterway. At the October 2006 meeting of the Waterways Commission (Old Business), Commissioner Lowe made an inquiry about a land use amendment and application for an Atlantic Boulevard project underway. The property in question was classified as agricultural and the proposed land use amendment application would change the classification to a PUD. Commissioner Lowe wanted to know who owned the property. In response to Commissioner Lowe's inquiry (and subsequent discussion), Margo Moehring provided the Commission with the background on the issue (Resolution 2006-1243). Attorney Paul Harden was at the meeting as the representative of the applicant. Mr. Harden said that the intent of the applicant's project was mixed use of the property, that there would be a residential component and a number of boat slips. There was some question about title to the property and Mr. Harden indicated that the Moody family had the deed for the land, that the family owned the land, though the State has some jurisdiction over a portion of the land. Commissioner Lowe indicated that his concern centered on the wetlands. The Chair proposed that the Commission meet on Monday, December 4, 2006 to discuss and take action on the issue (Resolution 2006-1243). Ms. Valerie Britt voiced her concerns about the issue in comments from the public.

Dr. Gerard Pinto, Jacksonville University, provided the Commission with the monthly update on manatees. Dr. Pinto reported that the number of manatees in the county has dropped. One watercraft-related manatee fatality occurred in the Cedar River on October 19, 2006.

The Waterways Commission discussed the fact that there is an unlit mooring structure in the St. Johns River (downtown) that is considered hazardous to navigation. Commissioner Ed Grey brought this matter to the Commission's attention. Mr. Jeff Galent has been particularly concerned about this unlit structure and remarked on the situation. The obstruction in the river is approximately 500 feet offshore from the Bishop Kenny High School football field. The question is who is/was responsible for the unlit obstruction. JEA? The shipyards? The Chair announced that she would research the matter and report back to the Commission.

Jody McDaniel, Planning/Grants Coordinator, Parks, Recreation, Entertainment and Conservation Department, provided the Commission with the FIND Update.

The floating docks have been installed at Mandarin Park. The permit for dredging at Goodby's Creek has been acquired. Legislation is currently being prepared for FIND project applications for next year. A new FIND Subcommittee was selected:

Commissioner Grey, Chair; Commissioners Copeland, Lamb and Nichols.

Kelley Boree, Deputy Director, Parks, Recreation, Entertainment & Conservation provided the Commission with an update on the Ortega River channel markers.

The Commission heard a presentation and remarks on a proposed "Old Bull Bay" dock in Mandarin. Mr. Tim Hamilton of Environmental Services, Inc. represented the applicant for the new dock. Mr. William Powell, a Mandarin Road resident, spoke in opposition to the proposed new dock.

The Commission voted to recommend **approval** of Ordinance 2006-1095, appropriating \$200,000 from BJP Bond Fund – Dist 1 to contribute equipment and improvements to support an adaptive rowing center at JU. The Commission voted to recommend **approval** of Resolution 2006-1147, supporting a JSO grant application to the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission for Fla Boater Improvement Funds.

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