



# Jacksonville Waterways Commission

## John Crescimbeni, Chair

### FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT (FIND) SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2010

Conference Room A

10:00 a.m.

**Attendance:** Waterways Commissioners Gary Anderson (Chair), Lane T. Burnett, Scott Shine; Captain Jim Suber, Waterways Coordinator; Kristina Nelson, Office of General Counsel; Kelly Boree, Deputy Director, Recreation & Community Development; Jody McDaniel, Planning & Development Department; Mike Mesiano, FIND Commissioner, Duval County; Derek Busby, St. Johns River Water Management District; Scott Wilson, Executive Council Assistant (Redman); John Nooney; Jessica Stephens, Legislative Assistant; John J. Jackson, Council Research Division.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

The Chair opened the meeting by underscoring the importance of public access to the St. Johns River and the County's many other waterways. He noted the Florida Inland Navigation District's (FIND) role in promoting that public access by returning ad valorem taxes collected in the form of matching grants for waterways projects that enhanced public access to waterways.

Mr. Messiano explained the FIND's mission and process. Its mission first and foremost is to keep the IntraCoastal Waterway dredged. Its other mission is to provide grant programs designed to maintain and increase public access to waterways.

Commission Anderson indicated that the purpose of the subcommittee is to make recommendations to the Waterways Commission on priorities in applications for proposed project funding.

Jody McDaniel indicated that we use the boat ramp study of 2002 (subsequently revised) in determining boat ramp priorities in grant applications. She noted that in the grants application process there is a cycle for permitting and a separate contract cycle for project construction.

Ms. McDaniel discussed existing FIND projects underway in the County and their status. Those projects included the boat ramp extension at the Jacksonville Zoo; improvements at the Trout River Bridge; the Bert Maxwell boat ramp; extending ramps at the Dinsmore boat

ramp; and other projects, as well. The proposal to provide 24 lighting for boat ramps was discussed, as well. (It was noted that lighting projects per se are not a high priority for FIND unless that lighting is an integral part of a larger project that entailed public access).

The FIND grants application process entails the subcommittee making recommendations to the Waterways Commission on priorities for proposed waterways projects; the Commission, in turn, makes recommendations to the City Council on applications to FIND for the funding of proposed waterways projects. The Council enacts legislation to formally apply to FIND for funds that the City commits to match. FIND places those proposed projects on their matrix for the purpose of assigning points.

The Subcommittee should recommend to the Waterways Commission that the current priority list of proposed FIND projects should be supported. Those proposed projects include: the Ortega River Mooring Field (design/build), Zoo Dock extension (construction), Trout River Bridge (construction), Northbank Riverwalk renovation (design/build), Southbank Riverwalk renovation (design/build), Half Moon Island (acquisition), lights at a variety of boat ramps (construction), Bert Maxwell boat ramp (design of bulkhead repair and dredge), Disnmore boat ramp (design of ramp extension and parking renovation).

Jody McDaniel will be providing the Subcommittee and the Commission with a more detailed list of proposed projects and more specific numbers in costs.

Mr. John Nooney made observations, particularly urging that more public-private partnerships be sought for waterways projects.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

John J. Jackson, Council Research Division (904) 630-1729

10.08.10

Posted: 5:00 p.m.