



# OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN

## HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 21, 2024  
9:30 – 11:00 AM

### Committee Members

#### PRESENT:

Rev. Kate Moorehead-Carroll  
Christopher Crothers  
Shantel Davis  
Jitan Kuverji  
Jolita Wainwright

Dr. Megan Allyse – Excused  
Isaiah Oliver – Unexcused

Joelle Dillard, OGC

### Liaisons

Asst. Chief J. Ricks, JSO  
Council Member J. Peluso  
Capt. Jen Parramore - Excused

### COJ Staff Support:

Barbara Florio  
Schnell Chin

### Guests Present:

Monique Elton  
Cindy Funkhouser  
Carol Register  
Roslyn Phillips  
Elaine Spencer  
Emanuel Premate  
London Shell  
Chip Harper  
Constance Robinson  
Marcus Harden Givens

Kaylee Jones, COJ  
Joshua Givens  
Ernest Smith  
Iris Jones  
Carla Lopera  
John Wyche  
Mary Staffopoulos  
S. MacGillis  
Joshua Hicks

### **Call Meeting to Order, Welcome**

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 9:34 welcoming members and guests. Quorum was present.

Minutes from October 18, 2024 Board Meeting; October 28, 2024 Special Meeting; and November 7, 2024 Special Meeting were presented for Commission approval. Minutes were moved for vote by Commissioner Moorehead and seconded by Commissioner Crothers. Motion passed: 5-0.

Bylaws were presented by Joelle Dillard, OGC, for review and approval. There was one change to Section 4.7 changing the word 'appoint' to 'designate' Motion for approval of Bylaws was made by Commissioner Crothers and seconded by Commissioner Moorhead. Motion passed: 5-0.



## OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN

Joelle Dillard, OGC, introduced Mary Staffopoulos, OGC. Mary and her team will be replacing Joelle as our Liaison from OGC. Mary has been the person drafting Council bills related to homelessness and interests focused on this issue for City Council.

Chair Davis thanked Joelle for her support of this Commission and her dedication.

Shannon Nazworth, President, CEO of Ability Housing presented approaches and detailed information of the services being provided within the community. Several points were brought forth:

- CASA homes provide housing for those at 60% AMI
- Pilot 2.0 program – in December. Braiding the funding. State funded (Florida Housing) and COJ funds (Federal Funds)
- Anything that works, Ability Housing will try to make it work
- COJ requires pre-development money – acquisition dollars upfront. Florida Housing doesn't do that.
- Renovating old houses is usually more expensive than building new
- Smaller properties not as efficient from financial standpoint
- Affordable housing – the neighborhoods don't want it in their neighborhoods
- Report on Homelessness and Housing Insecurity in Jacksonville is attached to these minutes

Assistant Chief Ricks updated the Commission. JFRD and JSO meeting to continue ironing out policy and procedures. The JFRD training began this week and going well. Since October 1, 309 homeless have been warned. Since 11/1 – 41 contacts with violations. 12 received notice to appear. 29 were arrested. Public Works has been involved and helpful with the cleanup of the streets and areas.

Wooded areas around town are attracting homeless individuals. Citizens are calling with complaints. If the persons calling are the property owners, action can be taken. If not, then no action will be pursued. The person filing the complaint would need to notify the owner of the property and determine their knowledge and proceed from there.

Council Member Peluso met with Council President Randy White regarding the dollars and usage of any increased dollars to HIC. Current budget of \$300,000 can be used to hire a consultant with the 2 options – Direct contract through City Council or through Procurement. There is some discussion beginning to perhaps place Affordable Housing to this Commission

**THE DATE FOR THE NEXT SPECIAL MEETING IS DATE.  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024  
10 AM - NOON**



**OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN**

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**CERTIFICATION**  
**11/21/2024**

**Recorded, Transcribed and Submitted by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Florio, Commission Staff  
Homelessness Initiatives Commission  
Operations Manager, Housing and Community Development

**Approved by:**

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Jitan Kuverji, Secretary