



OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN

NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday August 16, 2023
12:00 pm

Committee Members

PRESENT:

Wayne Wood, Co-Chair
Diallo-Sekou Seabrooks, Co-Chair
Eunice Barnum
James Coggin
David Garfunkel
Bill Hoff
Carla Jones
Michael Kirwan

Tyler Matthews
Jim Robinson

ABSENT:

Garrett Dennis
Leslie Jean-Bart (Zoom)

Guests Present:

Steve Matchett
Tory Johnson, The Ville
Karen Nasrallah, Presenter, OED
Suzanne Pickett, Historic Eastside
Kenny Logsdon, COJ HCDD
Chris Shootes

Ed Randolph, Presenter
Renee Manna, JEA
Jonathan Blackburn

ZOOM Guests Present:

Cynthia Jackson
Shay West, JEA

Shannon Nazworth, Ability Housing
Leslie Jean-Bart, Committee Member

Call Meeting to Order, Welcome

Co-Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm welcoming members and visitors.

Quorum was present.

Presentation from Office of Economic Development. Ed Randolph, Economic Development Officer and Karen Nasrallah, Manager of Office of Economic Development presented information on the mission, objectives, activities, and accomplishments of the OED. Ed provided details of the countywide programs and the renovation grant program including the Northwest Jacksonville Food Desert Programs.

OED is focusing on Mayor Deegan's Economic Development Priorities:

- Small Business Growth
- Permitting
- Talent Development
- Downtown Development
- Infrastructure (CRA's)



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Karen spoke specifically about Community Redevelopment Areas (CRA's). She shared the details of many of the CRA's currently in process and those recently sunset, JIA. The details of these multi-year projects were interesting and very informational. Her presentation provided a better understanding of CRA's, their structure, and their community impact. It is unfortunate that the State has placed a hiatus on creating any further CRA's at this time.

Q - What wishes or needs would OED like to see.

A - Repeal of the state preventing CRA's being created.

Q - Why are there problems with Opportunity Zones?

A - OED has not been engaged with this issue, may change with the new administration.

Q - Why has there been a job growth? What is the source of the job growth?

A - Multiple reasons - new businesses coming into town, migration, financial and tech growth, organic growth, small business growth in their own footprint.

Q - Now that JIA CRA is sunset what happens with any residual funds?

A - Property Appraiser calculates and then it is moved to a General Fund item or to another project.

Q - There has been difficulty with the KingSoutel Crossing CRA. Losing business is the area, not increasing.

A - OED is working with CM Pittman to enhance infrastructure and increasing efforts to grow business in the area through several incentives.

Q - Economic Development objectives. Are you capable of providing the services and advocate for the citizens.

A - OED has partners that we work with and connect citizens with to accomplish their needs. There is small business assistance provided by University of North Florida, Chamber of Commerce, as well as other targeted programs.

Minutes from 8/9/2023 were presented for approval. Moved by Jim Robinson, Seconded by Michael Kirwan, unanimously approved.

Public Comments:

2 Public Comment Cards were presented:

- Christopher Shootes
- Jonathan Blackburn

These comment cards are attached hereto and made a part of these minutes.



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Presentation by Bill Hoff and Wayne Wood regarding Planning, Zoning, and Historic Preservation in Older Neighborhoods.

Designation as a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places creates a recognition of that neighborhood, which builds pride and defines its character. Durkeeville Gardens has been added to the National Register of Historic Places, and Eastside and Downtown were recently added. National Register designation may provide some Federal Tax benefits for the restoration of historic properties, but it does not regulate the modification or demolition of local historic buildings.

The Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission is an appointed body of citizens within COJ's Planning Department that oversees locally-designated landmark buildings and historic districts. Exterior changes, demolitions, and new construction within locally-designated historic districts must be reviewed and approved by this commission. Current locally-designated historic districts are Riverside/Avondale, St. Johns Quarter, and Springfield.

Several older neighborhoods have Zoning Overlays, which provide customized protection for the special character of those neighborhoods. These Zoning Overlays are an important tool to enhance neighborhoods by modifying some of the requirements of usual zoning categories.

FINAL REPORT:

Draft of Final Report was presented by Michael Kirwan. The Subcommittee went through the report, line by line, discussed issues, and voted on changes. The final report was completed and agreed upon. Barbara will create the final draft, distribute to Subcommittee on Thursday for their final review and edits. These edits must be submitted by Thursday end of day. The report will be submitted by Wayne and Diallo of Friday, August 18.

The subcommittee unanimously approved a special commendation for Barbara Florio for her extraordinary service to the transition team, and her efficient assistance played a major role in the subcommittee's success.

Kenny Logsdon's assistance was also recognized. His technical help and perfect attendance at all of the subcommittee's meetings is gratefully appreciated by the members.

The meeting was adjourned.

**This was the LAST meeting of the Neighborhoods Initiatives Subcommittee
of the Mayor's Transition Infrastructure Committee**

**Thank you to each and every member of this Subcommittee for your dedication and
service to this process, the Mayor, and the citizens of our great City.**



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CERTIFICATION

Submitted by:

Barbara Florio

Approved by:

Wayne Wood, Co-Chair
Neighborhoods Subcommittee

PUBLIC COMMENT
Neighborhoods Initiatives Subcommittee

PLEASE PRINT

*Name & Address are required

NAME: Christopher Shootes DATE: _____

ADDRESS: 2311 West 23rd St PHONE: (907) 651-3192

CITY: Jax COUNTY: Duval STATE: FL ZIP: 32209

REPRESENTING: KB's incorporators

SIGNATURE: [Signature] I DO NOT WISH TO SPEAK

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC SUBJECT: How do we address Economic Development
in the measure that is expected to where it isn't
esteemed as complex

SPEAKING TIME IS LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES PER SPEAKER.
NO SPEAKER MAY GIVE OR TRANSFER THEIR TIME TO ANOTHER PERSON.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Neighborhoods Initiatives Subcommittee

PLEASE PRINT

*Name & Address are required

NAME: Jonathan Blackburn DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

CITY: _____ COUNTY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

REPRESENTING: _____

SIGNATURE: [Signature] I DO NOT WISH TO SPEAK

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC SUBJECT: Do you think the State
has or will repackage CRA's as something
else, more restricted or less disclosed

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