

# **City of Jacksonville**

*1st Floor - Council Chamber  
117 W. Duval Street*



## **Meeting Minutes - Twice Amended**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

**9:30 AM**

**Council Chambers 1st Floor, City Hall & Virtual**

## **Jacksonville Waterways Commission**

*CM Al Ferraro, Chair*

*CM Randy White, Vice Chair*

*CM Aaron Bowman - Excused Early Departure*

*CM Terrance Freeman, Alternate*

*Jon Michael Barker*

*Robert Birtalan - Virtual Attendance*

*Lindsey Brock - Excused Absence*

*Lane Burnett*

*State Rep. Cord Byrd - Excused Absence*

*Mark Devereaux - Excused Absence*

*Marc Hardesty*

*Jill D. Haskell*

*Raymond S. Pringle, Jr.*

*Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio*

*Adam Hoyles, Ex-Officio*

*Vonya Balogh & Jessica Smith, Legislative Assistants*

*Susan Grandin, Asst. General Counsel*

*Dr. Quinton White, Jacksonville University*

*Dr. Gerard Pinto, Jacksonville University*

*Richard Distel, Research Assistant*

*Jim Suber, Waterways Coordinator*

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

**RULE 4.505 DISRUPTION OF MEETING**

No member of the audience shall applaud nor make any noise or remarks that are audible to the Committee that would indicate approval or disapproval of anything being discussed. Any disregard of this rule may result in removal by the Sergeant at Arms.

**REQUEST TO SPEAK:**

1. Fill out a speaker card.
2. Sign it if you are going to speak.
3. Read the rules on the back of the card.
4. Place card in tray.

**PARKING:** If you park in the Library Garage (Entry on Duval St, W of Main St), please see the Legislative Assistant for ticket validation.

**Note:** Our next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

**Meeting Convened: 9:33 A.M. Meeting Adjourned: 12:21 P.M.**

**Present** 9 - Commissioner Robert Birtalan, Commissioner Jill Haskell, Commissioner Raymond Pringle, Commissioner Lane Burnett, Commissioner Marc Hardesty, Chair Al Ferraro, Council Member Aaron Bowman, Vice Chair Randy White, and Commissioner Jon Michael Barker

**Excused** 3 - Commissioner Lindsey Brock, Commissioner Cord Byrd, and Commissioner Mark Devereaux

1. **Approval - Jacksonville Waterways Commission Minutes for Wednesday, October 14, 2020.**

**Voice Vote: Approve 8-0**

2. **Approval - Special Jacksonville Waterways Commission Minutes for Wednesday, October 28, 2020.**

**Voice Vote: Approve 8-0**

3. **Approval - FIND Subcommittee of the Jacksonville Waterways Commission Minutes for Monday, November 9, 2020.**

**Voice Vote: Approve 8-0**

---

**4. Approval - Jacksonville Waterways Commission Minutes for December 9, 2020.**

**Voice Vote: Approve 8-0**

**5. St. Johns River Status Report on Water Quality and Manatees - Dr. White & Dr. Pinto**

**Dr. White said that salinity levels are lower than historical norms and the tides have been higher than normal. Dr. White talked about the national news story about a manatee which had the word Trump scraped onto it. He stressed this is a federal offense.**

**Dr. Pinto said that in 2020 there were 9 manatee mortalities and on January 3rd there was the first manatee death of 2021 in the Ortega River. Dr. Pinto said that most of the manatees have left the area due to the cold weather.**

- 6. 2020-598-E ORD Transmitting a Proposed Large Scale Revision to FLUM of the 2030 Comp Plan at 0 U.S. Hwy 301 S. & 0 Normandy Blvd & 0 Maxville Macclenny Hwy, btwn I-10 & Maxville Macclenny Hwy (7002.25± Acres) – AGR-I, AGR-II & AGR-III to MU – 301 Capital Partners, LLC. (Appl# L-5457-20A) (Dist 12-White) (Kelly) (LUZ) (PD & PC Apv) 10/13/20 CO Introduced: LUZ, JWC (added to JWC on 10/12/20)  
10/20/20 LUZ Read 2nd & Rerefer  
10/27/20 CO Read 2nd & Rereferred; LUZ  
11/10/20 CO Meeting Cancelled - No Action  
11/17/20 LUZ Meeting Cancelled-No Action  
11/24/20 CO PH Cont'd 12/8/20  
12/1/20 LUZ PH Amend/Approve 7-0  
12/8/20 CO PH Amend/Approved 17-0  
LUZ PH – 11/17/20 & 12/1/20  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Sec 163.3184(3), F.S. & Chapt 650, Pt 4,  
Ord Code – 11/10/20 & 11/24/20, 12/8/20**

**Ed Lukacovic, Planning Department, went over the large scale and a full-scale land use amendment from the two bills before the commission. Mr. Lukacovic went over the location and the proposal that will amend the area to be mixed-use. There will be a total of 15,000 dwelling units. Mr. Lukacovic detailed the flood zones and went over the drainage path in the location. There was a voice vote for 2020-598. The voice voted passed 9-0.**

- 7. [2020-0608](#) ORD Small-Scale FLUM Amendmnt to 2030 Comp Plan at 3029 New Berlin Rd., btwn New Berlin & Yellow Bluff Rd. (3.14± Acres) – LDR to CGC – Timothy H. Joy & Laurie A. Joy. (Appl# L-5473-20C) (Dist 2-Ferraro) (McDaniel) (LUZ) (PD & PC Apv) (Rezoning 2020-609)
  - 10/13/20 CO Introduced: LUZ, JWC (added to JWC on 10/12/20)
  - 10/20/20 LUZ Read 2nd & Rerefer
  - 10/27/20 CO Read 2nd & Rereferred; LUZ
  - 11/10/20 CO Meeting Cancelled - No Action
  - 11/17/20 LUZ Meeting Cancelled-No Action
  - 11/24/20 CO PH Cont'd 12/8/20
  - 12/8/20 CO PH Cont'd 1/12/21
  - 1/12/21 CO PH Cont'd 1/26/21
  - 1/13/21 JWC Approve 8-0
  - 1/20/21 LUZ PH Approve 6-0
  - LUZ PH – 11/17/20 & 12/1/20, 1/5/21,1/20/21
  - Public Hearing Pursuant to Sec 163.3187, F.S. & Chapt 650, Pt 4, Ord Code – 11/10/20 & 11/24/20, 12/8/20, 1/12/21, 1/26/21

**Ed Lukacovic, Planning Department, went over the small-scale land use amendment and the hearing dates for this project. This is in a low-density residential zone.**

**APPROVE**

**Aye:** 8 - Haskell, Pringle, Burnett, Hardesty, Ferraro, Freeman, White, and Barker

**Excused:** 4 - Brock, Byrd, Devereaux, and Bowman

**8. New Business:**

- **Discussion of Jacksonville University Report on the Manatee Protection Plan - Dr. Pinto**
- **Adaptive Kayak Launch at Ribault - Ray Pringle or CM Pittman**
- **Water Front Projects Under Construction in 2021 - Brian Burket**
- **The 7 Creeks Recreation Area - Brian Burket/Katie Mitura**
- **Storm Water Discharge in the Ortega River - Melissa Long**

**Discussion of Jacksonville University Report on the Manatee Protection Plan - Dr. Pinto**

Dr. Pinto went over the changes in the updated report. Captain Suber said that the Goodbys Creek will change the signage from "slow speed, no wake" to "slow speed, low wake".

**Adaptive Kayak Launch at Ribault - Ray Pringle**

Mr. Pringle detailed the work being done with CM Pittman for the kayak launch. He talked about the conversations done with the Mayor's Office and the Gullah Geechee Nation. Mr. Pringle detailed the education and social initiatives that are being done by the Gullah Geechee Nation. Mr. Pringle talked about the Gullah Geechee Nation's rowing program. Mr. Pringle said that the goal is to work with the Duval County School Board and the Parks Department to build the adaptive kayak launch.

**Waterfront projects Under Construction in 2021 - Brian Burket**

Brian Burket gave a general overview and PowerPoint presentation that covered the expected construction for 2021. Mr. Pringle said that it is a great thing to see several sites with adaptive kayak launches.

**7 Creeks Recreation Area**

This area will encompass and unify the 7 parks under the management of federal, state, city and land trusts that are in the Black Hammock Island Area. The goal for the 7 Creeks Recreation Area is to unify the parks with a seamless experience with signage, trail markings, orientation kiosks and a 235' trail bridge. Katie Matura, Visit Jacksonville, talked about the re-branding that they have done to connect all these parks to give visitors a great experience. Mr. Pringle asked about the accessibility of the park. Mr. Burket said that there is no paving on the long-distance trail system, but there are paved paths to the docks. Mr. Pringle expressed the importance of signs which will clarify the places that are accessible.

---

**Storm Water Discharge in the Ortega River - Melissa Long**

Melissa Long, Chief of Environmental Quality Division, said that enforcement of water discharge issues is overseen by the Department of Environmental Protection.

**9. Old Business:**

- **FIND Subcommittee Recommendations - Brian Burket**
- **Wake Zone Committee  
- Commissioner Haskell**
- **What has been done about the Sandbar Created as a Result of River Dredging? - CM Ferraro**
- **Updates on Shad Creek - CM Ferraro**
- **Ft. George Inlet Dredging Update - Jason Harrah**

**FIND Subcommittee Recommendations – Brian Burket**

Brian Burket, Parks and Recreation, talked about the FIND grants and explained that there are two phases, the design and the construction phase. Mr. Burket detailed the FIND projects that have been highlighted to move forward.

John Nooney asked for the Berkman Plaza Dock to be considered in the FIND projects. Stanley Scott talked about the importance of public participation.

**Wake Zone Committee – Commissioner Haskell**

Ms. Haskell went over the PowerPoint that showed where incidents have happened and said she went on a boat ride where they looked at where wake zone signs could be used. Ms. Haskell said she believes it would be best to concentrate on the Ortega River and is looking to set up a meeting soon for the Wake Zone Committee.

**What has been done about the Sandbar Created as a Result of River Dredging – CM Ferraro**

Jason Harrah, Army Corps of Engineers, gave a short update on the work they have been doing on the study regarding the sandbar. Currently they are creating a list of alternatives.

**Updates on Shad Creek – CM Ferraro**

CM Ferraro said he is looking at expanding the zone of the slow speed area in Shad Creek.

**10. Public Comment**

**Public Comment**

**John Nooney talked about the Berkman Plaza Dock. Stanley Scott talked about the importance of community input in the decision-making process.**

**Jill Enz, Chief of Natural and Marine Resources, talked about the collapsed boat ramp on Beach Boulevard and said that currently they are figuring out the damage and will give the commission an update at the next meeting.**

**11. Adjournment**

**Present** 9 - Commissioner Robert Birtalan, Commissioner Jill Haskell, Commissioner Raymond Pringle, Commissioner Lane Burnett, Commissioner Marc Hardesty, Chair Al Ferraro, Alternate Terrance Freeman, Vice Chair Randy White, and Commissioner Jon Michael Barker

**Excused** 4 - Commissioner Lindsey Brock, Commissioner Cord Byrd, Commissioner Mark Devereaux, and Council Member Aaron Bowman

Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted; but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coj.net.

Minutes: Richard Distel, Council Research Division  
rdistel@coj.net (904) 255-5140  
Posted 1.25.21 2:00 p.m.