



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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Noticed Meeting Council Member Peluso and CM Carlucci RE Parks March 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Location: Henry Cook Room, First Floor of City Hall, 117 West Duval Street

Attendance: Council Member Jimmy Peluso, Council Member Matt Carlucci, Council President Dr. Ron Salem, Director of Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services Daryl Joseph, Executive on Loan to City of Jacksonville Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services - Laura Phillips Edgecombe, DIA Marketing and Public Relations Manager Sheri Webber, President of the Sierra Club Logan Cross, Jessie Ball duPont Fund Director of Placemaking Sondra Fetner, Center for Children's Rights Michayla Posivio, Riverfront Parks Conservancy Board President Barbara Goodman and Board Members Julie Davis, and Nancy Powell, Director of Strategic Initiatives (and liaison to the press) Melissa Ross, Executive Council Assistant Cory Armstrong, Executive Council Assistant Brooks Dame. Additional attendance can be found on the sign in sheet.

Meeting Convened: 10:06 a.m.

Council Member Jimmy Peluso opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. He shared his desire to speak with Council Member Matt Carlucci about parks. Council Member Carlucci shared he attended the City's Community Engagements Meeting on Downtown Jacksonville Public Projects. He confirmed his desire to be involved and to see additional meetings between the stakeholders, including the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA), the Mayor's Office, and the Community.

Executive on Loan to City of Jacksonville Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services - Laura Phillips Edgecombe shared their intention to increase engagement, to bring more neighbors to the table and to bring in neighbors who had not been reached historically for comments on these projects. She noted there were upcoming Open Houses and committed to sharing the finalized dates. The intention would be to build the agenda based on feedback from the community.

Director of Strategic Initiatives (and liaison to the press) Melissa Ross confirmed Mayor Donna Deegan was committed to increasing community awareness and speaking to community stakeholder. Riverfront Parks Conservancy Board Nancy Powell supported more community engagement. Council Member Carlucci inquired about a consultant to do the engagement. Director Joseph confirmed each project has public engagement built into the contract. He shared he would support increased engagement. Council Member Peluso and Council President Salem agreed. Council President Salem asked if community meetings were advertised; Edgecombe confirmed and requested the Council Members boost the invitations using their platforms.

Council Memeber Peluso asked about the Riverfront Parks Conservancy role.



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Director Joseph noted there were several Friends of type agreement in the City, all slightly different with Memorial Park Association, Timucuan Parks Foundation, Friends of Boone Park South, and more. The contracts may designate how these groups contribute to the city, be it through donations, volunteer work, or programming. Director Fetner confirmed DuPont was looking at governing structures, and had engaged the High Line Network. Board President Goodman shared her background with the Golden Gate Parks Association and Conservancy and the current partnership details. She noted the complexity the City's procurement process has added to the Friends Of contact. Council Members asked for a chart to show how the Conservancy, DIA, Parks, and the City was working together. Ms. Phillips confirmed. Ms. Webber added that this collaboration works due to the passion of these groups working in tandem. Ms. Webber and Ms. Phillips committed to increased early communications to the public.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:55 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Brooks Dame, Executive Council Assistant to Council Member Jimmy Peluso. The following items were submitted for public record and can be accessed by contacting the Legislative Services:

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03252024 Sign In Noticed Meeting Council Member Peluso and CM Carlucci RE Parks

cc: Council Members and Staff
Margaret "Peggy" Sidman, Director/Council Secretary
Merriane Lahmeur, Chief, Legislative Services
Yvonne Mitchell, Chief, Administrative Services Division
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