June 25, 2013

5:00 p.m.

**Meeting Minutes for the June 20, 2013 Metro and Urban Parks Ad Hoc Committee**

**Topic:** Subcommittee report on sound abatement in Metropolitan Park.

**Location:** City Council Conference Room A, 4th Floor City Hall.

**In Attendance:** CM Bill Gulliford, CM E. Denise Lee, Steve Pace, EQD; Peggy Sidman, OGC; Paige Johnston, OGC; Janice Billy, CAO; Kelley Boree, Parks & Recreation; Mike Yokan, Promoter; Ginny Myrick, St. Nicholas Neighborhood; Tonisha Gaines, COJ Special Events; James Richardson, COJ- EPB; and Dan Macdonald, ECA District 8.

CM Dr. Johnny Gaffney and CM Lori Boyer had excused absences.

CM Don Redman did not attend due to funeral.

The meeting was convened by CM Lee at 10:25 a.m.

Due to a lack of a quorum, no vote was taken to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2013 meeting.

CM Gulliford presented the results of the Metropolitan Park Improvements subcommittee. (Document and amended document included).

He added that he suggested that a carousel be installed as an attraction as soon as possible to help produce revenue for the park and increase traffic in Metropolitan Park.

CM Lee asked Ms. Boree if the 2009/10 Conceptual Park Plan incorporated all current codes. Ms. Boree explained that the plan is conceptual in nature. When an engineering plan is developed, it will follow all of the latest municipal code.

Mr. Pace was asked to comment on the subcommittee recommendations. He said that he is researching the effectiveness and costs of an electro-acoustical street sound system. As for recommendation #2, he said that sound attenuation devices are good at clocking our high frequency noise but they are not as effective on the lower frequency bass sounds.

CM Lee asked who would be responsible for purchasing such devices. CM Gulliford said that those promoters bringing in their own staging would need to supply the approved attenuation devices. However, the city would install the devices on a permanent pavilion structure.

Mr. Yokan said that St. Augustine is installing such devices in an outdoor movie theater and he has asked to get information about the cost and practicality of the devices.

CM Lee addressed the portion concerning WJCT moving from Metropolitan Park.

Cm Gulliford said the relocation of the park is part of the conceptual plan but that it may be too cost prohibitive to consider at this time.

Ms. Myrick asked about how low frequency sounds would be abated. CM Gulliford said that the electro-acoustic speakers would dampen those frequencies.

Ms. Lee asked about dressing rooms and other amenities that promoters had discussed during earlier meetings. Ms. Boree said that these issues could become part of the plan.

Ms. Boree asked about the existing pavilion. Is the stage going to be raised? Will it be moved? CM Lee asked MS. Boree to study what will be most cost effective and still address sound problems.

Due to increased duties as incoming Council President, CM Gulliford offered his resignation from this committee. CM Lee asked him to stay on. He withdrew his resignation

CM Gulliford again addressed his request to look into installing a carousel. He said that since the dismantling of Kids’ Kampus (sic) the traffic at the Fire Museum has dropped dramatically. CM Lee would like to see Visit Jacksonville and the Tourist Development Counsel and other such groups to include more family-friendly attractions in brochures.

Ms. Myrick encouraged CM Gulliford to meet with Jaguars owner Shad Kahn to find out what role Metropolitan Park will play in his plans to develop the Shipyard Property. MS. Lee hoped that Mr. Kahn would make Metropolitan Park a part of his plans and help enhance the park along the way.

Mr. Yokan likes the carousel idea, but as a promoter said he would be unable to control noise and profanity that might be heard by children if the carousel was open during concerts. CM Gulliford said he had not problems closing it during such events.

No date was set for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Minutes compiled by Dan Macdonald, ECA District 8.

Included:

Minutes

Attendance Sheet

Meeting Notice

Excused absence request

Agenda

Subcommittee report and Amended report

Audio CD of meeting