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|  | **OFFICE OF THE** **CITY COUNCIL** |  |
| **E. DENISE LEE** |  | SUITE 425, CITY HALL |
| COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 8 |  | 117 WEST DUVAL STREET |
| OFFICE (904) 630-1385 |  | JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202 |
| FAX (904) 630-2906 |  | E-MAIL: EDLEE@COJ.NET |

**NEIGHBORHOOD BLIGHT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES for March 20, 2014**

March 25, 2014

5 p.m.

**Location:** Don Davis Room, City Hall, 117 West Duval Street.

**In Attendance:** Chair CM E. Denise Lee, CM John Crescimbeni, CM Jim Love, Dr. CM Johnny Gaffney, Jeff Foster, Solid Waste; Kelley Boree, Parks & Recreation Director; Paige Johnston, General Counsel Office; Sgt. David Oliver, JSO; Karen Bowling, Mayor’s Office; Daphne Colbert, Mayor’s Office; Robert Prado, MCC; Aleizha Batson, PIO; Jim Robinson, Public Works; Lin White, Public Works; Calvin Burney, Planning Director; Bryan Mosier, MCCD; Dave McDaniel, Public Works; Sherry Wilson, Parks & Recreation; Luis Flores, Public Buildings; Aleizha Batson, Public Affairs Office, Kirk Sherman, CAO; Kenny Logsdon, Planning; Eric Fuller, COJ SWD; Tim Pugh, JEA; Insook Wallace, ITD; Alex Pellom, EPD; Rupal Wells, ECA District 9, Lisa Darnall, JTA; John Shellhorn, Environmental Quality, Ann Hicks, Stephens Advertising, Jessie Spradley, Northeast Florida Builders’ Association; and Dan Macdonald, ECA District 8.

CM Bill Bishop had an excused absence.

The meeting convened at 10:05 a.m. and the minutes from the March 6, 2014 meeting were approved 4-0.

Eric Fuller and Jeff Foster of Solid waste gave a PowerPoint presentation describing the details of how the April 5 Tire Buyback would work and its contingencies. (See Attachment.)

CM John Crescimbeni asked if there are any contingencies in place in the event that money runs out before the 2 p.m. deadline. The council member said that if the council doesn’t have the authority to issue IOUs, maybe emergency legislation will need to be drafted.

CM Jim Love hoped that commercial tire haulers don’t use this as an opportunity to empty their inventory of unusable tires. CM Lee asked for a list of the tire companies that have been contacted by JSO. Mr. Foster said that there will be no payment for legal real estate and builder signs. The signs will be kept and efforts will be made to return such signs to the companies.

Insook Wallace and Daphne Colbert gave a demonstration of the neighborhood organization database. Several spreadsheets have been combined into this one, searchable database. It was expressed that the key will be to keep the database updated. Karen Bowling asked about accessing it. The database is in the beta stage at this point. It is not going to be made available until it receives committee approval and guidelines are created to establish the parameters of its use. Ms. Bowling wanted to make sure that it has a read only access. CM Lee asked Ms. Bowling to come up with usage guidelines and establish who will have access to the database.

Ms. Colbert showed the committee the new Neighborhood information form. Only minor suggestions were proffered.

CM Crescimbeni provided information about St. Petersburg’s robocall system. Each cited illegal sign earns a call. (i.e. If a business has 10 illegal signs, it will receive 10 calls.) The council member provided that city’s script and CM Love said that only a few minor changes to make it Jacksonville specific. Paige Johnston said that the fees would have to reflect the Jacksonville ordinance. CM Lee asked the recorded script be read by someone with an authoritative voice. She assigned Ms. Johnston and Ms. Bowling to draft a script. CM Love wants to hear the message before it is used.

Lisa Darnall of the JTA distributed the new bus stop form drivers will use to report blight and needed maintenance. Posters that will be displayed in driver break rooms were also discussed. Edits were discussed. This form and the importance of spotting blight will be part of the quarterly mandatory safety training. Trash cans have been ordered for 115 bus stops and it is expected to be six-weeks before they are delivered and installation can begin. CM Lee discussed the problem of loitering at bus stops and how they serve as spots for illegal drug transactions.

CM Warren Jones joined the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Daphne Colbert gave an update on publicizing the Tire Buyback event. The video PSA has been shot. She also released the media schedule for radio and television interviews. Angela Spears of the Mayor’s Office is handling most of these interviews. It was suggested that members of the committee be made available when possible.

CM Crescimbeni left the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

CM Lee wanted to know where the fliers are being distributed and made available for the public. Other areas around the city were suggested.

Due to the lateness of the meeting, new business items will be moved to the April 3 agenda. They include: regulating illegal carwashes by involving the environment department, an update on the Public Works short-, medium- and long-term goals and a report on the status of hiring new positions in the Mowing division.

During public comment Jessie Spradley and Ann Hicks expressed their concern about legal realtor and builder signs becoming part of the snipe sign sweep. They thanked the committee for making the effort to return any signs that are turned in and for remembering to mention the legal signs in the literature and upcoming media interviews. Ms. Bowling will work with the two to see what more can be done to keep the signs out of the sweep.

The meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Minutes packet includes: Meeting Notice, Minutes, Sign-in Sheet, PowerPoint Presentation, sample bus form and audio CD of meeting.