

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

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**STAND UP FOR YOUR NEIGHBORBOODS**

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**December 3, 2014**

**10:00 a.m.**

**City Hall**

**117 W. Duval St., 1st Floor**

**Lynwood Roberts Room**

**Attendance:** Council Members Denise Lee (Chair), John Crescimbeni, Warren Jones, Jim Love

**Excused:** Council Members Greg Anderson, Bill Bishop, Bill Gulliford

**Also**: Karen Bowling – Mayor’s Office; Chief Pat Ivey – Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office; Kimberly Scott –Regulatory Compliance; Robert Campbell – Council Auditor’s Office;Elaine Spencer – Housing & Community Development; Paige Johnston and Cherry Shaw – Office of General Counsel Office; Jim Robinson – Public Works; Jeff Foster – Solid Waste; Robert Prado – Municipal Code Compliance; Dan Macdonald – ECA; Yvonne P. Mitchell – Council Research Division

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

Council Member Lee called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. The meeting began with introductions from the committee and attendees. It was announced that anyone parked in the Library Parking Garage could have ticket validated at the end of the meeting.

**Minutes**

Motion/2nd move to approve October 29th meeting – Crescimbeni/Love (4-0)

Motion/2nd move to approve November 13th meeting – Crescimbeni/Love (4-0)

**Vacant Residential Property Registry – Steve Durden & Elaine Spencer**

Mr. Durden explained the logistics for the fiscal operations of the program. He clarified that the registry is a listing of foreclosed residential properties only. He commented that vendors have been paid; however, the remaining balance has not be utilized pending resolution of the litigation with the Chicago lawsuit. The committee was provided folders pertaining November registrations along with sample registration letters. The registry was created in 2010. Since that time, the total collected to date is $2,708.756.00 which equates to 36,110 registrations. Currently, there are 2300 properties in noncompliance. The

Ms. Spencer will forward the committee a chart displaying the number of registrations and amount collected per month immediately after this meeting.

There was extensive discussion regarding past expenditures, application process, legislative enforcement, and the $1,622,104.00 remaining in the registry. Bidding for the vendor is up in March 2015. The Housing and Community Development Division has received $425,000.00 for foreclosure mitigation and intervention programs. In response to the various questions about funds spent, the committee requested detailed reports from Ms. Spencer, Mr. Campbell and Ms. Johnston at the next meeting. The

**Garbage Collections and Illegal Dumping Penalties Written Report – Jeff Foster**

Mr. Foster provided the committee a copy of Solid Waste Division’s written procedures for identification and resolution regarding illegal dumping. The review highlighted notifications and penalties for not reporting for contract haulers and COJ employees. The process has been improved to increase accountability of service workers to the community.

**Palm Terrance Apartments – Rosalynn Crymes**

Ms. Crymes is the property manager at Palm Terrace. She reported her staff and residents are committed to changing the perception of the complex. Palm Terrace has partnered with JSO in the crime free program along with developing a tenant association. She commented that the complex is cleaned every day; however, the land directly across the street at 36th & Moncrief is not being maintained. The property belongs to the COJ. Ms. Crymes requested service to the lawn and new programs for the youth at Clanzel Brown Center.

**Items for Next Agenda**

Chief Ivey

Vacant Residential Property Registry

* Ms. Spencer – provide detailed information about application process since 2010 to include copies of applications (requested immediately); research possible uses for funds; address how Housing & Community Development Division received funding
* Mr. Campbell – provide financial report on amount received and owed on all applicants
* Ms. Johnston – draft legislation to amend ordinance to add appropriate language and criteria
* JALA – provide percentage of citizens’ homes save through funding

Unsafe Structures (CM Jones & Cherry Shaw)

45th Street & Avenue B (Folks Huxford)

**Public Comment**

Ms. O’Rourke requested to present to the committee prior to the Unsafe Structures report at the next meeting.

Ms. Gregory shared her concerns about titles used to describe people.

Ms. Thomas expressed her concern that CM Gaffney’s campaign signs are illegally placed throughout Arlington.

Ms. Alston-Toures requested an opportunity to present to the committee.

Ms. Brooks thanked several people for their assistance and helping her with issues in the neighborhood.

Mr. Johnson reported he received a $400 bill for cutting a ditch owned by the City. He was told it was being corrected. However, he wanted to go on record with his council person regarding the bill.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

The next meeting will be held December 10th.

Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research Division (904) 630-1679

Posted 12.5.14 5:00p.m.