

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LORI N. BOYER**Vice PresidentCouncil Member, District 5Office (904) 630-1382Fax (904) 630-2906E-Mail: lboyer@coj.net  |  | 117 West Duval StreetCity Hall, Suite 425Jacksonville, FL 32202TDD: (904) 630-1580 |
|
|
| **OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL** |
|
|

**Meeting Minutes for Council Members Lori N. Boyer & Bill Gulliford**

**Monday, August 24, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Topic:** The meeting was held to discuss property donations – ordinance 2015-519

**Location:** Conference Room A, 4th Floor, 117 West Duval St., City Hall, Jacksonville, FL

**City Attendees**: Council Members Lori Boyer, Bill Gulliford, Caleena Shirley (HCDD), Dayatra Coles (HCDD), Bryan Mosier (RCD) Robert Campbell (CAO), Sandra Stockwell (OGC), Latanya Peterson (Office of the Mayor), Kerri Stewart (Office of the Mayor), Paige Johnston (OGC), John Jones (Real Estate) and Nicole Spradley (ECA – District 5).

**Meeting Convened:** 1:01 p.m.

Council Vice President Lori Boyer opened the meeting and introductions were made. Council Vice President Boyer explained that everyone is here today to discuss property donation as it relates to ordinance 2015-519.

Council Vice President Boyer discussed the two criteria for property donation, which include 1. property type and 2. recipient type. She had concerns about the matrix scoring process and questioned if affordable housing was the end goal since the recipient type was held at a higher priority.

Caleena Shirley discussed the HUD standards that the Housing & Neighborhoods Department uses to define affordable housing.

Caleena Shirley agreed with Council Member Gulliford that the only incentive for a for-profit would be federal subsidy for a rental property.

Council Vice President Boyer questioned whether the end goal was affordable housing or homeownership.

Council Member Gulliford and Council Vice President Boyer were both in support of anyone that would put a homeowner in the home.

Kerri Stewart stated that the non-profits offer programs that support affordable housing and are proactive in finding the right homeowner that can afford the property and maintain the property long term.

Council Member Gulliford stated that education is critical for the homeowner and discussed issues that Beaches Habitat and Habijax have experienced with its properties in recent years.

Caleena Shirley explained that the goal is to create a policy that is transparent with clear priorities and preference for non-profits. The current policy does not specify the property has to be used for affordable housing, but the ordinance does.

Council Vice President Boyer expressed concerns that the current policy does not state that the end result has to be affordable housing or homeownership and that the City repeatedly selects groups that have previously been approved to receive property donations and overlooks new candidates.

Caleena Shirley explained that the Department has learned from the failed opportunities in the past and has created a more engaging process to access recipients for eligibility to ensure that these entities are thoroughly being vetted prior to the City donating the property to them.

Council Vice President Boyer discussed the revised draft policy dated August 17th and expressed that the policy needs clarification, a revised point system and does not mention rental properties.

The group discussed City surplus land, the policy requiring City Council to sign off on surplus land and the District Council member approving the recipient of the property.

Council Vice President Boyer led a discussion on non-buildable lots and adjacent property owners. She expressed concerns about the criteria and would like to see these properties removed from the City tax rolls as quickly as possible.

Caleena Shirley will revise the policy and will email everyone a copy by Thursday. The revised policy will be taken up by the NICE Committee.

Council Member Boyer ended the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:55 p.m.

**Minutes:** Minutes completed by Nicole Spradley, ECA District 5, on Wednesday, August 26, 2015

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl Brown, Director/CouncilSecretary

Dana Farris, Chief, Legislative Services Division

CITYC & COJ.NET

Media