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|  | **OFFICE OF THE**  **CITY COUNCIL** |  |
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**SPECIAL AD HOC COMMITTEE ON JACKSONVILLE’S**

**NEIGHBORBOOD IMPROVEMENT AND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**November 30, 2015**

**4:00 p.m.**

**City Hall**

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

**Council Chambers**

**Attendance:** Council Members Garrett Dennis (Chair), Al Ferraro, Bill Gulliford and Joyce Morgan

**Excused**: John Crescimbeni and Tommy Hazouri

**Also**: Paige Johnston – General Counsel’s Office; Robert Campbell – Council Auditor’s Office; Alli Korman Shelton and E. Denise Lee – Mayor’s Office; Crystal Shemwell - Legislative Services Division; Yvonne P. Mitchell – Council Research Division

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

Council Member Dennis called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. The meeting began with introductions of committee.

**Donation of Properties/Agreement**

Mr. Joe Namey provided a brief summary regarding the City’s process of acquiring donated properties. Most properties are acquired through tax reversion. Parcels not purchased from the lands available list within a three year period is automatically transferred to the City’s inventory. Currently, there are approximately 530 parcels in the City’s inventory. City properties cannot be purchased until it has been declared surplus. Once a property reverts to City ownership liens are removed. The committee reviewed a list of donated parcels. There was discussion between committee members regarding shifting the goal to the issue with properties and addressing a large scale resolution to offering affordable housing.

Assignments:

Director Lee – will meet with CM Dennis prior to the next meeting to review previous notes from the former blight committee regarding land banking, donated properties and other related topics.

Committee – will begin to establish clear goals for next several months

Public Comment

Mary McPherson presented her business proposal to assist the City with selling properties in District 9.

Bishop Johnson commented that additional funding was needed to accompany many of the donated properties to assist CDCs and other non-profits with development. Additionally, he suggested a plan or process be implemented that would transcend through the transitioning administrations.

Reggie Fullwood briefly explained the challenges with development and the gaps between construction and appraisal along with the importance of putting families in revitalized areas for growth of the neighborhood.

Greg Jones presented an idea of partnership with a for-profit company that could produce modular homes through a factory system.

**2015-519**

Ms. Hodges shared the bill is still in revision and should ready for presentation to the committee at the next meeting. She explained that the Council is required to compile an affordable housing inventory list every three years. This list has to be declared as surplus and designate which properties are to be utilized for affordable housing. The entire Council has to declare the list for surplus and authorize the administration to move forward with process of selling or donating properties. This action is a state requirement and eliminates the old process of properties being held from sell in Council districts. CM Dennis requested a draft of bill as soon as possible. Ms. Korman Shelton stated draft should be available for distribution by next Monday.

**Public Comment**

Carnell Oliver expressed his support of the modular homes concept as a means to revitalize neighborhoods.

Next meeting will be January 4, 2016 in the Lynwood Roberts room. There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research Division

Posted 12.03.15 11:00a.m.