

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

**Meeting Minutes for Council President Lori N. Boyer & Standing Committee Chairs**

**Friday, July 8, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Topic:** The meeting was held to discuss committee process for the coming year, special committees/workshops, Council rules and mechanics of agenda management.

**Location:** The meeting was moved to Conference Room A, 4th Floor, 117 West Duval St., City Hall, Jacksonville, FL, to accommodate everyone in attendance

**City Attendees**: Council President Lori Boyer, Council Vice President Crescimbeni, Council Members Ferraro, Council Member Gaffney, Council Member Wilson, Peggy Sidman ( OGC), Kim Taylor (CAO), Ali Korman Shelton (Mayor’s office), Laura Stagner (HCDD), Diana Seydlorsky (HCDD), Julie Ann Rivera (HCDD), Phillip Peterson (CAO), Philip Zamarron(Legislative Services), Yvonne Mitchell (Council Research), Belinda Peeples (Mayor’s Office), Cheryl Brown (Legislative Services), Carol Owens (Legislative Services), Sirretta Williams (ECA District 7), Nicole Spradley (ECA District 5), and Katie Schoettler (ECA District 4).

Please see the attached sign in sheet for a complete list of attendees.

**Meeting Convened:** 10:03 a.m.

Council President Lori Boyer thanked everyone for attending the meeting and introductions were made.

Council President Boyer called this meeting to discuss the Committee meeting schedule and procedures, as well as the role of the Chair and Vice Chairs. She explained that the Committee Agenda meetings will be held in the Lynwood Roberts Room since it provides more room and better security and Special Committees will be on Wednesday afternoons. A memo from Council President Boyer’s office will go out on Friday with this information.

Council President Boyer explained that per the Code, Special Committees take priority over Standing Committees. All Standing Committees will have a hard start and stop time and Special Committee meetings will begin immediately following each Standing Committee meeting. This will allow the Council to prioritize its focus and have the opportunity to look at more than just the legislation that has been filed.

Council President Boyer led a discussion on meeting agenda’s. She explained that Committee Chairs are able to table an agenda item until the end of the meeting if a lengthy debate will take place. The goal is to accomplish as much as possible during the meeting without stifling the debate process.

Peggy Sidman explained that the Committee Chair can make a motion to table a bill if there are no motions on the bill.

Council Member Gaffney inquired about the deferral process.

Council President Boyer asked that deferral requests be submitted prior to the Committee meeting so that the Chair has time to reach out to parties on both sides of the bill before agreeing to the deferral.

Cheryl Brown mentioned that Council Members will receive a copy of the marked agenda on Friday at noon; therefore all deferrals need to be submitted early.

Council President Boyer mentioned that the marked agenda will include the name of the individual requesting the deferral and that an agenda is not confirmed until the agenda meeting. Council President Boyer’s office will send out a memo regarding the deferral process.

Ali Korman Shelton will meet with Department Heads on Friday’s to discuss bill deferrals.

Council President Boyer explained that the Committee schedule has changed, but that does not mean that a bill needs to be deferred in all Committee meetings. The goal is to allow everyone a chance to voice opinions and concerns.

Council Member Ferraro had concerns about bill presentations not being held in all Committees.

Council President Boyer said, as Chair, I would ask the Committee Members if they have seen the bill presentation, if the entire Committee has not, then the bill will not move forward without the presentation.

Council President Boyer’s Office will distribute a description of the new Committees.

Council President Boyer said that Peggy Sidman and Paige Johnston are available to assist with questions about Robert’s Rule during the meetings.

Council President Boyer recently reviewed a tape on Sunshine Law and believed that public comment would need to be offered at Committee Meetings.

Peggy Sidman disagreed with Council President Boyer’s interpretation of the law and will meet with Council President Boyer to discuss this further.

Council Member Ferraro expressed concerns about large groups of people coming up to the podium during public comment. Council President Boyer is addressing this issue with JSO and Peggy Sidman.

Council President Boyer said that if someone spoke during public comment at a Committee meeting then they can’t speak again on that bill at the Council Meeting.

Council Vice President Crescimbeni recommended reading the agenda at the beginning of the Committee meeting in case changes were made after the agenda meeting.

Council Member Wilson expressed concerns about not having enough time during the Committee meetings for public comment.

Council President Boyer will discuss the public comment issue with OGC.

Peggy Sidman offered to teach Committee Chairs how to use the equipment in the Council Chambers.

Council President Boyer led a discussion on unusual motions that Council Chairs may encounter.

Cheryl Brown wants Legislative Services to read the script about lobbyists at the beginning of meetings.

Council President Boyer said that registered lobbyists will be a topic during one of the upcoming lunch and learns.

Council Member Wilson suggested a recording be played at the beginning of meetings mentioning that lobbyists need to register with the City.

Cheryl Brown agreed with Council Member Wilson that this could be done and she would include a message about filling out speaker cards as well.

Council President Boyer has a list of topics for the Special Committees to address and will be sending it out next week. She explained that experts will give presentations during the Special Committee meetings which will help Council Members create policies.

Council President Boyer shared some of her ideas for the TEU Special Committee and recommended that Chairs delegate the responsibility of finding guest speakers to the Vice Chairs.

Cheryl Brown offered to assist with scheduling guest speakers.

Carol Owens said that a list of current bill committee assignments will be published city wide.

Council President Boyer read her list of ideas for the NCIS Special Committee and recommended taking up the foreclosure list first if the housing funding bill is not time sensitive.

Council President Boyer mentioned that a notice will go out about the Special Committee on Hemming Park.

Council Member Wilson volunteered to serve on the Special Committee on Hemming Park.

Carol Owens will send out information regarding Committees.

Cheryl Brown was informed that the equipment in the Chamber was not functioning so the group could not use it today.

Council Vice President Crescimbeni recommended prioritizing the list of ideas for each Special Committee and adding the Charge to the Committee agenda.

Council President Boyer said she already prioritized the lists and that she will provide a Charge at the first Council meeting.

Council Member Wilson recommended posting the Charge on the TV screens in the Chamber.

Council President Boyer mentioned that the featured Council District presentations will begin in August.

Council President Boyer ended the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:44 a.m.

**Minutes:** Minutes completed by Nicole Spradley, ECA District 5, on Friday, July 8, 2016

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl Brown, Director/CouncilSecretary

Carol Owens, Interim Chief, Legislative Services Division

CITYC & COJ.NET

Media