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| **OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL** |
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**Meeting Minutes for Council President Lori N. Boyer hosts Waterway-Waterfront Activation Meeting**

**Thursday, November 3, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.**

**Topic:** The meeting was held to discuss goals, implementation strategies, and opportunities for activation of all of our City’s rivers, tributaries, the Intracoastal Waterway and Beaches.

**Location:** Lynwood Roberts Room, 1st Floor, 117 West Duval St., City Hall, Jacksonville, FL

**Attendees**: Council President Lori Boyer, Council Member Aaron Bowman and Council Member Jim Love

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

**Meeting Convened:** 3:35 p.m.

Prior to the start of the meeting, the following video was playing on the screen: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/33860009/Jacksonville_Heritage_River_Gateway_ver02.mp4>

Council President Lori Boyer opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She discussed the importance of the river and waterways and the opportunity to make our natural assets our greatest community asset. She pointed out the various maps and plans displayed around the room and how they contain a consistent message. She explained that the purpose of the meeting is to begin the process of envisioning, coordinating, building and discussing the next action steps.

The following individuals provided a brief update on projects in progress:

1. Maritime management plan – Margo Moehring, NEFRC

Margo Moehring introduced members of the management plan team and discussed goals, accusations and developing plans/proposals. She showed meeting attendees the [www.jaxboatplan.com](http://www.jaxboatplan.com) website which includes a survey and an app for mobile devises. The next Maritime Management meeting will be held on December 6th from 6pm-8pm at South Beach Park in Jacksonville Beach. The Maritime Management plan is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2017.

Council President Boyer discussed the maritime maps produced by JU for the maritime management group. She pointed out that the base maps should be completed by January 2017. These maps can be found at: <https://jugis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=8bf1231a83d5466cb0bf880fbe83f75c>.

1. Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services City of Jacksonville – Bob Skalitzky and Brian Burket

Bob Skalitzky thanked everyone for attending the meeting and explained that the City is working on water related projects. Brian Burket provided an update on the following projects:

Downtown

* Exchange Club Island dock and picnic shelters
* Northbank Riverwalk reroute @ Gefen Park
* Metro Park Marina docks and dredge
* School Board kayak launch
* Hogan’s Creek Greenway/Emerald Necklace

Arlington

* Blue Cypress/Arlington Lions Club boardwalk extension
* Pottsburg Creek dredge

ICW/Beaches

* Sisters Creek BR lighting and docks
* Mike McCue/ICW BR lighting
* Joe Carlucci BR docks
* Mayport BR docks and ramp expansion

Mandarin

* County Dock ramp replacement, parking improvements & navigational hazard removal
* Mandarin Park kayak launch

Northside

* Half Moon Island boat ramp and park development
* Timucuan Trail
* Cedar Point pedestrian trail bridge
* Bethesda Park kayak launch

Northwest

* Northshore Park kayak launch
* Charles Reese Park fishing pier and kayak launch

Westside

* Wayne B. Stevens BR docks
* Tillie Fowler kayak launch

1. Downtown Investment Authority – Aundra Wallace

Aundra Wallace provided a DIA update and discussed four initiatives they are working on which include:

1. Riverfront design standards – which will be released in December
2. Southbank parking – 7-9 parking lots for public parking
3. Possible water taxi stop at 245 Riverside Ave
4. Possible kayak launch site at the YMCA Riverside location

Council President Boyer mentioned the following downtown initiatives:

1. RFP’s
2. Signage along the Riverfront
3. Riverfront at the Florida Times Union building
4. Liberty Street RFP – responses should be received by September 2017
5. Southbank parking and water taxi access
6. Timucuan Preserve and other preserve areas – Mark Middlebrook

Mark Middlebrook provided a brief history about the Timucuan Preserve. He is working with the Timucuan Parks Foundation to map out a trail system which includes water trails to link all of the properties together. He hopes to have this completed by the 1st of the year. He is also working to reconnect with the Federal, State and City governments to accomplish goals. He mentioned that structures already exist to provide a tour by water; they just need someone to provide the service.

1. Beaches – City Manager George Forbes, City of Jacksonville Beach

George Forbes discussed the following Jacksonville Beach assets:

1. Jacksonville Pier – The Pier is a joint effort between the City of Jacksonville and the City of Jacksonville Beach. Approximately 320 feet of the pier was destroyed during Hurricane Matthew. The Pier will be rebuilt.
2. Upgrades to Ocean Front Park are scheduled.
3. Cradle Creek Preserve along the ICW includes a trial and kayak launch site.
4. Rotary Park includes a kayak launch site. Kayakers can paddle to nearby restaurants.
5. Jacksonville Beach Boat Ramp – There is limited parking at the Boat ramp, but the City may be able to acquire the Taylor property to expand the parking area. The City also has an interest in adding a kayak concession.

Council President Boyer mentioned that the Mayor of the City of Atlantic Beach has an interest in purchasing Johnston Island.

1. Waterways Commission – Council Member Aaron Bowman

Council Member Bowman discussed FIND Grants and the Waterways Commission. He mentioned that the Waterways Commission has set up subcommittees including: Non-motorized, entertainment and sports. The subcommittees are designed to lay out a strategic plan, create short term goals and accomplish easy tasks. The meetings will begin the week of November 6th and the general public is welcome to attend and provide comment.

Council President Boyer provided an overview of the purpose of the meeting and what the next steps are moving forward. She used the attached powerpoint presentation.

Council President Boyer would like for the group to reconvene in January and provide updates on a monthly or every other month basis after that. She asked meeting attendees to provide feedback on the maps placed around the room. (Electronic copies of these maps are on file in Legislative Services)

Council President Boyer explained that Carolyn Clark with ULI and Linzee Ott have volunteered to help organize this initiative.

Carolyn Clark mentioned that ULI applied for a $12,500 grant and DVI has offered funding as well bring the total to $15, 000.

Council President Boyer thanked everyone for attending the meeting and then adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 5:06 p.m.

**Minutes:** Minutes completed by Nicole Spradley, ECA District 5, on Thursday, November 10, 2016

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl Brown, Director/CouncilSecretary

Carol Owens, Chief, Legislative Services Division

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