**Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization**



**of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission**

**Marc Hassan, Chair**

**Chris Brady, Vice Chair**

**TRUE Commission**

**Legislative Tracking Committee Meeting Minutes**

**April 19, 2017**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Attendance:** TRUE Commissioners Niki Brunson (Chair), John Pittman and Danny Ferreira

**Also**: Colleen Hampsey – City Council Research

Commissioner Niki Brunson called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

After introductions, the committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the previous meeting. The group discussed the legislative procedures as related to the committee. Commissioner Pittman mentioned TRUE’s involvement with one of the previous iterations of the Human Rights Ordinance and cautioned against getting embroiled into controversial legislation. Although TRUE took a position on the HRO, it was based on an analysis of the proponent’s revenue argument (that not passing the HRO would harm the city and the local economy). Going forward, Mr. Pittman said, TRUE should be cautious about weighing in on policy or overreaching the designated commission authority.

Commissioner Brunson commented that the main goal of any TRUE legislative tracking should be to assess whether city dollars are effectively going to meet the public good. Ms. Brunson then mentioned the lawsuit related to Ordinance 2017-036 (Ability Housing legal settlement), saying that if TRUE had looked at that legislation they would have considered if there was truly a need for specialized housing in that neighborhood. Although this could have been an example of TRUE getting involved with ‘hot button issues’, the commission could have made recommendations that might have been helpful. Commissioner Brunson clarified that some of the core duties of the TRUE Commission are contract oversight, improvement of accountability, and monitoring investment returns for the taxpayers.

Other topics the committee would like to take a look at: contract management and the acquisition of contract management software/database; business development incentives; and non-profit grants with a city match.

The following bills were listed for the committee to read for discussion prior to the next legislative tracking meeting in two weeks: 2017-182, 2017-280, 2017-296, 2017-289, 2017-290.

With no further business, the TRUE Commission Legislative Tracking Committee meeting adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Colleen Hampsey, City Council Research Division

Posted 4/20/2017 12:00 p.m.