

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

117 WEST DUVAL STREET, SUITE 425

4TH FLOOR, CITY HALL

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

904-630-1377

**Council Members Gulliford, Boyer and Anderson Noticed Meeting Minutes**

**Task Force on Consolidated Government Follow-Up**

**March 13, 2018**

**2:30 p.m.**

**Topic:** Follow-up on recommendations of the Task Force on Consolidated Government

**Location:** City Council Conference Room A, 4th floor, City Hall – St. James Building, 117 West Duval Street

**In attendance:** Council Members Bill Gulliford, Lori Boyer, Danny Becton, Greg Anderson

Also: Paige Johnston - Office of General Counsel; Kyle Billy - Council Auditor’s Office; Jeff Clements - Council Research Division; Sam Mousa and Ali Korman Shelton – Mayor’s Office; Kirk Sherman, Angela Moyer and Teresa Eichner – Finance and Administration Department; Bill Killingsworth – Planning and Development Department; Stephanie Burch – Neighborhoods Department

**Meeting Convened**: 2:33 p.m.

Council Member Gulliford called the meeting to order and the attendees introduced themselves for the record.

Council Member Anderson felt that the internal service charge system should be reviewed as an ongoing process, and wanted to explore the rationale for “marking up” certain costs like fuel and parts at Fleet Management. Angela Moyer explained that the mark-up is a mechanism for the department to recoup its overhead costs by spreading the costs across the using agencies. The mark-up issue was placed on the list for future consideration.

Stephanie Burch, Director of the Neighborhoods Department, presented the results of a survey sent last week to CPAC members to ask their opinions on the appropriate number and subject matter of CPAC committees, how the CPAC can best communicate with its members, what are preferred times for CPAC meetings, and appropriate meeting length. Based on the survey results, the Neighborhoods Department recommended standardizing CPACs to 4 standing committees (land use and zoning, governmental affairs, parks and recreation, and Sheriff’s watch), implementing the new LUZ-related staff meeting process discussed at an earlier meeting, reducing the amount of departmental reports at CPAC meetings and increased use of social media to advertise meetings and events. Council Member Boyer asked about the work of the CPACs’ Governmental Affairs Committees – what issues do they discuss? What sort of staff support do they have to inform their discussions? She is concerned that CPACs may be making recommendations on issues based on the personal opinion of one or two interested members acting in the capacity of a subcommittee with no more information than what they read in the newspaper or see on television. Debbie Johnson, Chair of the Southeast CPAC, described her CPACs committee process. She said that a survey she circulated among her CPAC’s membership last year found that the members overwhelmingly like hearing updates from City staff, but feel that meetings run too long. Rotating departmental representatives through the six CPACs throughout the year rather than presenting to each every month will be helpful in that regard.

Council Member Boyer advocated for giving the CPACs some formal guidance about the work expected of the standing committees. With regard to the Government in the Sunshine Law and its application to CPACs, the fact that the CPACs are boards appointed by and serving in an advisory capacity to the City makes them subject to the Sunshine Law. She suggested thinking about alternate structures to make it easier for individual CPAC members to communicate with each other outside of noticed meetings, perhaps by means of reformatting the CPACs to point out important timely issues to the most impacted homeowner associations and letting those HOAs plead their case rather than the CPAC taking a formal stand. Sam Mousa felt that if the CPAC members can’t speak to each other outside of a noticed meeting, then they can’t fulfill the role that was expected of them when they were created in the 1990s. They were intended to be a sounding board for the mayor to propose ideas to the community and a mechanism for communication from the neighborhoods back to City Hall, not to be mini-zoning boards controlling development in their areas. The group discussed possible alternative organizational structures that would exempt the CPACs from coverage under the Sunshine Law. Debbie Johnson cautioned that making the CPACs into entirely voluntary organizations without formal City links would tend to devalue their importance in the eyes of the membership and could lead to lack of interest.

Sam Mousa returned the group to an earlier discussion of changing CPAC and planning district boundaries to match School Board districts (made up of pairs of City Council districts), to be redistricted every 10 years. He and Planning and Development Director Bill Killingsworth will work on 7 CPAC/ planning districts matching the School Board districts and think about alternative organizational mechanisms that might exempt the CPACs from the Government in the Sunshine Law.

Mr. Mousa reported that he and Ali Korman Shelton have met with the chief procurement officials of the independent authorities and School Board and will have a report at the next meeting about how those officials are currently working together, piggybacking on existing contracts, exploring joint purchasing options, etc.

Items for future meetings

* Overhead recovery mark-ups
* CPAC/planning district reorganization
* Public information and marketing
* Codification of permanent legislation and more informative bill titles for appointment resolutions

**Meeting Adjourned**: 3:30 p.m.

Jeff Clements, Council Research Division

3.13.18 Posted 4:30 p.m.