

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

117 WEST DUVAL STREET, SUITE 425

4TH FLOOR, CITY HALL

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

904-630-1377

**CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY TIMELINE MEETING MINUTES - AMENDED**

**Lynwood Roberts Room, 1st floor, City Hall**

**March 27, 2018**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Location:** Suite 425, Conference Room A, City Hall – St. James Building, 117 West Duval Street

**In attendance:** Dr. Tim Gilmore, The Honorable Rodney L. Hurst, Sr., Tony Allegretti, Hope McMath, Isaiah Rumlin, Lloyd Washington, Alton Yates

**Also**: Yvonne P. Mitchell – Council Research Division

See attached sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

**Meeting Convened**: 11:35 a.m.

The Honorable Rodney Hurst convened the meeting and the attendees introduced themselves for the record. He stated the subcommittee was charged with drafting a comprehensive timeline and inventory list of Jacksonville’s Civil Rights History.

The committee was provided copies of timelines submitted by Joel McEachin, Dr. Gilmore, and Mr. Hurst along with input forms from Rahman Johnson, Chris Hand, and John Lumpkin. After the committee thoroughly reviewed each timeline, Ms. Mitchell was asked to draft a combined document. The committee agreed to include references for events.

Dr. Gilmore discussed the connection between Civil Rights History and Confederacy. Hemming Park and the Confederate soldier were donations to the city. Mr. Hurst requested an opinion on the legal foundation that allows the statue to remain.

The committee members discussed several events in-depth throughout the movement. It was encouraged that everyone engages in formalizing Jacksonville’s complete history. Mr. Hurst suggested that attendees review the documents and bring back any questions or comments. In response to Mr. Tino Francis comment, Mr. Lloyd Washington agreed to meet with him later to discuss the status of African-Americans. A pamphlet of the U.S. Civil Rights Trail was shared with the committee. Mr. Hurst explained that Council President Anna Brosche established the Task Force to create an inventory of the city’s rich history and make recommendations toward building a civil rights trail for Jacksonville.

Mr. Hurst announced that a mural of Axe Handle Saturday would be featured on April 6th during Public Art Walk Week. The mural is a partnership between the University of North Florida and Cultural Arts Council.

One of the recommendations of the committee is that Jacksonville and the City Council embrace the efforts of the Lift Every Voice and Sing Park, and James Weldon Johnson birthplace as a historical designation site. It was suggested that upcoming committee discussions include the preservation of the historic nature of neighborhoods.

Mr. Lloyd Washington announced shared that the Durkeeville Historical Society is planning a Jazz and Historical Festival at the site of James Weldon Johnson home on April 22nd. Also, there are plans to construct a memorial on the site for the Johnson brothers. Mr. Washington stated that legislation had been filed in Washington, D.C. to designate the home of the Johnson Brothers a national site.

The consensus of the committee is to create a dual Civil Rights Trail that highlights Jacksonville’s entire story and covers the specific range as it relates to the U.S. Civil Rights Trial requirement.

The next meeting will be April 10, 2018.

**Meeting adjourned:** 1:18 p.m.

The written minutes of this meeting are only an overview of what was discussed. The following items have been submitted for the public record. Please contact legislative services for these items.

Minutes: Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research

03.30.18 Posted 12:30 p.m.

Tapes: Task Force on Civil Rights History Meeting – LSD

03.27.18

Handouts: Task Force on Civil Rights History Meeting

03.27.18