

## **PROPOSED WATERSPORTS FACILITY:**

### **RETROFIT OR BUILD NEW BOATING FACILITY TO BE ALL INCLUSIVE**

**By: Ray Pringle**

**The task that I was assigned to do by the Chair is to search out and find if Jacksonville should retrofit or build new boating facilities that may be used by citizens of all abilities including people with physical challenges.**

**The meeting was held 10:00 A.M. May 15, 2018 on the forth floor to discover if this project was something viable for Jacksonville.**

**Brian Burket, Parks & Recreation delivered a presentation and had in the demonstration locations and photographs of several city owned properties that would be capable to be used.**

**Alice Krause, Manager of Brooks Rehab Hospital's Adaptive Sports and Recreation was in attendance. Ms. Krause has been designated by Brooks CEO, Doug Baer as spokesperson for this proposed project.**

**There was a lengthy discussion on each site that was proposed and graded on the possibilities.**

**The proposed Watersports Facility would ultimately be a Public/Private project that could possibly bring in several private businesses to lend public and financial support.**

**Brooks Rehab Hospital showed enormous importance in supporting the possibility of such a undertaking.**

**I have found a considerable degree of support in Jacksonville for this project that has the possibility of bringing to Jacksonville people from all over the nation and other parts of the world.**

**Orlando has bought into the sports facilities that cater to all people whether fit or phycically challenged. Their facility started small and now is World Class. The ESPN Sports Facility.**

**Jacksonville has The Jaguars, The Sharks, The Armada, and we are the River City.**

**I highly recommend this proposed project, there are 150,000 people living in Jacksonville with dissabilities and 18,000 children attending Duval County schools are included in that number. This project would be a giant step forward in promoting water safety, fishing clinics, kayaking, paddleboarding, dragon boating, power boating, sailing, or just watching a sunrise or sunset on the water.**

**Included in this presentation are pictures of the proposed sites.**

**Ray Pringle**