

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON HISTORICAL REMEMBRANCES MEETING**

**Council Chambers, City Hall**

**October 9, 2018**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Location:** Council Chambers, City Hall – St. James Building, 117 West Duval Street

**In attendance:** Council Members Scott Wilson (Chair), Anna Brosche, Terrance Freeman, Tommy Hazouri, and Sam Newby; Carter – Council Auditor’s Office, Peggy Sidman – Office of General Counsel; Tracey Lockley – ECA, Group 5 At-Large; Jackie Lee – ECA, District 4; Yvonne P. Mitchell – Research Division

See sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

**Meeting Convened**: 1:01 p.m.

Chairman Scott Wilson called the meeting to order, and the attendees introduced themselves for the record.

**Ordinance 2018-619**

Ms. Blair Knighting, Planning & Development Department, provided an overview of the Underrepresented Communities Grant awarded from the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. The grant allows for contractual services with a professional historical preservation specialist/consultant to conduct a Historical Resources Survey Update and submit five nominations to the National Register of Historical Places. The award is $49,962.00 and grant period expires June 30, 2019. The goal is to highlight historical sites within the city’s underrepresented communities as it relates to African American heritage. Ms. Knighting shared that the PDD selected the five nominations based on accessibility to supporting documentation. The sites are Durkee Gardens National Register Historic District; Moncrief Road Cemeteries (multiple properties); Memorial Cemetery; multiple properties of African American Builders/Architects; and one site location for one of the African American Builders/Architects.

There was extensive discussion regarding the selection process of the sites. Several Council members expressed concern that community input was not a part of this initial phase. Per Mr. Chris Popoli, PPD, Supervisor, commented that the five sites were submitted as a part of the application and cannot be changed at this point. It was the consensus of the committee that the PDD engage the community in the process of selecting sites for future submissions. In response to Council Member Hazouri’s request, Ms. Knighting will forward the committee the city’s complete list of historical (national and local) sites.

The grant assists with securing the sites on the national register. There are no additional funds available for maintenance or restoration. Applications for such activity must be submitted through other grant opportunities.

**Tasks:**

* Ms. Knighting will forward the committee the city’s complete list of historical (national and local) sites.
* PDD will engage the community in selecting sites for additional submissions for the National Register of Historical Places.

**Open Discussion**

Chairman Wilson requested the committee to offer suggestions on topics and meeting dates. The committee reviewed the charge and agreed to work on defining historical remembrances and establishing a policy or mapping process to best reflect on the history of the city. Also, it was emphasized that the committee must consider all legislation or policy changes with a historical nature before any additional action occurs. Chairman Wilson will be scheduled dates to discuss Ordinance 2018-420 and James Weldon Johnson Memorial Park.

**Tasks:**

* Chairman Wilson will request reports from Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department, Planning and Development Department, and Special Events on how they currently reflect the historical sites/events.
* Yvonne P. Mitchell will research cities with policies related to monuments and other statutes, and definitions of historical remembrances.

**Public Comment**

Christopher Elands

Nick Thompson

Christina Parrish

Seber Newsome III

Meetings will be held on second and fourth Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. The location will be posted.

**Meeting adjourned:** 2:17 p.m.

The written minutes of this meeting are an overview of the discussion. The audio version of the meeting is filed in the Office of Legislative Services.

Minutes: Yvonne P. Mitchell, Council Research

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10.11.18 Posted 11:00 a.m.

Materials: Agenda, Handouts, Attendance Sheet