

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**Special Committee on Historical Remembrance**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 26, 2019**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Lynwood Roberts Room, City Hall – St. James Building, 117 West Duval Street

**In attendance:** Council Members Scott Wilson (Chair), Greg Anderson; Anna Brosche, Terrance Freeman, Tommy Hazouri, Sam Newby (arr. 1:40p); Thomas Carter – Council Auditor’s Office, Peggy Sidman – Office of General Counsel; Chiquita Moore – Mayor’s Office; Crystal Shemwell and Ladayyija Nichols – Legislative Division; Yvonne P. Mitchell – Research Division

See sign-in sheet for additional attendees.

**Meeting Convened**: 1:35 p.m.

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

Mr. Steven Durden, Office of General Counsel, provided a summary of Government speech as it relates to monuments. The City’s process of selecting or assigning monuments to a particular park/site does not automatically provide other entities the same rights. The message of the government does not create a forum for others to have a right to speech.

Council Member Tommy Hazouri expressed the importance of the proposed policy addressing replacement, removal, and inclusion of new statutes. It was suggested to have a policy that would inventory all City monuments and review their status every 5, 10, or 20 years. This would also determine whether current statutes were grandfathered status.

Several members inquired about the information from the Public Works Department (PW) and the Planning and Development Department (PDD) requested at the last meeting. Ms. Peggy Sidman and Ms. Chiquita Moore confirmed that the departments submitted the requested documentation to Ms. Sidman. After extensive discussion, the committee clarified its desire for Ms. Sidman to proceed to draft a policy to address all aspects of past, current, and future statutes including gifts. The process should involve PDD and the Historical Preservation Commission as an entity to make recommendations.

Ms. Sidman will prepare a proposed policy based on discussion details and the documentation submitted from PDD and PW. The draft will be provided at the next meeting. The draft should determine the actual process to ensure a collaborative effort amongst all related entities.

**Public Comment**

Stanley Scott, African American Economic Recovery Think Tank, expressed his concern about the lack of African American monuments and suggested the committee review past procedures to assist with developing a new policy.

**Meeting adjourned:** 2:19 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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03.01.19 Posted 5:30 p.m.

Materials: Attendance Sheet