

City of Jacksonville

1st Floor - Council Chamber
117 W. Duval Street



Meeting Minutes

Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Subcommittee Meeting

Monday, November 9, 2020

2:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Jacksonville Waterways Commission

CM Al Ferraro, Chair

CM Randy White, Vice Chair

CM Aaron Bowman

CM Terrance Freeman, Alternate

Jon Michael Barker

Robert Birtalan

Lindsey Brock

Lane Burnett

State Rep. Cord Byrd

Mark Devereaux

Marc Hardesty

Jill D. Haskell

Raymond S. Pringle, Jr.

Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio

Adam Hoyles, Ex-Officio

Jessica Smith & Vonya Balogh, Legislative Assistants

Susan Grandin, Asst. General Counsel

Dr. Quinton White, Jacksonville University

Dr. Gerard Pinto, Jacksonville University

Richard Distel, Research Assistant

Jim Suber, Waterways Coordinator

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

RULE 4.505 DISRUPTION OF MEETING

No member of the audience shall applaud nor make any noise or remarks that are audible to the Committee that would indicate approval or disapproval of anything being discussed. Any disregard of this rule may result in removal by the Sergeant at Arms.

REQUEST TO SPEAK:

1. Fill out a speaker card.
2. Sign it if you are going to speak.
3. Read the rules on the back of the card.
4. Place card in tray.

PARKING: If you park in the Library Garage (Entry on Duval St, W of Main St), Please see the Legislative Assistant for ticket validation.

Meeting Convened: 2:11 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 3:48 PM

Attendance: Commissioners Pringle, Brock, Devereaux, and Birtalan

Also: Jim Suber, Susan Grandin, Brian Burket, Marshall Adkison

1. **Call To Order**

2. Review of Potential 2021 FIND Projects

Brian Burket, Parks Department, shared the staff recommendations for the FIND projects. He explained that this meeting is focused on going over the list of projects and getting the subcommittee's approval. Mr. Burket detailed the legislative process. The grant application deadline is in April 2021 and by October they will be able to find out if the grants are successful. They have applied for 4 grants for this year. Bert Maxwell Dredge was the only grant that was funded. FIND grants have two phases with the design phase and the construction phase. The grant for the Bert Maxwell Dredge is for 2 years with an option of a 1 year extension. Mr. Burket talked about how the timeline needs to be maintained in order to utilize the most out of the FIND grant dollars. Mr. Burket went over the list which highlights the projects and the priorities.

The highest priority is the Zoo Dock which is intended to be funded with already allocated dollars. Mr. Pringle said he supports the project and is very excited that the Zoo project will be funded. Goodbys Creek and Reed Island are leftovers from last year and the goal for this coming year is to fund those projects. Mr. Burket detailed the 2021 projects through a PowerPoint slide.

Mr. Burket showed a map of the projects which are all over Duval County:

Riverfront Park Fishing Platform. This project would allow for a parking lot, crosswalk and ADA compliant ramp. This project was outstanding from last year and will have the ADA access. Goodbys Creek Dredge which has had its cost bumped up to \$825,000. Dredge from ramp to St. Johns River.

Castaway Island Preserve Dredge which has a cost of \$880,000 will focus on the implementation of dredge from kayak launch dock to navigable channel.

Riverview Park Boat Ramp will create a small single lane boat ramp on Trout River. The cost is \$990,000. This would be a smaller neighborhood launch and the hope is to do work on the adjacent fishing pier in the future.

Exchange Club Island Park Development has a cost of \$385,000. There would be construction of a new picnic shelter, trail expansion, campsites and restroom facilities. Mr. Pringle asked how accessible the trails will be. The path to the dock and to the restrooms will be accessible, but the trail is hard to make accessible with roots and not being able to be paved. Mr. Pringle talked about the price barrier and the importance of spending that money to allow everyone to have access. Mr. Adkison said meeting the ADA compliance is pricey and that is an issue. Simpler solutions can be made but those may not follow the federal guidelines. Mr. Burket said that this space will be open to the public and will better access this will lead to less inappropriate activities. Mr. Brock talked about the issues with vandalism and asked if this has been an issue in this area. Mr. Burket said there haven't been many issues. Mr. Burket talked about the volunteers and the monthly Parks staff that cleans up the park.

Reed Island Park Development has a cost of \$825,000. The scope is to construct a boat dock, picnic shelters and trail facilities. Mr. Birtalan asked about the channel cutback and grant funding for that. Mr. Burket said that would change the application process. Mr. Burket said this project seemed liked a better long term vision. Mr. Brock asked about the practicality of the boat dock. Mr. Burket said it might have a little bit of

bouncing, but it should be safe. Captain Suber said this is a similar dock to the boat dock in Mayport.

Mr. Burket went over the list of wish list projects that are worth considering and would still have to go through the review of eligibility of receiving FIND funding.

Mr. Brock asked about the Liberty Street Marina and if there has been an idea for doing public and private partnership. Mr. Burket said that they are 30% done with the design so far and there is an RFP for the remaining amount. Currently they are north of \$9 million dollars for the 30% and all ideas are on the table to make this project work. The Downtown Investment Authority has been in the process for the Liberty Street Marina and Ms. Grandin said DIA is in control of the project.

3. Prioritize and Rank Projects

At the end of the meeting there weren't any members available on Zoom and there was not a quorum so no vote was made. Mr. Burket stressed the importance to stay on the timeline so the grant funds aren't lost. Mr. Burket will be delivering an abbreviated briefing at the Waterways Commission meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2020.

4. Public Comment

5. Adjournment

Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted; but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coj.net.

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