

City of Jacksonville

1st Floor - Council Chamber
117 W. Duval Street



Meeting Minutes Artificial Reefs of Northeast Florida

Wednesday, April 7, 2021

11:00 AM

Council Chambers 1st Floor, City Hall & Virtual

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

Andrew Fraden

Marc Hardesty, Excused Absence

Jill D. Haskell

Raymond S. Pringle, Jr.

Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio

Adam Hoyles, Ex-Officio

Vonya Balogh & Jessica Smith, 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 TIME: 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Physical Location: Council Chambers

City Hall

117 W. Duval Street

Jacksonville, Florida 32202

(If attending virtually, please join the meeting by 8:45 A.M.)

Meeting ID:976 4695 5122

Meeting Password: 866868

Council Members, City staff and the public may attend the meeting at the physical location-Council Chambers, but CDC guidelines will be adhered to due to COVID-19. A mandatory mask requirement is in place for all public buildings pursuant to the COJ Emergency Executive Proclamation 2020-005, as extended.

The public will be encouraged to share general comments with individual council members by email or telephone. Public hearings and public participation are required by state statute for specific legislation. We will conduct these hearings as required by state law. CCMeeting04132021@coj.net is the designated email for general comments to be including as a part of this meeting.

Attendance: Chair Lindsey Brock and Adam Hoyles

Also: Dr. Quinton White, Jim Suber, Richard Distel, Susan Grandin

Call To Order**Meeting Convened: 11:02 am****Roll Call****New Business**

Chair Brock called the meeting to order. There was not a quorum so no items could be voted on during the meeting. He talked about the last Waterways meetings when they were given a report on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs). Stanley Pipes, District Manager at Harbour Waterway Special District, said that they maintain about 12,000 feet of canal system in a residential area of about 115 parcels. He talked about the area they manage and routinely dredge. Mr. Pipes said they would really like to have an artificial reef in the Harbour Waterway Special District.

Dr. White talked about the differences between FADs and artificial reefs and given a terminology of the reefs and possible concerns. Dr. White talked about the recovery of the reefs since Hurricane Irma. Dr. White said that the placement is important for where to put new artificial reefs. There is a lot of silt in the river and making sure there is a strong bottom is important in the placement. Dr. White said a lot of research needs to be done before deciding where to place the reef. Dr. White said he will look to get fisherman to give suggestions for areas that would best be served with artificial reefs.

Dr. Dan McCarthy, Jacksonville University, echoed the statements of Dr. White and talked about the ecological function of the structure. Mr. Hoyles agreed that a living shoreline would make a lot of sense to serve the species living in the river. Mr. Hoyles talked about how FADs could help with closer to shore fishing. Mr. Brock suggested that Mr. Pipes and Mr. Hoyles discuss offline the topic of moving from a wooden bulkhead to a living shoreline as the option for the waterway.

Dr. White said it is important to look to the fisherman to give suggestions for areas that would best be served with artificial reefs. Dr. White stressed the importance of building inshore. Dr. White talked about the importance of finding funding once the criteria is met of the area which would benefit from having an artificial reef.

Eric Summa, Army Corps of Engineers, talked about the permitting process and how working through that process would allow for the living shoreline. Mr. Brock talked about the impact on the shrimping industry and what can be done with that area without disrupting the area. Dr. White clarified the terms regarding inshore and offshore. Ed Kalakauskis, Think It Sink It Reef it, stressed the need for funding to make these ideas a reality. Mr. Kalakauskis said he knows someone that could be a part of future meetings that would be able to help with the funding process. Dr. McCarthy said he would like to be a apart of future meetings. Mr. Brock said they would defer on the topic of FADs until Mr. Adkison is available to attend the meeting.

Public Comment

Sue Wilcox had written comments regarding the 2008 Artificial Reef Construction Grant.

Adjournment**Meeting Ended: 11:44 am**

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.

Minutes: Richard Distel, Council Research
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Posted 4.13.2021 5:00 pm