

City of Jacksonville

1st Floor - Council Chamber
117 W. Duval Street



Meeting Minutes

St. John's River Sandbar Committee

Thursday, February 24, 2022

1:00 PM

Lynwood Roberts Room, 1st Floor, City Hall

Jacksonville Waterways Commission

CM Al Ferraro, Chair

CM Michael Boylan, Vice Chair

CM Garrett Dennis

CM Matt Carlucci, Alternate

Jon Michael Barker

Robert Birtalan

Lane Burnett

Senator Audrey Gibson - Excused Absence

Mark Devereaux

Andrew Fraden

Marc Hardesty

Richard Hartley

Jill D. Haskell

Raymond S. Pringle, Jr.

Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio

Adam Hoyles, Ex-Officio

Maritza Sanchez, Legislative Assistant

Barbara Ireland Hobson, Legislative Assistant

Susan Grandin, Asst. General Counsel

Dr. Quinton White, Jacksonville University

Dr. Gerard Pinto, Jacksonville University

Richard Distel, Research Assistant

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.

You may attend the meeting in-person at the physical location - Lynwood Roberts Room, 1st Floor, but CDC guidelines will be adhered to due to COVID-19. Concurrent with the expiration of Mayor Curry's Emergency Executive Proclamation 2020-005, any member of the public entering City-owned public buildings may choose to wear a mask inside the building. Council strongly encourages the use of masks for all employees and visitors, especially when social distancing at 6 feet (or more) is not possible. Council will make masks available for visitors and the public.

Meeting Convened: 1:07pm Meeting Adjourned: 2:07pm

Call To Order - Chair Marc Hardesty**Introductions**

Mr. Hardesty called the meeting to order and recognized visiting Waterways Commission member Rick Hartley.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hardesty and Ms. Haskell voted to approve the minutes from the last meeting.

Discussion on FIND Grants**Commissioner Haskell**

Ms. Haskell talked about the need for connecting with federal partners and talked about the St. Johns River Alliance which Susan Grandin said was not currently an active group. Ms. Haskell talked about the history of the St. John River being recognized as an American Heritage River in the 1990s.

Commission Members Comments and Discussion

Captain Suber discussed the shoaling and said that the Army Corps of Engineers is not interested in finding out who caused the issue, but just focused on a solution to the problem. Ms. Haskell emphasized that federal coordination is needed in this solution and that this issue is a federal problem since they do store boats in the channel. Mr. Hardesty said that the Army Corps of Engineers is not interested in taking any responsibility. Mr. Hartley said he would talk to US Representative John Rutherford about this issue on behalf of the Commission. Mr. Hardesty suggested appointing Mr. Hartley as an alternate member of the sandbar committee. Mr. Hardesty said there will be a bigger problem with the shoaling when the weather is warmer and more boaters are on the water. The committee passed a motion to working with the Parks Department on creating markings in the shoal area. The motion passed 2 to 0 with Mr. Hardesty and Ms. Haskell voting to move the motion. The committee discussed the usage of social media and radio shows to create a unified message regarding the shoal and safety.

Discuss Next Date for Meeting

Mr. Hardesty said they will select the next date for a meeting at the upcoming full Waterways Commission.

Public Comment

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.

Minutes: Richard Distel, Council Research
RDistel@coj.net 904.255.5140
Posted 3.11.2022 12:00 pm