

City of Jacksonville

*1st Floor - Council Chamber
117 W. Duval Street*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

9:00 AM

Council Chambers 1st Floor, City Hall

Jacksonville Waterways Commission

CM Nick Howland, Chair

CM Randy DeFoor, Vice Chair

CM LeAnna Cumber

CM Tyrona Clark-Murray, Alternate

Jon Michael Barker

Robert Birtalan

Lane Burnett

Senator Audrey Gibson

Mark Devereaux

Andrew Fraden

Marc Hardesty

Richard Hartley

Jill D. Haskell

Raymond S. Pringle, Jr.

Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio

Adam Hoyles, Ex-Officio

Barbara Ireland Hobson, Legislative Assistant

Sharon Wyskiel, Asst. General Counsel

Dr. Gerard Pinto, Jacksonville University

Richard Distel, Research Assistant

Jim Suber, Waterways Coordinator

Start: 9:02 am**End: 10:27 am**

Present 12 - Commissioner Lane Burnett, Commissioner Mark Devereaux, Commissioner Marc Hardesty, Commissioner Jon Michael Barker, Chair Nick Howland, Commissioner LeAnna Cumber, Commissioner Robert Birtalan, Commissioner Jill Haskell, Ex-Officio Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio Adam Hoyles, Commissioner Andrew Fraden, and Commissioner Richard Hartley

Excused 4 - Commissioner Raymond Pringle, Vice Chair Randy DeFoor, Commissioner Audrey Gibson , and Alternate Tyrona Clark-Murray

2. Roll Call**2. Call To Order****3. St. Johns River Status Report on Water Quality - Dr. Gerard Pinto**

Dr. Pinto said there has been high levels of salinity and an increase in flood water. Dr. Pinto said that algae should be less of an issue than in the summer. Mr. Fraden asked when we can expect the flood waters to go down. Dr. Pinto said that it is difficult to say when the flood waters will go down.

4. St. Johns River Status Report on Manatees - Dr. Gerard Pinto

Dr. Pinto said there have been no more manatee deaths since the last meeting, leaving the total as of this year at 7 manatee deaths.

5. ADA Waterways Status Report - Kara Tucker

Kara Tucker, Chief of Disabled Services, gave a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation covered the ADA compliance work the division does which includes education and public awareness. Ms. Tucker went over scholarship opportunities and talked about the Mayor's Disability Council. Ms. Tucker then went over the list of accessible fishing docks in Jacksonville.

6. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Birtalan, Mr. Devereaux, CM Howland, CM Cumber, Mr. Fraden, Ms. Haskell, Mr. Barker, Mr. Burnett, and Mr. Hartley voted to approve the minutes with a vote of 9 to 0.

7. New Business**8. Old Business****Discussion: Right Whale Speed Zone Resolution**

Chair Howland discussed the resolution and said that there has been an extension for public comment to October 31st.

Discussion - Artificial Reef Subcommittee - Status Update

The Artificial Reef Subcommittee will consist of Ms. Haskell as chair, Mr. Barker, Mr. Hartley, Mr. Hoyles and Mr. Adkison. The next meeting of the subcommittee will take place on Wednesday, October 19th at 9am.

Discussion: St. Johns River Shoaling Subcommittee - Status Update

The St. Johns River Shoaling Subcommittee will consist of Mr. Hardesty as chair, Mr. Devereaux, Ms. Haskell, Mr. Hoyles, and Mr. Hartley. Mr. Hardesty talked about the previous work the subcommittee has done on the issue of shoaling and the difficulty they had finding answers. Dr. Pinto said the shoal would need to be studied by a certified lab in order to be able to seen as legitimate.

Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Subcommittee

Brian Burket, Parks Department, explained the process of having a subcommittee meet to approve FIND projects. The members of the subcommittee are Mr. Barker as chair, Mr. Hoyles, Mr. Hartley, Mr. Birtalan and Mr. Fraden. They will have a November meeting to discuss the projects.

9. Public Comment

Carnell Olivier talked about a need for a resiliency plan.

Azi Yavari and Davis Bales talked about the need for a slow speed zone for the area that their rowing club practices.

John Nooney talked about artificial reefs and kayak launches.

10. 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
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