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**MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 5<sup>th</sup> CM Matt Carlucci JHS Groundbreaking**

Alan Bliss, CEO of the Jacksonville Historical Society, initiated the groundbreaking ceremony at 5:28 p.m. and expressed his gratitude to everyone in attendance. He emphasized the vital role of public history in Jacksonville and outlined the multifaceted functions of the forthcoming Jacksonville History Center. The ground floor will feature curated exhibits, the second floor will serve as a space for performances and events, and the third floor will house archives.

Mr. Bliss acknowledged both current and former elected officials present, as well as current and former members of the Jacksonville Historical Society. He also highlighted the significant contributions of former Council Member Randy DeFoor, praising her as an integral part of the project's development.

David Auchter, Board Chair of the Jacksonville Historical Society, briefly discussed the Jacksonville History Center before introducing City Council President Ron Salem.

President Salem took the opportunity to recognize City Council Members Matt Carlucci and Chris Miller. He recognized CM Matt Carlucci for his continued support for public history in Jacksonville. He shared an anecdote from his experience at the Great Cities Symposium and spoke about the future impact of the Jacksonville History Center on the community. Following this, Alan Bliss invited Council Member Matt Carlucci to share his thoughts.

Council Member Matt Carlucci spoke about Jacksonville's distinctive character and the resilience of its residents. Carlucci extended an invitation to Council Member Chris Miller to speak and revealed plans for upcoming legislation to complete the History Center project, calling for the Council's support.

Finally, Council Member Chris Miller expressed his excitement about the Jacksonville Historical Society's new endeavor. He noted the potential influence the center could have on children and families, eagerly anticipating the positive changes the space will bring to the community.

The groundbreaking concluded at 5:48 p.m.

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cc: Council Members and Staff  
Margaret "Peggy" Sidman, Director/Council Secretary  
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