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RESEARCH DIVISION**

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**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW JSO PRIMARY FACILITIES:  
Holistic Facilities (Behavioral, Mental, Physical & Spiritual health) Working Group  
Meeting Minutes**

**February 16, 2024  
2:00 pm**

**Location:** Lynwood Roberts Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, City Hall

**In attendance:** Council Members Rahman Johnson and Michael Boylan; Dr. Davis, EWU via Zoom; Director Goff and Lt. Bourgon, JSO Corrections

**Also:** Colleen Hampsey, Council Research Division; Andrew Powers, ECA District 14

**Meeting Convened:** 2:06 pm

Chairman Johnson welcomed the group and called for introductions. He reviewed the working group's charge and progress. CM Johnson talked about some of the jail tours he took recently while traveling, in Los Angeles, Houston and Orange County (FL). He highlighted some aspects of the Orange County facility and noted that they do not contract out for their jail health services.

CM Johnson asked Director Goff to describe his vision for a "jail of the future". Director Goff spoke about the facility in Hillsborough County and its campus style design, wherein there are separate buildings for different classifications of arrestees. He noted that the Hillsborough design makes it easier to add on to as needed in the future, instead of outgrowing a facility and building an entirely new one. Director Goff highlighted the need for enhanced programs, mental health treatment and medication stabilization for arrestees. CM Johnson asked about trauma informed training for the corrections staff. Director Goff said he was not familiar with trauma informed training. Director Goff indicated his support for an in-house infirmary, with patient beds. He noted that there have been 5 medical calls for service from the jail today. When asked about contracting for healthcare as opposed to staff provided care, he said that there are staffing and liability issues associated with JSO employees providing healthcare.

CM Johnson asked whether the corrections staff would be interested in receiving health services from an in-house infirmary. He also asked about providing staff respite spaces and dining hall remodeling to

improve morale and potentially relations with inmates. Director Goff said that staff would benefit from having multi-purpose rooms for lunch-and-learn events or wellness days. There was discussion about the jail facility in Orange County, in particular the intake bay for searches and scans of the arrestees and medical triage prior to entering the building. Director Goff said that the intake process in our jail is more linear, which can lead to delays and extended wait times to move from station to station. He said that the Hillsborough facility is set up more like the DMV, with a common waiting area and the majority of arrestees not handcuffed.

CM Boylan expressed gratitude to CM Johnson for his jail visits while traveling to assess design, best practices and current system deficits. He inquired about the interest from JSO Corrections as related to placing an infirmary in the Police Memorial building after the staff relocates to a new site. Director Goff said it would be better for the infirmary to be located within the jail building, not across the street.

Joe Ross Sr., Northside Coalition of Jacksonville, spoke about race, and about relations between the community and law enforcement. He expressed a strong mistrust for JSO and his opposition to the use of deadly force especially on unarmed individuals. He reminded the group that our downtown jail facility houses arrestees most of whom are pretrial. He questioned the validity of incarcerating non-violent offenders for misdemeanors and driver's license issues. Mr. Ross advocated for a citizen review board to enforce police accountability. CM Boylan mentioned the Safer Together workshops held in 2021, and state law that limits citizen review boards.

Dr. Davis, Edward Waters University, talked about facility design and using design to decrease stress. He said that there should be an effort to make intake less traumatic. There was mention of spiritual areas for practicing yoga or religious ministries.

CM Boylan said that the full committee will be meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>, and that each working group will share their findings, recommendations and observations.

With no further business, CM Johnson adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting adjourned:** 3:17 pm

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research Division  
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2.22.24 Posted 5:00 p.m.