



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MATT CARLUCCI, SR.
COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE,
GROUP 4
OFFICE (904) 255-5218
E-MAIL: MCarlucci@coj.net

CITY HALL AT ST. JAMES
117 WEST DUVAL STREET
4TH FLOOR, SUITE 425
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

MEETING MINUTES

Council Member Matt Carlucci called the meeting to order at approximately 12:34 PM. Attendees introduced themselves, including Cory Armstrong, Council Member Rahman Johnson of District 14, Council Member Tyrona Clark Murray of District 9, Council Member Mike Gay of District 2, and Council Member Matt Carlucci At-Large Group 4. CM Carlucci explained that he called the meeting to discuss several renaming opportunities. He specifically wanted to honor Warren Jones, a long-serving public servant. CM Carlucci gave context to naming City assets after living individuals due to past corruption involving city officials, he believed it was appropriate to honor Jones while he could still appreciate the gesture.

The discussion centered on Woodstock Park. CM Clark-Murray inquired about the historical significance of the Woodstock name and suggested West Side Park as an alternative. However, Carlucci emphasized that Jones has a strong connection to baseball, and Woodstock Park features active ball fields. Carla Schell, Office of General Counsel, explained that the formal renaming process requires a report from the planning department within 30 days of a bill's introduction to address the history of the name. The committee decided to research the history of the Woodstock name further, possibly proposing a combined name to preserve the original identity while honoring Mr. Jones.

CM Carlucci then addressed a request for a historic street designation for Dr. Devegowda Gopal. The proposal involves the 1100 block of Kingsbury Street, where Dr. Gopal lived for 40 years as a respected community leader. Mr. Armstrong noted that the designation would not affect any property owners on that specific block. CM Clark Murray expressed her support for the initiative, noting that the process should be straightforward given the family's request and the lack of opposition.

Finally, CM Carlucci proposed naming a portion of the Cedar Point preserve after the late Mark Middlebrook. Middlebrook was a former journalist and a pivotal figure in the city's land preservation efforts under the Delaney administration. Former Mayor John Delaney specifically requested that Middlebrook be honored for his role in acquiring thousands of acres of conservation land. Naming a 5,600-acre section the Middlebrook Preserve would also resolve public confusion regarding multiple locations currently sharing the Cedar Point name. CM Gay suggested discussing the proposal at an upcoming town hall to ensure community buy-in. CM Carlucci agreed to coordinate this outreach, though he noted he might be absent on April 9th for his 70th birthday. The meeting adjourned at 1:08 PM.