

City of Gainesville

*City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 8, 2010

1:00 PM

City Hall, Room 16

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee

*Commissioner Scherwin Henry, Chair
Commissioner Thomas Hawkins, Member
Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Member*

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Scherwin Henry and Thomas Hawkins

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Hawkins moved and Commissioner Mastrodicasa seconded to adopt the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Mastrodicasa moved and Commissioner Hawkins seconded approval of the minutes as submitted

100485.

Approval of the October 4, 2010 Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes (B)

RECOMMENDATION *The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee approve the minutes of the October 4, 2010 meeting as submitted.*

Approved as Recommended

100485_Meeting Minutes_20101108.pdf

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

These minutes are a summary of the meeting and is not a verbatim discussion.

080478.

Status Update on the City Commission Strategic Initiative to Support the Reconstruction of Transportation Facilities to Encourage Redevelopment of 6th Street (B)

This item is to provide follow up information to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs & Public Works Committee regarding Strategic Initiative 5.2: support the reconstruction of transportation facilities to encourage development of 6th Street.

Assistant City Manager Paul Folkers reminded the Committee that this issue was discussed at the last meeting and the Committee requested that this item gets placed back on the agenda with an invite Gainesville Police Representatives to discuss the rail trail; and also that staff provide an update on the contamination issue.

Public Works Director Teresa Scott advised the Committee that the Department of Environmental Protection has not been responsive to telephone phone calls, but staff is working to get a resolution on the contamination issue.

Ms. Scott also advised that the State owns part of the trail; and that there is a small piece of property that the City needs to acquire in order to run the alignment through the intersection of 4th Street and 6th Street on the North side.

Gainesville Police Captain Lonnie Scott advised the Committee that he just recently took over the project and he shared a draft of the proposed outline of the police department's campus.

Commissioner Hawkins commented that it would be a positive to have the Rail Trail and campus together. He also reiterated his concern about safety at the crossing.

Commissioner Henry inquired if the building's location has to be that far to the edge of the road; and he thought that having the trail come through the campus would hinder parking in the future. He also stated that he could see the logic of not having the Rail Trail come through the campus.

Captain Scott commented that security could have been an issue when the proposed campus outline was drafted.

Commissioner Mastrodicasa suggested that staff route the trail then pursue a possible land swap with the State.

Assistant Public Works Director, Don Hambidge, commented that there are certain things that can be done to enhance visibility at the crossings.

RECOMMENDATION *The Recreation, Cultural Affairs & Public Works Committee hear update from staff.*

Discussed

080478_Initiative_20090212_RCAPW Committee.pdf

080478_SI 5.2 Quarterly Update_20101108.pdf

080478_Map_20101216.pdf

080479.

Status Update on the City Commission Strategic Initiative to Support the Reconstruction of Transportation Facilities to Encourage Redevelopment of Depot Avenue (B)

Strategic initiatives have been referred to Standing Committees to promote efficient and effective communication streams between elected officials, city staff and Gainesville residents concerning the implementation of the City's Strategic Plan. This item is a request for the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee to receive an update on the progress of Strategic Initiative 5.3: Support the reconstruction of transportation facilities to encourage redevelopment of Depot Avenue.

Mr. Folkers advised the Committee that annual updates will be provided on Strategic Initiatives referred to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee. He also stated that committee members received a power point presentation on this initiative as part of the August 23, 2010, MTPO packet.

Public Works Director, Teresa Scott introduced John Veilleux, Project Manager for the Depot Avenue project. Ms. Scott advised that the section between SE 4th Street and Main Street was split into two phases because of the GRU remediation and the second phase is under construction.

Mr. Veilleux advised that the section that is under construction should be open by the end of the month.

Ms. Scott advised that the section from main street to 11th street which is the access to PK Younger is under final design and right-of-way acquisition. Department of Transportation has to do the right-of-way acquisition phase for this project because it's federally funded and they have scheduled eighteen months to complete the acquisition. City staff will be ready to move forward once the right-of-way is acquired.

Commissioner Hawkins made comments about the former rail-bed being relatively flat and inquired about elevation changes after the road is complete.

Mr. Veilleux advised that the rail bed will be lowered and the road will be wider. Mr. Veilleux also advised that city staff is doing a lot of negotiations with GRU, due to the abundance of utilities in that portion of Depot Avenue. He stated that there are a lot of older utilities under the old rail bed that will have to be relocated.

Commissioner Hawkins inquired about the round-a-bout between segments one and two and the house on the SW corner that has been demolished. He asked if any changes have been made in the planning and design process; since we suspect that we will be running articulated busses in that route. Mr. Veilleux advised that the property is included in the right-of-way acquisition and the house to the west. Commissioner Hawkins asked about the turning radius required for a 60 foot articulated bus. Ms. Scott advised that staff will research that concern and advise the Committee if the articulated busses can comfortably handle turning around the round-a-bouts.

Mr. Scott advised that segment 4 is also under design and right-of-way acquisition.

Commissioner Henry inquired about the funding mechanism for the project. Ms. Scott reviewed the funding sources slide in the power point presentation.

Commissioner Henry inquired about the mechanism for right-of-way acquisition. Ms. Scott shared the federal government requirements which are to: 1) offer the appraised value; 2) perform surveys; and many other steps with the property owners. Ms. Scott advised that it is a very long process and that the city does not do many projects that require right-of-way acquisitions.

Commissioner Henry thanked Public Works staff for the work being done on NE 22nd

Street.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee receive an update on the progress of Strategic Initiative 5.3: Support the reconstruction of transportation facilities to encourage redevelopment of Depot Avenue.

Discussed

080479_Initiative_20090212_RCAPW Committee.pdf
080479A_SI 5.3 Quarterly Update_20101108.pdf
080479B_PPT_20101108.pdf

080481.

Status Update on the City Commission Strategic Initiative to Review the Status of Commercial Recycling Ordinances (B)

Strategic initiatives have been referred to Standing Committees and the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), to promote efficient and effective communication streams between elected officials, city staff and Gainesville residents concerning the implementation of the City's Strategic Plan. This item is a request for the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee to receive an update on the progress of Strategic Initiative 7.2: Review the status of commercial recycling ordinances.

Solid Waste Manager Steve Joplin provided an update on the status of Commercial Recycling Ordinances. Mr. Joplin advised that staff would like to set up a 1st, 2nd and 3rd occurrence surcharge that could be added to the GRU bill. A discussion ensued regarding various fee structures. Mr. Joplin suggested the following fee structure: \$100 first offence, \$250 second offense and \$500 for repeat offenses; regardless of size. A warning would be issued prior to notice of violations with a compliance date.

Commissioner Henry asked if there was a mechanism in place where Solid Waste staff visit start-up businesses. He suggested that when businesses apply for their business license it would be a good mechanism to provide recycling information. Mr. Folkers advised that staff will coordinate with Budget & Finance on this issue.

Commissioner Mastrodicasa inquired about recycling in the bar districts.

Per Mr. Joplin, the bar districts was given amnesty; while staff was trying to work out the garbage issues.

Commissioner Henry inquired how does staff know if a business is doing sufficient recycling. Mr. Joplin advised that the easiest way to look in the dumpster, but they sometime receive complaint calls from employees about the business not recycling.

MOTION: Commissioner Hawkins moved and Commissioner Mastrodicasa seconded that the RCAPW Committee make a recommendation to the City Commission to direct that City Attorney to prepare an ordinance providing for a warning to be given to non-compliant businesses before issuing a violation notice with a compliance date;

and providing for a surcharge in the amount of \$100 for a first offense, \$250 for a second offense, and \$500 for each subsequent offense to be applied to the GRU bill of a non-compliant business.

RECOMMENDATION *The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee receive an update on the progress of Strategic Initiative 7.2: Review the status of plans to establish penalties for non-compliance with commercial recycling ordinances.*

Discussed

080481_Initiative_20090212_RCAPW Committee.pdf
080481A_SI 7.2 Quarterly Update_20101108.pdf
080481B_Recycling Ordinance 27-85.pdf
080481C_Enforcement Examples_20101108.pdf

MEMBER COMMENT

Commissioner Henry advised that citizens have made a path to the Rosa Parks bus depot and would like to know have a sidewalk could be installed for aesthetic purposes. Ms. Scott advised that staff will look into this installation.

Commissioner Mastrodicasa commented about lot 10 that is being used for valet service and advised that it may need better signage for towing purposes.

All three Commissioners suggest using city owned parking lots for potential a revenue source.

Commissioner Hawkins made the following comments: 1) what is the status of the CRA parking study? Mr. Folkers advised that the parking study will be going back to the City Commission in December.

CITIZEN COMMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled to occur on December 13, 2010 at 1:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.