

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes - Draft

April 11, 2019

1:00 PM

GRU Multipurpose Room

General Policy Committee

Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)
Commissioner Helen Warren (At Large)
Commissioner Gail Johnson (At Large)
Commissioner Gigi Simmons (District 1)
Commissioner Harvey Ward (District 2)
Commissioner David Arreola (District 3)
Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)

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CALL TO ORDER - 1:08 PM

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - Mayor Poe, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos, seconded by Commissioner Simmons, that this matter be Adopted. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Poe, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[180938.](#)

General Policy Committee Minutes (B)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Policy Committee approve the minutes of March 28, 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Warren, that this Matter be Approved as Recommended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Poe, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

[180555.](#)

Wild Spaces Public Places (B)

Motion: Direct staff to carry out the following: 1) Use other general funding sources for storefront on the Clarence R. Kelly Center; 2) Renovate the Hartman House, using unassigned WSPP funding to fill the gap for the design and implementation; 3) Historic registration will be send to the Historic Preservation Board regarding registering the house as a historical site; 4) Bring back an updated project cost list and a list of priority opportunities based on current conditions; and 5) Add Bike Pedestrian Board to review projects (e.g., bike trails, etc).

Opening remarks by Assistant City Manager Dan Hoffman.

Betsy Waite, Wild Spaces & Public Places Director and Sarit Sela, Architect gave a presentation with updates on milestones and items for discussion for the Commission to provide direction on moving forward. Presentation topics included: 1) Overview of

Revenue and Expenditures for FY17 and FY18; and 2) Financial Policy for Operation & Maintenance Costs: Issue of how to transition these costs from Wild Spaces Public Places (WSPP) to General Government, with a proposed four-year transition timeline.

Dan Hoffman spoke to the Operation and Maintenance Approval Framework, noted that WSPP will return to the Commission on a quarterly basis.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos asked a question about the Operation and Maintenance Approval Process Timeline. Commented about the Commission reviewing design changes.

Commissioner Simmons requested that target dates be set on projects. Dan Hoffman and Betsy Waite responded.

Commissioner Ward suggested that the Commission be notified on specific projects as a consent agenda item so that Commissioners can request additional information if desired. Mayor Poe spoke to the matter, in favor of updates at the 60% stage for larger projects (e.g., new parks).

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos spoke to the matter.

Mayor Poe confirmed agreement on this process.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos asked a question about ongoing maintenance costs for smaller projects. Betsy Waite responded.

Project Updates: Duval Park Improvements, Green Acres Park Improvement and Reserve Park.

Hartman House at Hogtown Creek Headwaters Nature Park

Commissioner Johnson asked a question about the estimated proposal cost. Betsy Waite responded.

Commissioner Warren asked about whether the house could be an event center for the community once converted to a museum. Betsy Waite and Dan Hoffman responded.

Commissioner Ward asked about the condition of the house. Dan Hoffman responded.

Commissioner Ward asked about moving the house to a different site.

Commissioner Warren asked about making the house available for more uses such as craft skills to cover the costs and provide space for people to gather. She supports considering new construction. Dan Hoffman responded regarding the proposed use of the house as a city-staffed nature center. Commissioner Warren supports using the house for crafts, etc.

Commissioner Simmons supports registering the house as a historic site to support funding and programming.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos commented in support of Commissioner Warren's ideas regarding use of the house and the possibility of moving the house.

Mayor Poe spoke in support of moving forward with the house renovation, allowing Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs staff to determine programming later.

Most of Commission previously spoke against new construction.

Commissioner Warren spoke again in favor of providing space for learning educational skills such as sewing and canning for the community.

Commissioner Johnson asked about pricing estimate and process for Commission reviewing future changes to estimate. Betsy Waite responded. Commissioner Johnson supports renovation as soon as possible.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos asked about the nature programming timeline. Betsy Waite responded. Supports option of renovating.

Jay Reeves spoke about the physical condition of the house. Suggested considering building an outbuilding behind the house to use for public events, etc.

Commissioner Arreola asked about unassigned funds for land conservation. Dan Hoffman spoke to the matter.

Commissioner Ward commented that he opposed using land conservation funds for other uses.

Dan Hoffman spoke about WSPP project costs being higher than originally estimated.

Commissioner Warren requested an updated list of projects with current costs. Dan Hoffman responded that staff will request that and to look at overall project pipeline.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos commented about a County Commissioner suggesting other funding sources for Masonic Lodge; and about land conservation money. Commissioner Simmons agreed with land conservation comment.

Clarence R. Kelly Project - Sarit Sela presented an update on the project and offered various options of development with estimated cost.

Commissioner Simmons asked for clarification on the project timeline process. Dan Hoffman and Sarit Sela responded. Commissioner Simmons requested target dates on projects; spoke in favor of developing the full site.

Commissioner Johnson asked for an overview of the citizen engagement process for the project, wants to know which parts of the proposed plans were supported by the community. Sarit Sela and Dan Hoffman responded. Commissioner Johnson asked for information about the possibility of public-private partnership for a storefront. Staff responded.

Commissioner Ward commented about parking.

Commissioner Warren commented about the project design.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos asked about public athletic courts near the site. Supports creating an architecturally attractive building; asked about current building budget and potential CRA funding. Sarit Sela and Dan Hoffman responded.

Mayor Poe spoke in favor of the full site development plan. Supports the storefront suite idea with lighting, education and activities to serve as a visible neighborhood center. Less supportive of game room.

Commissioner Arreola supports full development options for the site.

Dan Hoffman spoke about cost and funding opportunities, need to clarify list of priorities. Asked for direction from the Commission to review and update the pipeline project list, obtaining input from the Commission and community input on re-prioritizing the list for the next 8 years.

Commissioner Ward spoke in favor of updating the costs and priority list of major projects.

Commissioner Warren spoke about project priorities, support for using WSPP funding for Citizen's Field. Dan Hoffman responded.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos is not ready to move forward on historic preservation yet. Dan Hoffman responded.

Commissioner Johnson requested copies of the 2020 Master Plan and the potential list of WSPP projects. Asked about O&M funding stepdown. Dan Hoffman responded.

Carla Lewis-Miles, Melanie Barr, Debbie Hartman, Pastor Butler and Doris Edwards spoke to the matter.

RECOMMENDATION

The General Policy Committee hear a Staff update by Wild Spaces Public Places on a financial policy for operation and maintenance costs, project updates, and a discussion of the Hartman House and the Clarence R. Kelly Community Center.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Poe, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos

180816.

Discussion of Non-English Speaking Victims & Witnesses (B)

Motion: 1) Adopt modifications to GO 40.1, GO 40.3, GO 40.6 (attached to 40.6 - language be brought back demonstrating the efforts to provide domestic violence victims with access to victim's advocates and be brought back at a later date); 2) Adopt modification to GO 55.2 policy language attached to 50.2 - language to protect victims and witnesses from being asked about citizenship status if immaterial to the circumstances; 3) Bring back information about pending litigation related to policies prohibiting law enforcement from asking about citizenship status; 4) Bring back final draft of Limited English Guidelines; and 5) Expedite procurement for protracted interpreter services.

Interim City Manager Deborah Bowie introduced the item.

Chief of Police Tony Jones and Chief Inspector Campos presented the updates made by GPD to the policy on GO 40.1 Sexual Battery Violence Investigations. Victim's Bill of Rights brochure added.

Mayor Poe reviewed the updated provisions to the policy.

Mayor Poe invited a representative from local victim advocates group to join the discussion. Veronica Robleto and Reina Saco, Florida Legal Services, discussed changes made to the policy.

Mayor Poe presented updates to GO 40.3 Foreign Nationals, reviewed changes to language regarding victims and witnesses.

Reina Saco asked about how police determine status of foreign nationals. GPD staff responded.

Veronica Robleto asked a question about police encountering individuals during traffic violations; asked for clarification about individuals stopped without a valid drivers' license. Chief Inspector Campos provided clarification on policy regarding asking for individuals' names. Reina Saco commented.

Interim City Manager Deborah Bowie commented about the importance of community engagement and training following the development of policy.

Chief Inspector Campos presented a draft of a policy on Limited English Guidelines, which addresses GPD encounters with non-English speakers. Will need to obtain language translation line services.

Veronica Robleto commented about the issue of proficiency in communication, the importance of having certified translators to assist police communicating with non-English speakers.

Chief Inspector Campos commented about handling emergent issues. Noted City's gap in understanding the demographics of non-English speaking population in the community.

Commissioner Simmons asked about technology to assist with translation.

Reina Saco spoke about determining language needs of a population.

Equal Opportunity Director Teneeshia Marshall spoke about City demographic data.

Interim City Manager Deborah Bowie spoke to the matter.

Chief Inspector Campos clarified that GPD can follow a temporary policy until the final policy is completed.

Commissioner Ward spoke about translation technology.

Mayor Poe asked if BEBR might be able to conduct a demographic study.

Commissioner Arreola asked about similar policies from other law enforcement agencies. Chief Inspector Campos responded.

Commissioner Ward spoke in favor of moving forward with Spanish language translation while the City determines other demographics and language needs.

Mayor Poe suggests leaving the policy to the working group to continue. Interim City Manager Deborah Bowie will reach out to BEBR about demographic data.

Commissioner Arreola spoke in favor of moving ahead with pieces of new Limited English Guidelines policy, while other questions are being finalized. Chief Inspector Campos responded, will address interim policy adjustments through a memo until finalized.

Chief Inspector Campos reviewed changes to the 40.6 Domestic Violence Investigations policy.

Commissioner Simmons and Mayor Poe asked a question about the policy.

Veronica Robleto commented that the policy should require that non-English speakers must have proper translation services and victims' advocates. Chief Inspector Campos responded. Mayor Poe responded.

Updates to the policy GO 55.2 Victim Witness Assistance were explained. GPD spoke to the victim identity protection.

Veronica Robleto spoke to the issue of policy prohibiting law enforcement from asking about citizenship status. GPD responded about potential legal issues related to the City not following current federal law.

Veronica Robleto requests that GPD follow a policy of asking citizenship status only if necessary, have a safety net requiring authorization to ask rather than asking routinely during initial encounter with officers.

Interim City Manager Deborah Bowie reiterated that there is not an agreement among community advocates, City staff (City Manager and City Attorney) and GPD on this issue. Mayor Poe stated that the City will not put staff in the position of being personally liable for such a policy; noted that GPD policy is not to ask citizenship status. Reina Saco responded.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos asked City Attorney Nicolle Shalley for clarification on the issue of having a policy of prohibition on not asking citizenship, but may be permissible to have a policy that provides more guidance on when officers ask.

Commissioner Ward supports working with advocates to develop language that addresses the need, but will not send staff into legal jeopardy.

Mayor confirmed that GPD will issue memo with language on policy advances ahead of memo.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos asked a question about the Commission adopting recommended policy changes. City Attorney Nicolle Shalley recommended that Commission doesn't adopt policy changes, but endorses.

Nathan Skop spoke to the matter.

Veronica Robleto requested a public awareness campaign and announcement.

Commissioner Arreola thanked everyone for their work on this discussion.

Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos and Commissioner Ward thanked staff for work done on this issue.

Commissioner Ward reiterated that he will not support any policy that will jeopardize staff.

Commissioner Simmons asked a clarifying question about research; and timeline. Commissioner Arreola responded that they were not assigning a timeline at this time.

Mayor Poe thanked staff, GPD, everyone involved in conversation.

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee discuss and take action deemed necessary.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Arreola, seconded by Commissioner Ward, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Poe, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Arreola, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Simmons, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Hayes-Santos

160675.

Urban Design Standards (B)

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee:*
1) *Hear a presentation from staff;*
2) *Provide direction as appropriate;*
3) *Remove the item from the General Policy Committee referral list.*

Continued

180877.

General Policy Referral List (B)

RECOMMENDATION *The General Policy Committee discuss.*

Not Heard.

MEMBER COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE

ADJOURNMENT - 5:11 PM