

City of Gainesville

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 5, 2004

3:00 PM

**DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCESS
EDUCC Special Meeting**

Economic Development/University Community Com

*Commissioner Warren Nielsen, Chair
Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan, Member
Commissioner Ed Braddy, 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

ROLL CALL

Present: Pegeen Hanrahan and Warren Nielsen
Absent: Edward Braddy

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

040503 Development Review Process - Special Meeting (B)

The EDUCC discuss the City Government Committee's recommendations for Development Review Process (DRP).

1) The City Government Committee recommended that staff provide more information to citizens participating in the FIRST STEP Process about what materials they could bring to first step in order to have the most productive first step meeting. This has been implemented. The City Government Committee also recommended that staff develop a firm cycle for minor reviews (the staff-level reviews of smaller projects), with clear cut-off dates and turnaround times, just as the City has for larger projects that go to the Development Review Board (DRB). This has also been implemented.

2) Create a cycle for minor reviews.

Planning department developed a trial minor review cycle in July 2004, holding two minor review cycles a month.

3) The City Government Committee recommended eliminating neighborhood meetings. (The Committee is proposing a different type of informal early meeting on design input for projects in some areas.) The Committee recommended creating a consent agenda process for the Development Review Board, much like the City Commission has for items unlikely to generate controversy or need discussion.

4) Create a consent agenda process applicable to the City of Gainesville Development Review Board (DRB) and Plan Board.

The EDUCC has deferred decision to create a consent agenda process applicable to the City of Gainesville Development Review Board and Plan Board until the restructure of the DRP has been finalized.

5) The City Government Committee recommended that the development review process be restructured. The Committee's recommendation is that the City offer a FIRST STEP meeting continue to be at the beginning of the process. The Committee

also recommended that thresholds be raised so that projects of considerably larger size be reviewed and approved administratively by staff, so that only projects of 20 houses or more, 50 multifamily units or more, 10,000 or more square feet of commercial, or 5 acres or more of industrial, go to the DRB for discussion and hearings. The City Government Committee recommends that projects in the urban core (those covered by the Special Area Plans or within the Community Redevelopment Agency districts) be required to meet with a landscape architect or architect (the City would probably need two of each on contract in order to avoid conflicts on specific projects) at the Florida Community Design Center. The meeting could take place prior to application, anytime up to staff's technical review of the application, at the petitioner's convenience as to when the input would be the most productive. The meeting would be suggestions-only. The petitioner could choose any of the meeting times which would be regularly scheduled and noticed, either once every two weeks or once a month at the Design Center, whichever the need turns out to be. Finally, the City Government Committee recommended slotted positions (particular backgrounds) for the DRB members.

EDUCC directed staff to submit recommendations and moved them forward to the City Commission.

RECOMMENDATION *The EDUCC discuss the Inter City Committee's City Government Subcommittee recommendations for Development Review Process: 1) Provide additional information to First Step applicants; 2) Create a cycle for minor reviews; 3) Eliminate neighborhood meetings; 4) Create a consent agenda process applicable to the City of Gainesville Development Review Board (DRB) and Plan Board; and 5) Restructure the development review process as indicated.*

Discussed

RECESSED - October 5, 2004 @ 5:30 PM

RECONVENE- December 8, 2005 @ 3:00 PM in City Hall Conf Rm 16

City Commission Extended Terms (B)

The EDUCC heard presentation from the Interim City Manager regarding options to alternative City Commission terms. Staff distributed a memo outlining other government elections, detailing a chart of alternative City Commission terms and the City election dates. This staff report is the result of the City Government Sub-Committee and Economic Development Sub-Committee's recommendation to discuss the City Commissioners' extended terms.

The presentation's alternative City Commissioners' option terms for discussion included: Option 1) Four year terms with no elections every fourth year; Option 2) Four year terms with two years of elections and two years off; Option 3) Four year terms with elections every odd year; and Option 4) Four year terms with elections on odd years; and Option 5) Three year terms with no elections every third year.

The EDUCC referred discussion to the City Commission and/or Charter Review Committee.

RECOMMENDATION *The EDUCC discuss adding the issue of extended City Commission terms to the March 2005 ballot to allow two consecutive four year terms.*

ADJOURNMENT - 5:30 PM