

City of Gainesville

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

5:15 PM

City Hall, Room 16

Community Development Committee

*Commissioner Jack Donovan, Chair
Commissioner Scherwin Henry, Member
Commissioner Thomas Hawkins, 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.

060854.**Healthy City, Healthy Region: An Update - Ten Years Later - January 2007 (B)**

Erik Bredfeldt, Planning & Development Director, gave a brief history of the previous meetings. Mr. Bredfeldt provided a powerpoint presentation to the CDC.

Chair Donovan discussed the definition of "under-employment". He suggested that the terminology should be "under-employment and under-payment". He noted that the City had a Living Wage Ordinance recognizing the price that the market sets for wages isn't necessarily worthy of the work being completed.

Commissioner Hawkins stated there was no way to have land use controls throughout the entire county in order to squeeze higher density development into the urban areas. He explained that if change was to come about there needed to be a way to compete for upper middle class residents. He indicated that there is a demand for the highest quality services and the highest quality of development.

Mr. Bredfeldt stated that the City Commission's policy direction was to improve the quality of life in the City, focusing particular attention on urban areas and services.

Chair Donovan stated that the City Commission can seek to educate the wider community on the increasing economic and racial segregation. He noted that there would be impact to the City itself, create depravation for the whole region, including a vibrant inner-core to the County. He suggested that it would also impact the decline of the economy overall. He stated the City needed to offer another vision and encourage the City/County Commissioners to change their approach or to change the City/County Commissioners.

Commissioner Hawkins stated that even with political change, there would still be a problem in reducing development rights that are granted in the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that in order to attain a goal, there needed to be a change in economics, much of which is not possible. He noted that one economic control would be improvement of the quality of life and increasing the demand for in-town living.

Chair Donovan reported that Commissioner Lowe felt that there was some light at the end of the tunnel in terms of joint planning.

Chair Donovan suggested changing the terminology from "development" to "human habitat, natural habitat or other species habitat". He suggested that it would provide a structure for changing perceptions of the jurisdiction of government in the County.

Below are the recommendations from the CDC to the City Commission on the Rusk Report.

(1) The City Commission endorse the Countywide Visioning and Planning Committee's efforts at joint planning.

(2) The City Commission direct the City Manager and/or designee to report to the City Commission on all Alachua County large scale Comprehensive Plan amendments and residential development that cross a staff recommended impact

threshold

(3) The City Commission direct the City Manager and/or designee to schedule a Commission Workshop on the topic of actions that can be pursued by the City to ensure the proper education of children.

(4) The City Commission endorse the efforts of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee to address issues of affordable housing with presentation back to the City Commission.

(5) The City Commission include in the development of its future Strategic Plan/Vision goals regarding: 1) attraction and retention of City residents with higher incomes; and, 2) a balanced concern for the plight of families that are struggling to earn a decent wage.

(6) The City Commission direct the City Manager and/or designee to request a report from Alachua County Plan staff on the status of their EAR and to indicate the City Commission favors a more rigorous standard for agricultural zoning within the County.

RECOMMENDATION

1) The CDC approved Report Recommendation No. 6 to read: "The City Commission endorse the CWVPC efforts to affect joint planning"; 2) Staff to report back on Report Recommendations 1& 2, and to provide a map of the Urban Reserve Areas; and 3) Staff to report back on Charlotte Mecklenburg's Joint Planning Commission as adopted by a Unified Comprehensive Plan.

Approved as Recommended

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