

# **City of Gainesville**

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



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 19, 2006**

**4:00 PM**

**Meeting will begin at the conclusion of the Joint Community  
Development/Public Safety Meeting  
City Hall, Ground Floor, Room 16**

## **Public Safety Committee**

*Commissioner Ed Braddy, Chair  
Commissioner Jack Donovan, 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

*Commissioner Braddy called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m. following the adjournment of the joint Community Development/Public Safety Committee meeting.  
Present: Edward Braddy and Jack Donovan*

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*Commissioner Braddy moved and Commissioner Donovan seconded adoption of the agenda as presented.*

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Commissioner Braddy moved and Commissioner Donovan seconded approval of the minutes as presented.*

## DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

### 050723

#### **Beer Keg Registration Legislation (B)**

*Note: Materials were provided at this meeting by the University of Florida, Student Health Care Center (SHCC) after the agendas were distributed, in addition to the backup materials included on the agenda.*

*Mr. Tavis Glassman, UF SHCC, who coordinates drug and alcohol prevention programs at the University of Florida, spoke concerning the debate of whether keg registration will make a difference or not. He summarized all of the documents that were provided to the committee. Some of his points included the following: Research of universities that implemented alcohol policies using a variety of programs had their binge drinking rates go down significantly. Schools that only offered one or two programs reflected no change. He showed the "smoking decline" chart that was presented to the City Commission last month and again noted the decline due to a variety of educational efforts. He stated that most people do not get alcohol from off premise kegs and reiterated that keg registration gives law enforcement another tool and increases accountability. He remarked that similarly the Responsible Hospitality groups training that they conducted last evening, won't be the silver bullet, but concluded that it still should be continued as one more mechanism in education.*

*Mr. Glassman stated that with all the states that have adopted keg registration, he felt it was no accident that it is getting passed across the country as a prevention norm and seems to be growing in popularity. He discussed the "Being an Advocate Matters" handout, reading in part,..."The Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center conducted a study of 97 cities across the country with various alcohol regulations. The LSU report found that cities with keg registration laws were more likely to have lower alcohol-related traffic fatality rates." (March 2005)*

*Mr. Glassman turned his discussion to the irresponsible drink special legislation.*

*C/Braddy reminded that the City Commission supported both the keg registration and drink specials as city legislative priority issues at their 1/9/06 CC meeting; however, only the keg registration was returned to the PSC for continued discussion. Mr. Glassman wanted to report back from his comments at that CC meeting regarding Jacksonville's ordinance. Assistant City Attorney Daniel Nee advised that their research and contact revealed that Jacksonville is not enforcing the ordinance on the books, that it was partially enjoined in 1987 and they haven't enforced since. He further stated that it is still the attorney's opinion that it would be a matter pre-empted by the state. C/Braddy asked Mr. Nee to get with Mr. Glassman on this. He also noted that is precisely why the city of Gainesville has this as a state legislative initiative.*

*Ashley Arthur, UF Senior, who has been conducting research on alcohol for the past year, spoke in strong support of keg registration. She commented that it is a matter of a few extra steps for individuals but makes the providers more responsible. Dan Burkhardt stated that he felt the referral back to the PSC from the City Commission and what has been presented today still doesn't address the issue which was to get feedback on what is effective in other states. He commented that it is "feel good legislation" but not really solving the problem or dealing with the potential of unintended consequences. He reiterated past comments that people can easily just switch from beer kegs to "hunch punch". He stated he was troubled by Mr. Glassman's comparison to tobacco, feeling it sends a message of a prescription for prohibition. He stated that alcohol, in moderation, is shown to have health benefits so there is differences, and further that they do recognize the need to be responsible with any alcohol consumption. He expressed that education does work by making people aware of the consequences and enforcement, that underage drinking is against the law and when officers catch someone, the law needs to be enforced. He suggested the judicial system needs to be stricter. In regards to the "tagging map" he points out that there are only 20 states (21 if you can count D.C.) with beer keg laws and others shown have pending legislation, and doesn't feel one should assume it will be passed. Further, he suggested a lot of them are old legislation. Mr. Burkhardt remarked that he sees no compelling evidence that this attacks the problem and no results or studies that show that either. He said he has not found where any of these keg registration cases have ever been prosecuted. He discussed some of the studies provided in the back up and stated that he feels with effective penalties and punishments, along with education, these problems can be resolved without unnecessary legislation. C/Donovan thanked Mr. Burkhardt for the advocacy of his position.*

*C/Braddy expressed some disappointment that the information provided did not give a review of the cities to see if other alcohol issues had decreased in order to make some type of reasonable conclusion where one could attribute some of that to the recently adopted ordinance. That said, he stated he was still leaning in the direction that it would be an effective tool for law enforcement making it easier to identify who is supplying alcohol at a party. Chief agreed and said that lifestyle crimes cannot be solved by enforcement alone, but instead the more prevention the greater the effect will be. Unfortunately this is not generally favored because prevention is hard to track down the road and society wants instant results. Cpt. Hanna remarked that it is an issue of whether there should be accountability.*

*C/Braddy suggested UF could look at those "unintended consequences" to get*

*feedback from other cities who've adopted the keg registration and inquire as to whether there have been any unnecessary costs passed onto the beer vendors. He suggested the committee still has time to look at all this, if it doesn't get picked up at the state level this year.*

*Mr. Burkhardt commented in regards to the drink special legislation his feelings that there are all sorts of issues with the legislation with restricting free trade and that it should be a state issue, not a city issue.*

*C/Braddy concluded his comments by expressing disappointment that student government was not in attendance.*

*This item will remain in committee so if any parties have new information, it can be brought back and made a part of the public record. Likewise, if the committee hears of any movement on the state level, the committee will advise those interested parties.*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The Public Safety Committee 1) hear a report from University of Florida and staff on what other states have found post adoption of keg registration and any other pertinent information from other municipalities, and 2) take any necessary action.*

**Discussed**

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**MEMBER COMMENT**

*None*

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

*None*

**NEW BUSINESS****050792**

**State LECFTF Funding for Corner Drug Store Interface Youth Program and Spotlight on Youth Campaign**

**This item requests that the City Commission appropriate and expend funds from the State Law Enforcement Contraband Forfeiture Trust Fund for the Corner Drug Store Interface Youth Program and Spotlight on Youth Campaign.**

*The committee approved forwarding this item to the full City Commission.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The City Commission authorize the appropriation of an amount not to exceed \$10,000 from the State Law Enforcement Contraband Forfeiture Trust Fund for the Corner Drug Store Interface Youth Program and Spotlight on Youth Campaign.*

*Alternative Recommendation A: The City Commission decline the appropriation and advise staff to not fund the request from the Corner Drug Store. There is no fiscal impact.*

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**NEXT MEETING DATE**

*February 16, 2006, 1:30 p.m.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.*