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# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 1, 2007

1:30 PM

City Hall, Room 16

## Community Development Committee

*Commissioner Scherwin Henry, Chair  
Commissioner Jack Donovan, Member  
Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Craig Lowe, Member/Alternate*

*Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Office of Equal Opportunity 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 1:35 PM.*

## ROLL CALL

Present: Craig Lowe, Jack Donovan and Scherwin Henry

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*Approved as recommended.*

## DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

### **040180 Principles of Sustainability in Significant Decisions (B)**

*Tom Saunders, Community Development Director, explained that when the Mayor was elected she had created a number of transition teams and one of those teams was the Sustainability Steering Committee. He noted that the Sustainability Steering Committee met a number of times and updated the Community Development Committee on their progress. He indicated that Russ Blackburn, City Manager suggested that the Sustainability Steering Committee be sunset and a new committee formed. He noted that Mr. Blackburn saw the new Committee as more of a clearinghouse and oversight tracking team, rather than a team that one dealing with the specifics of implementing program changes. He explained that the newly formed team would report periodically to the City Commission.*

*Commission Lowe suggested that all agenda items going to the City Commission have a fiscal note on them for sustainability review.*

*Chair Henry asked if the City has sustainability goals.*

*Peter Backhaus, Chair of the Sustainability Committee, stated that there was a sustainability mission statement, but there were no goals in place.*

*Chair Henry stated that if the City had sustainability goals in place, they could compare those goals to what the City is trying to achieve, which could give the Commission assistance in their decision making.*

*Commission Donovan spoke about what Gainesville would look like if it was built-out and whether it would be sustainable. He suggested that one of the things that defined the parameters of sustainability goals is what happens under different scenarios of zoning. He requested that staff provide the Committee with the PowerPoint presentation that went before the City Commission.*

*Lieutenant Backhaus stated that Alachua County has established a sustainability office.*

**RECOMMENDATION** *Hear a report from staff on: 1) who the new Chair will be; 2) who will be representing GRU; 3) the PowerPoint that was previously given to the City Commission; 4) whether the new clearinghouse committee can provide sustainability goals; and 4) the possibility of a fiscal note on future City Commission agenda items referring to sustainability.*

**Approved as Recommended**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **060910. Temporary Signage at Car Dealerships (B)**

*Mr. Saunders stated that the item on temporary signs at car dealerships was a referral from the City Commission. He stated that he would meet with the Sunrise car dealership next Monday and report back to the Committee next month.*

**RECOMMENDATION** *Staff to report back next month on the meeting with Sunrise car dealership.*

**Approved as Recommended**

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

*Mr. Saunders stated that there were specific recommendations for action by the City Commission based upon a report by Mr. David Rusk: They are: 1) the City Commission and the County Commission should explore the jointly-appointed corporate limits council as a mechanism to support the City's annexation plans; 2) the City and County should explore "density" as a method of signaling or requiring the annexation of urban areas; 3) the City Commission and staff should build working relationships with the Alachua County Board of Education and school district staff on planning and capital projects; 4) the City Commission should appoint a task force on inclusionary zoning, composed of City officials, housing agency representatives, developer/builders/realtors, and housing advocates to develop a City inclusionary zoning law. If possible, the task force should be a joint undertaking with the County Commission; 5) the City Commission should encourage management of the County Comprehensive Plan to establish a more rigorous standard for agricultural zoning (i.e., at least 20 acres per housing unit) to help promote infill development within the City and other urbanizing areas; and 6) the City Commission should initiate discussions with the County Commission about a process for joint planning coordination, which could eventually lead to a joint planning Commission as in Charlotte-Mecklenburg County or in other Florida cities and counties.*

*There was discussion of the David Rusk report among the Committee members and staff.*

**RECOMMENDATION** *Staff to report back next month on: 1) the recommendations for discussion; 2) how well growth management is working in*

*Charlotte-Mecklenburg; and 3) bringing maps of where new residences are located.*

**Approved as Recommended**

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

*March 1, 2007 1:30 PM*

**ADJOURNMENT**