

City of Gainesville

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



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 11, 2010

1:00 PM

City Hall, Room 16

Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Scherwin Henry, Chair
Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Member
Commissioner Lauren Poe, 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

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor-Commissioner ProTem Scherwin Henry, Chair and Commissioner Lauren Poe

Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa entered the meeting room at 1:20 PM

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Poe moved and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Henry seconded to adopt the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Poe moved and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Henry seconded to approve the minutes as circulated.

090739.

Approval of the January 14, 2010 Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee Minutes (B)

RECOMMENDATION *The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee approve the minutes of the January 14, 2010 meeting as submitted.*

Approved

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WAIVER OF RULES

Commissioner Poe moved and Commissioner Henry seconded to waive the rules and discuss File #080477 Complete Capital Projects at Parks - Improvement Programs, Development Land Conservation and Acquisition program (Biodiversity, Passive Recreation) - CCOM Strategic Initiative first.

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

These minutes are a summary of the meeting and is not a verbatim discussion. A copy of this meeting recording will be provided upon request.

080477.

Complete Capital Projects at Parks - Improve programs, Development Land Conservation and Acquisition Program (Biodiversity, Passive Recreation) -

CCOM Strategic Initiative (NB)

This item is an update to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee regarding the implementation of Capital Improvement Projects for the Wild Spaces Public Places One-Half Cent Sales Tax Initiative.

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Director Steve Phillips provided a brief history regarding implementation of this initiative and then introduced Purchasing Manager Aleta Cozart and Senior Buyer Patti Jo Davis who provided an in depth on-line update via the website for the Capital Improvement Projects for the Wild Spaces Public Spaces One-Half Cent Sales Tax Initiative.

Assistant City Manager Paul Folkers shared information with the Committee about discussions he has had with the Alachua County Library District regarding the concept of a library facility at the Eastside Recreation Center @ Cone Park.

Commissioner Henry shared information in his capacity as serving on the Library Governing Board, that the Trustees and the Governor agreed to move to enter into negotiations for a Eastside Branch and that they have applied for a \$500,000 grant to the State for the Eastside facility. It is number 7 out of 21 for possible funding.

Commissioner Henry questioned if the outside of the Rosa B. Williams Center will be painted. Staff will submit a work order to General Services.

Commissioner Mastrodicasa commented that it was good to see the progress of all the projects.

Commissioner Henry suggested that staff consider doing a documentary with before and after photos to be aired on TV 12 at a later date.

Assistant City Manager Paul Folkers expressed thanks to Steve Phillips and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs staff; as well as, Mark Benton and his staff for their hard work on this project. A special thanks went out to Aleta Cozart and Patti Jo Davis.

RECOMMENDATION *The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee hear an update from staff regarding the implementation of Capital Improvement Projects for the Wild Spaces Public Places One-Half Cent Sales Tax Initiative.*

Discussed

080477_Strategic Initiatives_20090108.pdf

090110.

Proposed Cell Tower at Westside Park (B)

This item involves referral of the issue of placement of a Cell Tower at Albert “Ray” Massey Westside Park to the Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee for review.

Steve Phillips updated the Committee on the previous history of a proposed cell tower. The type of tower, the financial consequences and the location of the tower were all different than what the current proposal entails. Mr. Phillips introduced Dave Boeff, TowerCom representative who provided an update.

Mr. Boeff shared information on the proposed tower by distributing photographic simulations. Surveys and site plans were also available for viewing. Mr. Boeff advised the Committee that TowerCom had a neighborhood meeting with only one person in attendance who was opposed to a cell tower at any site by any tower company. The proposed cell tower for West Park will be placed next to the batting cage. TowerCom is proposing to enclose the tower with wrought iron fencing; improve the access road that is currently being used and provide new batting cages. If all goes well, TowerCom plans on beginning construction in August with an estimated completion in October.

Commissioner Henry inquired about the color of the pole. A suggestion was made to include colors that will blend with the greenery and trees in the park.

Commissioner Mastrodicasa suggested including a photo simulation of the neighborhood at the intersection of NW 10th Avenue & 34th Street at the north corner of Littlewood Elementary.

Commissioner Henry inquired about what were some of the issues and concerns of the citizens from the previous neighborhood meeting. Mr. Phillips advised that the majority of the citizens were concerned with the lack of reception on their phones.

Commissioner Poe inquired if there were many people that attended the meeting who were in support of the cell tower. Mr. Boeff stated that the majority of citizens were in support of the cell tower.

Kathy Viehe, Assistant General Manager for Customer Support Service at GRU advised the Committee that they support the proposed cell tower at Albert "Ray" Massey Westside Park.

MOTION: Commissioner Poe moved and Commissioner Mastrodicasa seconded that the Committee recommend approval of this project to the City Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

The Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Public Works Committee: 1) hear an update on the placement of a cell tower at Westside Park; and 2) recommend approval of this project to the City Commission, contingent upon conclusion of successful negotiations by City staff with TowerCom for revenue arrangements, site location and capital improvements.

Approved, as shown above - See Motion(s)

Roll Call: Present: Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Scherwin Henry and Lauren Poe

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MEMBER COMMENT

Commissioner Mastrodicasa announced that the SW Recreational Building on campus was complete and a topping out ceremony was held today.

Commissioner Mastrodicasa questioned if there was a proposal to merge Metcalfe and Rawlings schools or if it were just an rumor. No one knew for certain.

Commissioner Henry would like to revisit with all the stakeholder groups that were here several months ago to discuss their summer programming.

Commissioner Henry inquired about the concession building at Mickle Pool. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Assistant Director Michelle Park advised that there is a serious roof leak in the building and staff is working with the facilities department to see if it can be patched.

CITIZEN COMMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE

The March 11th meeting will be cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled to occur on Thursday, April 8, 2010 at 1:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM