

City of Gainesville

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



Minutes - Final

April 5, 2017

3:00 PM

**Gainesville Police Dept, Hall of Heroes, 545 NW 8 Ave, Gainesville,
FL**

Citizen Committee for Implementing the Strategic Framework

Fatma Kaplan, Chair

Cary Bryant

Susan Davenport

Gerard Duncan

Dave Ferro

John Fleming

Mitch Glaeser

Gail Johnson

Diyonne McGraw

Art Stockwell

Kevin Thorpe

Quang Tran

Jahmere Webb

Randy Wells

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present 12 - Kaplan, Duncan, McGraw, Fleming, Bryant, Johnson, Glaeser, Webb, Thorpe, Stockwell, Wells, and Tran

Absent 2 - Ferro, and Davenport

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

160900.

Workshop 3: How Might We Foster Greater Equity? (B)

This item requests the Committee to participate in a workshop to assess and prioritize the community's big ideas in implementing the Strategic Plan Framework.

The committee members in attendance broke into two groups in order to prioritize the ideas generated from the Gainesville Creative Series contacts for the Guiding Question: How Might We Foster Greater Equity? Members focused on how specific ideas may strengthen neighborhoods, provide equitable services, and support access to housing.

The first exercise focused on reflecting and identifying the top ten ideas. When committee members returned, Co-Chair Thorpe presented his group's ten ideas as expanding childcare, especially afterschool care, microhousing options to alleviate the overcrowding at Dignity Village/ Grace Marketplace using the Austin, TX model as inspiration, UF relocation of some classes to the Eastside Building and vocational technical education in East Gainesville. Member Thorpe mentioned further that East Gainesville needs Eastside emergency medical center is desperately needed, trolley –style buses, and economic incentives to attract businesses to operate/relocate to East Gainesville. The first group further suggested that in order to capitalize on the traffic flowing through East Gainesville, specifically Putnam County residents, a park-and-ride area with room to develop as its own attraction. The group reiterated the idea to relocate City Hall to East Gainesville as soon as possible and to create more opportunities for grocery stores. Create massive stormwater basins to bypass the environmental overlays in the area. Vision to Zero Action Plan which helps to protect pedestrians who use multi-modal transportation who are more at risk to accidents in order to get the city to identify methods to address the issue. Utilizing facilities like Prairie View to somehow invest in them to provide vocational training or afterschool care.

Committee Member Wells presents his group's top ten ideas. He mentioned that focus should be made on identifying school outcome disparities based upon race, income, specialized programs, etc. High speed internet at a reasonable price is critical. Provide resources to empower people to help others in need of services. It was suggested that a commonwealth entity be created to assist in providing employment, education, etc. City and county government are prohibited from providing such services for they cannot discriminate in the delivery of services. Additionally, it was suggested that the city adopt a high standard, like College Park

CRA, and use that standard to measure/prioritize the neighborhoods that have the greatest need based upon the vitality needs assessment. Improve transit options for those who depend on that form of transportation for work and school. Member Wells explained that the University of Florida funds it for where the students are located and other fund allocation sources have not been identified. Criminal justice disparity is an important topic; more work needs to be done. Volusia County Sheriff Office is using an innovative approach to reduce shootings. Changes in East Gainesville will foster a change in perception for the area and facilitate a thriving neighborhood.

Once the group reconvened, each group narrowed its focus to five to seven topics. Member McGraw expressed its needs as Eastside Emergency Medical Services, Park and Ride and Trolley buses, affordable housing (Mueller model, Grace, and microhousing), Votech (Prairie View) – entrepreneurial incubator/accelerator for age group, Eastside business incentives (grocery stores, local eateries, etc.), stormwater basins and infrastructure, and Vision Zero Action Plan.

Chair Kaplan narrowed her group's big ideas as follows: Fix educational disparity, dedicate attention to East Gainesville to include a Park and Ride and moving City Hall, facilitation of vitality assessment throughout the city, offering high speed internet at affordable prices, and analysis of GNV4ALL initiatives.

RECOMMENDATION *The Citizen Committee 1) participate in a workshop.*

Discussed

[160901.](#)

Additional Retreat (NB)

This item requests the Committee to discuss options for participating in a deeper dive into the Committee's big ideas.

Motion to approve the scheduling of the retreat for March 31, 2017 passed.

RECOMMENDATION *The Citizen Committee 1) discuss options for participating in a deeper dive into the Committee's big ideas.*

Discussed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[160913.](#)

Citizen Committee for Implementing the Strategic Framework Minutes (B)

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

RECOMMENDATION *The Citizen Committee 1) approve the minutes of March 31, 2017.*

Approved as Recommended

MEMBER COMMENT

Member McGraw's comments circled around the impact of action, cost, and accountability. She also expressed interest in setting a time/day certain presentation to the City Commission with the committee members making the presentation.

Member Wells indicated that the ideas will need collaboration and should involve

effort of those who are passionate about it.

Member McGraw indicated that the committee should take ideas to the community, like churches, for greater support.

Member Thorpe requested Member Wells' guidance on ideas which could be considered a no-go by the Commission.

Member Glaeser recommended that the ideas include an implementation timeframe in the hopes that the commission would adopt all the recommendations as a whole.

CITIZEN COMMENT

No citizen comment made at the meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The retreat is scheduled for Monday, April 10, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:01 PM.