

# City of Gainesville

City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601



## **Minutes - Final**

December 9, 2021

1:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room

## **General Policy Committee**

*Mayor Lauren Poe (At Large)*  
*Commissioner Reina Saco (At Large, Seat A)*  
*Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker (District 1)*  
*Commissioner Harvey Ward (District 2)*  
*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem David Arreola (District 3)*  
*Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos (District 4)*

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**CALL TO ORDER - 1:02 PM****ROLL CALL**

**Present** 4 - Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

**Absent** 1 - Commissioner Duncan-Walker

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Saco, seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, that this Matter be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Duncan-Walker

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

[210469.](#)

**Approval of Minutes from September 23, and October 28, 2021 General Policy Committee Meetings (B)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The General Policy Committee approve the September 23, and October 28, 2021 minutes.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, that this Matter be Approved as Recommended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner Ward, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Duncan-Walker

**DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**

[210670.](#)

**Appointments to the Citizen Advisory Board for Community Development and the Historic Preservation Board (B)**

*Motion by Commissioner Saco; seconded by Commissioner Hayes-Santos: Appoint Omar Hernandez to the vacancy for the Citizen Advisory Board for Community Development. Motion passed: 5-0; Commissioner Duncan-Walker absent.*

*Kristen Bryant, Executive Assistant, and Kathleen Kauffman, Historic Preservation Officer, spoke to the matter.*

*Motion by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, seconded by Commissioner Saco:  
Appoint the following individuals to serve on the Historic Preservation Board:  
Michael Hazen, Michael Hill and James Reeves to full terms (ending in 2025);  
Bill Warriner, Nathaniel Courtney, and Philip Haight to terms ending in 2024;  
Elizabeth Hauch, Rachel Iannelli and Azza Kamal to terms ending in 2023;  
and Bridgette Murphey to the student seat. Motion passed: 5-0; Commissioner  
Duncan-Walker absent.*

*Public comment: Omar Hernandez, Kyra Lucas*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The City Commission discuss the appointments to the Citizen  
Advisory Board for Community Development and the Historic  
Preservation Board and take appropriate action.*

**Approved, as shown above**

[210424.](#)

**Commission Staffing Structure (B)**

*Motion: Direct the City Attorney's Office and the City Clerk's Office to bring  
back potential Charter language for independent staffers for Commissioners  
to a GPC meeting in February.*

*Moran Spicer, Interim Policy Oversight Administrator, gave a presentation.*

*Omichele Gainey, City Clerk, spoke to the item.*

*Dan Nee, Interim City Attorney, spoke to the item.*

*Public comment: Donald Shepherd, Nathan Skop, Andrew Mitchell*

**RECOMMENDATION**      *The General Policy Committee hear a presentation, discuss,  
and take any action deemed appropriate.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, seconded by  
Commissioner Saco, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above. The  
motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Poe, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Commissioner Saco, Commissioner  
Ward, and Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Duncan-Walker

[200741.](#)

**Youth Services Division Update (B)**

*Roxy Gonzalez, Interim Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director  
presented the item.*

*Ginger Bigbie, City Auditor, and Cynthia Curry, Interim City Manager, spoke to the matter.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The General Policy Committee hear a verbal update from staff.*

**Heard**

[200744.](#)

**Candidate Qualifying (NB)**

*Motion: Ask staff to bring back changes to qualifying in which candidates may (1) collect signature petitions from 1% of the registered electors in the district in which they are running, with the caveat that during a redistricting period, the signatures can be taken from anywhere in the City; including a charge of \$.10 for each petition with the City subsidizing \$.20; (2) pay a qualifying fee of 2% of the office's salary instead of petitions. Bring back to the Commission in January.*

*Votes:*

*(1) Petition: Motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Duncan-Walker absent.*

*(2) Qualifying fee: Motion passed 4-1 Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola in dissent, Commissioner Duncan-Walker absent.*

*Dan Nee, Interim City Attorney, presented the item. Omichele Gainey, City Clerk, spoke to the item.*

*Public comment: Donald Shepherd, Nathan Skop*

**RECOMMENDATION**

*The General Policy Committee hear comments from the City Attorney and Clerk, discuss, and take action deemed appropriate.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, seconded by Commissioner Saco, that this Matter be Approved, as shown above.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Nathan Skop, Mr. Washington*

*Interim City Manager Cynthia Curry spoke about the Bravo grocery store. City Auditor Ginger Bigbie spoke to the matter.*

*The City Commission directed the City Clerk to place an item on the matter on the January 6, 2022 City Commission meeting agenda for discussion, including an approved term sheet.*

**MEMBER COMMENT**

*Motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Arreola: Request that the City Commission show support for the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners in opposition to state legislative efforts to interfere without County's Home Rule Charter. Motion passed 5-0; Commissioner Duncan-Walker absent.*

*Motion by Commissioner Ward to request the City Manager to bring back research on the budgetary implications and ramifications of spending funding that the Commission had intended to grant as incentives for vaccines to City employees regardless of vaccination status. Motion died for lack of second.*

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

**January 13, 2022**

**ADJOURNMENT - 4:18 PM**