



**OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION**
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Phone (904) 630-1404/Fax (904) 630-1242

June 18, 2018

TO: Dr. Cheryl L. Brown, Director/Council Secretary/VAB Clerk
Jacksonville City Council

FROM: Jessica B. Matthews, Legislative Services Supervisor
Legislative Services Division

SUBJECT: 2017-18 Jacksonville Waterways Commission

Per your request, below is a summary of the Jacksonville Waterways Commission activities for the 2017-18 year for the reporting period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Summary of Commission Prior Year Activities

The Chair of Jacksonville Waterways Commission, Council Member Lori Boyer tasked volunteers from the Waterways Commission Members and interested citizens with researching information regarding prior years 2016-17 subcommittees' recommendations. The tasked assignment required the volunteers to report back to the Waterways Commission with their progress.

Commissioner Jed Davis held four meetings on Downtown River and Waterfront Activation Taskforce to review the potential future siting of additional boat slips by meeting with interested citizens on this topic.

Commissioner Ray Pringle held one meeting to discuss the Proposed Watersports Facility by meeting with Brooks Rehabilitation Center representative and Parks, Recreation and Community Services Division Staff and interested citizens on this topic.

The Jacksonville Waterways Commission meets every second Wednesday of the month. The current positions are filled and there have been no vacancies in this past annual reporting year. The Commission is charged to formulate an overall plan for dealing with any problems that exist within the St. Johns River and Duval County tidal waters and devise methods of developing future uses of those waterways.

The Commission serves as the Duval County committee to review rules proposed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission governing speed and operation of motorboats to protect manatees. The Jacksonville Waterways Commission acts as a coordinating agency and specialized advisor for governmental units and for programs and activities affecting the improvement, development and protection of the St. Johns River and all tidal waters in Duval County. In the course of its work, the Commission conducts research, collects and analyzes data and prepares maps and charts.

Meeting minutes, as well as video from the meetings, are published on the Jacksonville Waterways Commission page through the City of Jacksonville, Florida website <http://www.coj.net/city-council/jacksonville-waterways-commission.aspx>

Commission Members for July 2017-June 2018

- Councilmember Lori Boyer, Chair
- Council member Al Ferraro, Vice Chair
- Council members Aaron Bowman
- Council member Jim Love (Alternate)
- Commissioner Garrett N Barket
- Commissioner Robert Birtalan
- Commissioner Lindsey Brock
- Commissioner Matt Brockelman
- Commissioner Jed Davis
- Commissioner Steven Davis
- State Representative Jason Fischer
- Commissioner Jill D Haskell
- Commissioner Raymond S Pringle, Jr.
- Commissioner Steve Swann
- Ex-Officio Marshall Adkison
- Ex-Officio Michelle Tappouni

Subcommittee Recommendations	Who is Responsible and Waterways Contact
<p>1. Visit Jacksonville! should better communicate the boating and water related opportunities in Jacksonville through the use of a dedicated boating website and/or mobile application that would include boating information and a water sport event calendar.</p>	<p>Visit Jacksonville/Dalton assumed responsibility under TDC Marketing Contract; <u>need event info from all sources</u></p> <p>WWC- Boyer</p>
<p>2. It is important for the city to expand and improve their water access facilities. They should do this by (a) <i>strongly encouraging new waterfront developments to provide water access facilities</i> as well as the (b) <i>city building new facilities through the CIP and FIND projects</i>. Expanding the number and quality of the access points would greatly improve the chances of a successful water taxi and other commercial operations such as dinner cruises, history cruises, wildlife cruises, shopping cruises, museum cruises, Zoo cruises or other tourist related cruises.</p>	<p>-Developments responsibility of COJ Planning staff</p> <p>-CIP and FIND responsibility of Parks and Waterways Commission</p> <p>WWC- Bowman for FIND -Planning Dept. contact not assigned – Brock, Adkison</p> <p>WWC - Robert Birtalan</p>
<p>3. The city should create a boating guide application that graphically displays information such as location of boat launches and docks, what types of amenities at each facility, boating destinations, fuel, bait, maintenance services, and boating events. The application/website should also include a list of fishing guides as well as boat rental locations.</p>	<p>Maritime Mgmt Plan will provide data; research app/website with IT and Parks versus Visit Jacksonville</p> <p>WWC- Barket, Boyer</p>
<p>4. Jacksonville should retrofit or build new boating facilities that may be used by citizens of all abilities including the handicapped.</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WWC- Pringle</p>
<p>5. Jacksonville should add more artificial reefs both offshore and inshore. These reef locations should be added to the website and mobile water sport applications.</p>	<p>-EQD- Flowe to prioritize locations, estimate costs for new reefs</p> <p>-website/app Visit Jax or IT</p> <p>WWC- Brockelman</p>

<p>6. During local boat shows the city should have a presence where information is distributed on the many water sport opportunities in Jacksonville.</p>	<p>Visit Jacksonville; COJ Special Events WWC - Haskell</p>
<p>7. The city should cultivate a culture that proclaims the great attributes of our rivers and ocean.</p>	<p>TruJax; Chamber; COJ Public Affairs and Special Events WWC -Boyer</p>
<p>8. The city should create a strategic plan for ongoing waterfront maintenance and dredging activity.</p>	<p>Maritime Management Plan WWC – Brock WWC - Robert Birtalan</p>
<p>9. Jacksonville should consider a waterfront boating center providing boating related programming and training opportunities. Building an inclusive aquatic center (e.g. Clearwater Aquatic Facility)</p>	<p>Parks to research options, possible sites, costs of other City's facilities WWC - Pringle</p>
<p>10. The city should encourage and promote boat tour packages on the river for locals and tourists</p>	<p>Visit Jacksonville WWC- Boyer</p>
<p>11. The city should help with boat and jet ski rental opportunities as well as charter boat operations.</p>	<p>WWC- Haskell, Brock</p>
<p>12. Jacksonville should develop more annual and seasonal events related to boating and fishing such as a Jacksonville Boating Week or a "Captain Day" to highlight the local charter boat captains available for hire</p>	<p>COJ Sports and Ent.; Parks WWC-Ferraro, Adkison, Haskell</p>
<p>13. The city should leverage private development such as the Shipyard property to get an aquatic center constructed as a public-private partnership.</p>	
<p>14. Jacksonville should expand on the boat shows to include transportation to and from the hotels and the exhibition center.</p>	<p>Visit Jacksonville WWC -Haskell</p>
<p>15. The city should build a kayak launch at the School Board building.</p>	<p>Parks- underway</p>

<p>16. During the Lighted Boat Parade Jacksonville should provide onshore activities such as a snow village or holiday event.</p>	<p>Sports and Ent; Visit Jacksonville WWC – Brock</p>
<p>17. Jacksonville should consider asking the federal government to allow for seasonally adjusted manatee protection zones. Seek manatee zone modifications for seasonal events</p>	<p>COJ Planning WWC – Quint White, Adkison</p>
<p>18. Have the Jacksonville Sports and Entertainment Division get more involved with water sports including promoting an annual Poker Run.</p>	<p>Sports and Entertainment WWC- Brock</p>
<p>19. Communication and marketing of our existing assets, including but not limited to: a. the creation/use and maintenance of a comprehensive app that: i. defines all of our waterways facilities ii. includes an online forum that facilitates community input regarding waterways facilities iii. incorporates links to: 1. haul out locations 2. Florida Wildlife Commission site listing shoreline fishing locations 3. FDOT bridge locations for fishing</p>	<p>Visit Jacksonville and /or COJ IT; Data input from Maritime Management Plan; Not limited to City facilities- state, federal and private also WCC- Barket, Boyer, Brockelman</p>
<p>20. Creation of a rubric of standards for optimal non-motorized launch, and related creation of a systematized rating system for: i. launch quality of the various launch facilities ii. skill level someone should consider having before taking risk of being on certain areas of our waterways</p>	<p>Parks WCC- Stephen Davis</p>
<p>21. The posting of signs/minimal trail markings: i. at launches identifying website/comprehensive app for additional information ii. to point out the beginning of X on the comprehensive app Carefully implementing in water trail markers while being mindful not to create visual pollution</p>	<p>Parks (to include Suber) and multiple permitting agencies WCC- open</p>
<p>22. Updating existing paddling guides and the creation of new paddling guides a. (Existing) Intracoastal Paddling Guide: ICW between St. Johns County line to SJR (just</p>	<p>Parks; Visit Jacksonville Timucuan Parks Foundation has trail info as do other groups-</p>

<p>received grant to update this guide which was originally developed in 2008)</p> <p>b. (Existing) Timucuan Trail Paddling Guide: Timucuan Preserve area, including ICW from SJR to Nassau River</p> <p>c. (Existing) Greater Jacksonville Paddling Guide: main stem of SJR from Julington Creek to Trout River at Jacksonville Zoo</p> <p>d. (Proposed) Thomas Creek & Nassau River (including Pumpkin Hill Creek and other nearby tributaries) to Atlantic Ocean</p> <p>e. (Proposed) St. Johns River from Jax Zoo to Mayport</p> <p>f. (Proposed) Trout and Ribault Rivers</p> <p>g. (Proposed) Ortega River, including McGirts, Fishing and Cedar Creeks</p> <p>h. (Proposed) Julington and Durbin Creeks</p>	<p>needs to be consolidated and confirmed</p> <p>WCC- Brockelman</p>
<p>23. Create/review/update waterfront master plans and establish funding priorities, including master planning preserve areas for future amenities (e.g. Dutton Island Preserve as example of facilities)</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WCC – Boyer, Pringle</p>
<p>24. Create policies to allow private, for-profit vendors to use public facilities with waterway activation equipment and services; to adopt parks</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WCC- open</p>
<p>25. Performing a gap analysis to determine further waterway activation needs for non-motorized uses</p>	<p>Maritime Management Plan</p>
<p>26. Consider Sisters Creek for nature center/kayak center</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WWC- open</p>
<p>27. Consider Arlington River for rowing</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WWC- Boyer, Brock</p>
<p>28. Increase number of waterfront restaurants, etc.</p>	<p>COJ Planning; Chamber Small Business</p> <p>WCC- Brock</p>
<p>29. Improve water access to Zoo</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WCC – Swann, Jed Davis</p>
<p>30. Improve water access to Ft. George/Alimacani</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WCC- Swann</p>
<p>31. Expand Water taxi dock locations and service</p>	<p>Parks</p> <p>WCC- J. Davis</p>

Oyster Bed and Shrimping Issues

Liaison – Adkison
WCC - Brockelman

JACKSONVILLE WATERWAYS ATTENDANCE ROSTER-JANUARY 2018 through December 2018

KEY:

P-PRESENT

E-EXCUSED EH-Hurricane

LE-LEFT EARLY

ET-EXCUSED TARDY (IE: TIED UP IN ANOTHER COMMITTEE MEETING)

R-RESIGNED TE - Appointment Expired

A-ABSENT

T-TARDY

Legislative Assistant Mia Richardson

Commissioners:	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APR	MAY	JUNE
CM Lori Boyer	P	P	P	P	P	P
CM Aaron Bowman	P	P	P	P	P	E
CM Al Ferraro	P	P	P	P	P	P
CM Jim Love (Alternate)	P					P
Garrett N Barket	P	P	P	E	P	E
Robert Birtalan	P	P	P	P	P	P
Lindsey Brock	P	E	E	P	P	E
Matt Brockelman	P	P	P	P	P	E
Jed Davis	P	P	E	P	P	A
Steven Davis	P	P	E	P	P	E
Jason Fischer	E	E	E	E	E	E
Jill D Haskell	P	E	P	T	P	E
Raymond S Pringle, Jr	P	P	P	P	P	P
Steve Swann	P	P	P	P	P	E
Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio	P	E	P	E	P	P
Michelle Tappouni, Ex-Officio	E	P	P	P	P	P

2018 Attendance

JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC

JACKSONVILLE WATERWAYS ATTENDANCE ROSTER-JANUARY 2017 through DECEMBER 2017

KEY:
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E-EXCUSED **EH-Hurricane** **T-TARDY**
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R-RESIGNED **TE - Appointment Expired**

Legislative Asst: Jessica Matthews						
Commissioners:	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APR	MAY	JUNE
C/M Lori Boyer						
C/M Aaron Bowman	P	P	P	P	P	E
C/M Al Ferraro						
C/M Jim Love (Alternate)						
C/M JIM LOVE	P	P	P	P	P	E
C/M ANNA Brosche	P	P	P	P	P	P
CM Wilson(Alternate)						P
GARY L. ANDERSON	E	E	P	P	P	P
LANE T. BURNETT	P	E	ET	P	P	P
EDWARD J. FLEMING JR.	P	P	P	TE		
Marshall Adkison	P	P	P	P	P	P
RALPH C. HODGES	P	P	P	P	P	P
RAYMOND S. PRINGLE JR.	P	P	P	P	P	P
Senator Aaron Bean	E	E	E	E	E	E
STEPHEN SWANN	E	P	P	P	P	P
PENNY THOMPSON	P	E	P	TE		
Michelle Tappouni	E	P	P	P	P	P
Jill D. Haskell	P	E	P	P	P	P
Garrett Barket	P	E	P	P	P	P
Jed Davis			E	P	P	P
Steven Davis				P	P	P
Matt Brockelman						
Lindsey Brock						
Robert Birtalan						
Jason Fischer						

2017 Attendance

JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
P	P	P	LE	P	P
E	P	P	LE	P	ET
P	P	P	P	P	P
<i>TE</i>					
<i>TE</i>					
P	P	<i>Resigned</i>			
P	E	P	P	<i>TE</i>	
A	P	E	P	P	P
E	P	P	P	P	<i>TE</i>
P	P	E	P	P	P
E	E	EH	E	E	<i>TE</i>
P	P	P	P	E	P
P	P	E	P	P	P
P	P	EH	P	E	P
P	P	P	P	P	E
E	P	EH	P	P	E
P	E	E	E	P	P
				P	P
					P
					P
					E