



Duval County Legislative Delegation

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MINUTES
LOCAL BILL PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017
2:00 P.M.
117 W. DUVAL STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Chair Fant called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. followed by the invocation and the pledge.

Members Present: Senators Bean and Gibson; Representatives Byrd, Daniels, Davis, Fant, Fischer and Yarborough. A quorum was present.

Delegation appointments were announced:

Rules: Rep Byrd-Chair, Rep Davis, Rep Fant and Rep Fischer

Waterways Commission: Senator Bean

Security and Emergency Preparedness Council: Rep Daniels

Cultural Council: Senator Gibson

Special Liaison to the City/City Council: Rep Yarborough

The Chair recognized School Board Member Scott Shine to open the discussion on J-1, relating to the Duval County School Board. School Board Member Shine explained the bill and spoke in favor of the proposed legislation. It was noted the agenda had not yet been adopted, at which time; the agenda was adopted by a voice vote. The Chair then recognized Council President Boyer who reported council action on the bill, which was favorable. Representative Fischer waived to close on the bill. J-1 was then voted on and unanimously approved on a voice vote.

The Chair then recognized Steve Diebenow to open the discussion on J-2, relating to Murray Hill and Springfield. Steve explained the bill and spoke in favor of the proposed legislation and spoke about the proposed San Marco Amendment. The Chair then recognized Council President Boyer who reported council action on the bill, which was favorable with or without the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment was voted on and unanimously approved by a voice vote. Representative Davis waived to close on the bill. J-2 was then voted on and passed 7-1 (Rep. Yarborough) on a voice vote.

The Chair then recognized Wyman Duggan to open the discussion on J-3, relating to the A. Phillip Randolph Entertainment District. Wyman explained the bill and spoke in favor of the proposed legislation. The Chair then recognized Council President Boyer who reported council action on the bill, which was favorable. Senator Gibson shared her concern with the A. Phillip Randolph Entertainment District being too close to a park and hopes that the City Council will work to make the district smaller. Representative Davis waived close on the bill. J-3 was then voted on and passed 6-2 (Reps Daniels and Yarborough) on a voice vote.

Speakers on issues other than local bills:

City Council Member Matthew Schellenberg- Spoke on City Council Resolution 2016-813, which encourages the legislature to bring money back to the waterways of Jacksonville in this legislative session.

State Attorney Melissa Nelson- Spoke on upcoming issues for the new office: increase trust between the SAO and citizens, reorganize the death penalty process, decrease human trafficking, create a human rights division, decrease gang violence, and establish a community development program to keep attorneys.

Sally Steinauer, Florida Native Plant Society- Elaborated on the need for clean water and how the current water situation is not where it should be. Native plants are important because they require less water than other plants.

Angie Nixon, New Town Success Zone- Seeking support for the Florida Children's Initiative appropriation's project request, sponsored by Rep Davis. Goes to improve children's health and safety and increases high quality preschools.

Robert Ledoux, Florida East Coast Railway- Opposes Florida High Speed Passenger Safety Act, SB 386, doesn't promote passenger rail or safety. Railroads are already regulated by the federal government and this places a higher burden on FDOT.

Cindy Funkhauser, The Sulzbacher Center Dental Operations- Asking for a continuation of ACORN funding to help continue providing services to the homeless and those below the poverty line. Needed to support their 5 clinics and training programs.

Kathy Hazelwood, Florida State Minority Development Council- Works with minority business owners and works to link them up with larger businesses to help increase revenues. Asking for funding in this upcoming session.

Louis Haveton, ICare- Asking for support of HB 205, which provides for civil citations for 12 offenses. Hopes to prevent future crimes and save money.

Speakers not on the Agenda:

John Debus, Sierra Club and Floridians Against Fracking- Asking for support of SB 442 and HB 451. Hoping to keep Florida's water clean for future generations.

Leslie Pierpont, Late Bloomers Garden Club- Concerned with Amendment 1 and encourages responsible spending of the revenue brought in from the amendment. Also opposes fracking.

Boa Register, Greenpeace- Asking for support HB 451 and SB 442, which ban fracking in Florida.

Christopher Ralph, Florida Integrative Health- Hopes to keep Amendment 2 from being stifled by too many laws and asked that physicians continue to be allowed to prescribe medical marijuana.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

This is not a verbatim transcript but a summary of the proceedings. A recording is on file in the Delegation office and posted online on the Delegation website.