



Jacksonville Waterways Commission

Jim Love, Chair

FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT (FIND) SUBCOMMITTEE

Monday, November 26, 2012
City Council Conference Room A
9:30 a.m.

In Attendance: Commissioners Gary L. Anderson (Chair), Ralph Hodges; Commissioners Lane T. Burnett and Scott Shine were excused; Waterways Coordinator Captain Jim Suber; Assistant General Counsel Paige Johnston; Jody McDaniel, Planning Department; Tera Meeks, Chief, Waterfront Management Programming; Captain Roger Bump, John Nooney, Recreational Fishing Alliance; Joe Wilhelm, *Financial News & Daily Record*; Kevin Kuzel, Executive Council Assistant (Love); Jessica Stephens, Legislative Assistant; John J. Jackson, Council Research Division.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

The Chair announced that the purpose of the meeting was to review the FIND project list and the scoring process.

Jody McDaniel proceeded to review the FIND proposed project list for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. The Subcommittee is expected to recommend what projects on the list that the City should apply to FIND for funding. When the list is narrowed and the choices determined, legislation would then be filed.

Ms. McDaniel explained the FIND application as a two-phase process. The first step was Phase I that was a design grant and entailed permitting; Phase II was the construction grant. The City cannot be reimbursed for a project that the City matched in funds if Phase I is not completed. The City sends ad valorem taxes to FIND. FIND, in turn, provides grant funding for projects. The City gets about 80% back from FIND.

The Subcommittee reviewed the proposed projects on the list that Ms. McDaniel had provided. One additional proposed project was added to the list: the North Shore Park Kayak Launch which is an existing park. The site is located on the Trout River at the end of Pearl Street.

The Sisters Creek Docks is in the design phase. This is one of the City's larger facilities. Sisters Creek is where the annual Kingfish Tournament is held. This is a priority project because safety issues have surfaced and have to be resolved. Dredging is needed because of the build-up of silt and sediment. There has been considerable stress on the pilings.

The County Dock Kayak Launch (Mandarin) and piling removal. The project entails designing a kayak launch and landing area. The existing pilings have to be removed since the pilings are a navigational hazard.

Alimacani Taxi Dock. Shoreline erosion is the issue. This is a National Park Service taxi stop; a part of the Timucuan Ecological & Historic Preserve.

Lighting at Four (4) boat ramps that are now open 24 hours a day: Lion's Club dock (\$72,500.00); Beach Boulevard boat ramp (\$51,800.00); Wayne B. Stevens (\$38,200.00); Sisters Creek (\$54,000.00).

Harborview Dredging (on the Ribault River). Dredging request from the District Council Member. Amenities for a fishing dock requested, as well. (Council Member Brown).

Charles Reese boat ramp dock. Dredging request from District Council Member (Brown).

Half Moon Island Acquisition. On the Duval-Nassau County line. Ono Main Street. This property was offered to the City a year or two ago. It has an existing boat ramp in need of renovation.

Reed Island. Located in Mill Cove. There is no access by land. This would be a boating destination. At one point, the island was a spoil site.

Exchange Island. Under the Matthews Bridge. This would be a boater/kayaker destination.

Geffen Kayak Launch. Located on the northbank of the riverwalk. An ideal spot for a kayak launch because the City owns the property and there is existing parking available.

San Marco Lake. The design phase will be to develop a kayak access point and a parking plan.

Blue Cypress Boardwalk extension. The extended boardwalk runs from Blue Cypress Park to Arlington Lions Club. The dock and only be extended approximately 200 feet due to the security needed at the JSO facility recently built at the Lion's Club.

The Subcommittee participants discussed all of these proposed FIND projects and how they should be prioritized.

John Nooney recommended that the Oak Harbor boat ramp be added to list of proposed FIND projects and well as the proposed Shipyards pier. Captain Suber informed the subcommittee that the Oak Harbor boat ramp is a capital improvement project.

Captain Roger Bump suggested that JEA owned property at 2502 Spreading Oaks in Mandarin be added to the list of proposed FIND projects. He expressed the view that the only thing that kayakers are concerned with is being able to put your boat in the water; the kayaker was not looking for anything fancy. Can I park and put my kayak into the water?

Throughout the lengthy discussion of the projects and priorities' issues, Commissioner Ralph Hodges raised concerns about the costs of some of the projects.

It was decided to place the acquisition of Half Moon Island at the bottom of the priority list.

In prioritizing, the three top projects were: Sisters Creek; Alimicani taxi dock (shoreline stabilization); and lighting at boat ramps.

Captain Suber underscored the removal of pilings at the County Dock boat ramp as a safety issue and navigational hazard.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:49 A.M.

John J. Jackson, Council Research Division (904) 630-1729

12.10.12

Posted: 4:00 P.M.