



Duval County Legislative Delegation

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**MINUTES
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AND GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017
1:00 P.M.
117 W. DUVAL STREET
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Chair Jay Fant called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. followed by the invocation and pledge.

Member Present: Senators Bean and Gibson; Representatives Byrd, Davis, Fant, Fischer and Yarborough.

A quorum was present. Delegation members introduced themselves and their staff members.

Chair Fant opened the floor for nomination of Chair of the Delegation and recognized Representative Fischer, who nominated Senator Aaron Bean. There being no further nominations, Senator Bean was elected unanimously as Chair.

Representative Fant thanked everyone for all their work and praised their eloquence; he then passed the gavel to the new chair, Senator Bean. Chair Bean presented Representative Fant with an award for service of chair.

Chair Bean opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Delegation and recognized Representative Yarborough, who nominated Representative Fischer. Senator Gibson then nominated Representative Davis for Vice-Chair. There being no further nominations, a voice vote was held with 5 votes in favor of Representative Fischer and 2 votes in favor of Representative Davis. Representative Fischer was elected as Vice Chair.

SPEAKERS:

1. School Board Member Warren Jones, Duval County Public Schools- Spoke on the school's role during hurricanes.
2. Councilmember Jim Love- Discussed concerns with CRC Constitutional Officers proposal and lack of representation from NE Florida on the CRC
3. Russ Armistead, UF Health Jax – Spoke about hospital funding and the lack of funding received last year and this current year
4. John Wall, FSCJ- Reviewed this FSCJ's goals and introduced this year's legislative asks which include a \$12 million renovation
5. President John Delaney, UNF- Spoke on the state's collegiate funding and the lack of funds to regional universities
6. Jen Silva, Edward Waters College- Elaborated on the college's programs and funding asks for this year
7. Layne Smith, Mayo Clinic- Discussed Mayo Clinic's strong reputation and 2018 priorities
8. Todd Roobin, Jacksonville Film and Television Office – Spoke on film and television economic statistics and asked for state support
9. Ronnie King, Jacksonville Public Library- Highlighted library programs and the successes of those programs. Asked for funding for the online high school program
10. Jennifer Giltrop, Jacksonville Public Library- Thanked the Delegates for their support and asked for increased funding
11. Debra Boelkes, Citizen- Spoke about implementing stronger HOA officer election laws
12. Michelle Braun, United Way of Northeast Florida- Wanted to highlight the work that United Way does and how it works to increase educational opportunities to children
13. Dr. Christine Cauffield, LSF Health Systems- Discussed the opioid crisis and the burden it places on the medical system
14. Theresa Rulien, Child Guidance Center- Spoke on children's mental health funding and the increase in the number of Baker Acts
15. Jeff Robertson, Operation New Uniform- Reviewed the program and opportunities provided to veterans. Reviewed the upcoming funding request
16. Denise Marzullo, Early Learning Coalition of Duval- Overview of the coalition and discussed legislative priorities
17. Dawn Gilman, Changing Homelessness, Inc- Discussed homelessness statistics and asked for state funding
18. Trey Csar, Jacksonville Public Education Fund- Synopsis of fund and how it helps both public and public charter schools, asked for continued funding
19. Jim McCarthy, North Florida Land Trust- Highlighted organization's work and the concern with funding for Florida Forever

20. Dr. Lucinda Sonnenberg, Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board- Spoke about the board, its mission and legislative priorities
21. Michelle Branham, Alzheimer's Association- Discussed the organization's programs and future plans for the state to address Alzheimer's
22. Latanya Peterson, Florida Commission on Human Relations- Highlighted the commission's mission and asked for support of upcoming legislation
23. John Trombetta, Florida State Alliance of YMCA's- Discussed programs that affect Duval county and their positive effect
24. Suzanna Ebert, The Sulzbacher Center in Partnership with the ACORN Clinic- Thanked the Delegation for previous funding and asked for continued funding this upcoming year
25. Jan Tyler, ACRU- Spoke on having clean voter rolls and implementing an interstate voter registration data sharing program
26. Rev. Dr. Robert Lee III, Fresh Ministries- Reviewed the outcomes of the organization and upcoming legislative requests
27. Linda Levin, Northeast Florida Area Agency on Aging dba ElderSource- Outlined legislative and funding priorities and successes
28. Kimberly Reed, PACE Center for Girls- Review of the program and testimony from a current student and the effect the program has on her life
29. Tobacco Free Jacksonville- Shared facts and asked for more stringent regulations for e-cigarette sales
30. Lorraine McBride, Step Up For Students- Overview of program and asked for continued support
31. Michael Liles, Justice Coalition, Inc- Gave background of organization and asked for legislative and financial support
32. Jim Milligan, River Oak Center- Spoke on organization and gave an overview of their upcoming legislative request
33. Latonja Richardson, American Heart Association- Thanked Delegates for their past support and asked for continued support
34. Darryl Willie, Teach For America- Jacksonville – Shared program's vision for students and the upcoming financial priorities
35. Kenneth Scarborough, Operation New Hope- Reviewed the results of the organization and legislative requests
36. Laura Thompson, ACLU- Asked for criminal justice reform in the upcoming session
37. Janet Stanko, Sierra Club- Thanked the Delegation for their support and discussed legislative priorities

Additional speakers not on the agenda

1. Faye Johnson, NE FL Healthy Start Coalition- Spoke about legislative concerns and financial asks for next year
2. Eunice Barnum, Citizen- Shared concerns about constitutional violations and school failure rates

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:46 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.