

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

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**ETHICS COMMISSION
OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

February 10, 2020
Conference Room C
City Hall – Second Floor

The meeting was called to order by LaTonya Lipscomb Smith, Chair of the Open Government Committee, at 4:32 p.m. A quorum was present.

Committee Attendees: LaTonya Lipscomb Smith, Carlton DeVooght, and J.J. Dixon. Excused Absence: Dr. George Candler. Other attendees: Kirby Oberdorfer, Deputy Director, Office of Ethics Compliance and Oversight (“OECO”); Andrea Myers, Training Coordinator, OECO; Sandy Homrighouse, Executive Assistant, OECO; and Cherry Shaw Pollock, Assistant General Counsel, Office of General Counsel (“OGC”).

Public in Attendance:
Cynthia Jackson

New Business:

Ms. Smith introduced Mr. DeVooght as a new member of the Open Government Committee and opened the meeting by asking Ms. Oberdorfer to provide a summary of the purpose and past projects of the Open Government Committee. Ms. Oberdorfer provided the purpose and history of the Open Government Committee. Ms. Smith recommended the Committee choose one or two projects that they feel passionate about and work on them throughout the year with assistance of the OECO staff and opened the floor for discussion about potential projects and objectives for 2020. The Committee discussed the options. Mr. DeVooght made a motion to pursue the following items:

Engage in community outreach to various community organizations.

Update and further develop the “It’s Your Government” online course. Community organizations could assist in developing the course and marketing of the course.

Conduct fact gathering and determine whether the Ethics Commission should take action regarding Mr. Waag’s suggestions (Unite America) to recommend two legislative actions to City Council: (1) move local elections to November during regular election cycle; (2) institute ranked choice voting for municipal elections.

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Ms. Dixon seconded the motion. There being no comments, the motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Public Comment:

Ms. Lipscomb Smith opened the floor to public comment. Ms. Jackson commented.

Discussion of Future Meeting Dates:

The Open Government Committee plans to meet again April 8, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. Ms. Oberdorfer summarized the follow-up items she will work on:

Provide a list of community organizations

Gather the notes on the meetings from the community organizations developing the course and other materials.

Contact Carla Miller regarding a resource list to provide research guidance.

Contact Ellen Schmitt regarding the course

Identify if the course is still online.

Review the Charter Review Commission recommendations regarding rank choice and elections.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Sandy Homrighouse, Executive Assistant, OECO

Date of Approval

This is a summary of the meeting and not a verbatim transcription. A recording of these proceedings is available at <http://www.coj.net/departments/ethics-office/notices.-agendas-minutes> .