

**City of Jacksonville – The Jacksonville Journey**  
**Law Enforcement & Deterrence Sub-Committee**

**MINUTES**  
**OF**  
**POLICE PRESENCE SUB-WORK GROUP**  
**SUB-COMMITTEE**

**February 14, 2008**

**The Jacksonville Journey – Police Presence**

**Sub-Workgroup**

**February 14, 2008**

**8:30 a.m.**

**PROCEEDINGS before the Jacksonville Journey Police Presence Sub-Committee taken on Thursday, February 14, 2008, Edward Ball Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor – 214 N. Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida commencing at approximately 8:30 a.m.**

**Police Presence Sub-Workgroup**

**Lanny Russell, Chair**

**Isaiah Rumlin, Member**

**Melissa Nelson, Member**

**Frank Mackesy, Member**

## **APPEARANCES**

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MEMBERS:**

Lanny Russell, Chair  
Isaiah Rumlin, Member  
Melissa Nelson, Member  
Frank Mackesy, Member

### **PROFESSIONAL STAFF:**

Pam Markham, City Inspector General

### **STAFF:**

Adam Hollingsworth  
Jill Jones

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Phil Fritz, Florida Times Union

## **PROCEEDINGS:**

February 14, 2008

Increasing Police Presence

**Call to Order and Comments.** Chairman Russell called the meeting to order at approximately 8:45 a.m.

**Purpose of Meeting:** Discuss the Mayor's crime initiative – The Jacksonville Journey – Take a Step Increasing Police Presence Sub-Committee.

Chairman Russell welcomed the group and thanked them for attending the meeting even with a time change. Chairman Russell asked the group to go around the table for introductions. Following the introductions, Chairman Russell reminded the committee of the Sunshine Law. Chairman Russell began the meeting with a review of the previous meeting and acknowledged everyone's receipt of the hand-out containing the topic list of today's meeting. Chairman Russell then had the committee pause as they passed out the hand-outs for the Topic List and the minutes from the previous meeting. Chairman Russell had the committee take a few minutes to review the same. Chairman Russell moved to have the minutes from the previous meeting approved and Melissa Nelson moved to second the passing of the minutes and the minutes were then approved by Chairman Russell.

Chairman Russell then had Staff Member Adam Hollingsworth go over the topic overlay factual attachment. Staff Member Hollingsworth then went through each item of the Topic for Police Presence Sub-Committee handout to be discussed in today's meeting. Staff Member Hollingsworth then went on to discuss that Attachment number 2

was a financial analysis that Professional Staff Member Pam Markham would be able to assist with any questions relating to this document.

Chairman Russell indicated the committee needs to identify topic items and address any additional ideas anyone may have outside of the topic list to add to such as additional sources of information or things that should be changed or deleted.

Q – Member Rumlin asked how does this reduce crime? Chairman Russell responded by saying that is our objective to study the analysis and as a group make that determination.

Q - Member Rumlin then indicated all we are doing is coming up with documents to complete population of Sherriff's office. Member Rumlin said he does not see or understand what we are doing. He indicated if the purpose of the Mayor's Office was help to reduce crime, he doesn't see how we can help do that and does not see a purpose to this committee and is seriously considering resigning his position with the committee.

Chairman Russell indicated that our purpose by using study and analysis is to determine how to add officers which would clearly help in the reduction of crime; how training could be more effective and getting the community involved to help achieve our goal of reducing crime.

Member Mackesey stated to Member Rumlin that he had a lot of historical knowledge and would be disappointed if he resigned. Member Mackesey went on to explain how we are a sub-committee of bigger work groups that are charged with the responsibility of reducing crime. Mackesey did indicate that we are evaluating things that have already been addressed and we are simply re-hashing the same things. Member Rumlin then indicated that this is all been done before and wanted to know what we are

doing here as he feels it is a waste of time. Staff Member Hollingsworth indicated that our role here is to reduce crime by getting ideas to implement already evaluated by analysis of existing data.

Chairman Russell then asked Member Rumlin what do you think we should be doing? Member Rumlin responded by stating we should come up with ways to reduce violence. Member Rumlin indicated we could reduce crime by a simple elementary way of redeploying the police officers to high crime areas. Chairman Russell indicated that was an important function and we should analyze and determine recommendations on how to do that. Member Rumlin deferred to Member Mackesey who indicated that has already been done and they have an agreement with the Mayor's office. Mackesey addressed redeployment of officers by noting a shortage of staff by about 51 officers and that all zones are short-staffed and there is no excess of officers to redeploy to higher crime areas. When additional officers are added they are behind 6 months because of training and the overlapping of retiring police officers. Chairman Russell asked what can we do to help alleviate the overlapping of officers and Mackesey indicated nothing can be done unless the training laws are changed.

Member Rumlin then asked if we should look at Orlando and the success they are having in implementing similar changes. Member Mackesey went on to say look at where they are starting from and describes the differences in other counties and Duval County and states their success rate is due to the higher police presence which is what we are here trying to accomplish. Member Mackesey indicated the Sherriff does not think data is what we need to look at but rather the DNA of the City. Member Mackesey also went

on to say that one subdivision added 1400 homes and no increase in beat officers because there simply were not enough.

Chairman Russell then asked Member Rumlin to please stay on the committee and help them determine how they are off track. He asked the Committee to take the topic outline home and help with any changes they feel are needed and asked that they help us improve upon them

Member Nelson asked if she had questions should she send them to the whole committee? Staff Member Hollingsworth indicated questions should be directed to only non-member which in this committee would be him (Member Hollingsworth). Member Rumlin then indicated the whole committee should be able to speak to whom ever they want. Member Nelson indicated if we could determine how 100 million was spent so far in percentages, Member Hollingsworth indicated this has already been done by the spreadsheet (attachment #3) and pro-active policing (Attachment #4) of cost and savings.

Member Russell indicated that in the next meeting we need to look at the topic outline and modify it to help us perform our charge. Chairman Russell then reiterated that any requests for information need to be directed to Staff Member Hollingsworth and hopes to have or directive by next meeting which will be in two (2) weeks at 11:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40 a.m.