

## Wild Spaces Public Places

Citizens Oversight Board

November 18, 2019

### MEETING MINUTES

#### **Alachua County Members**

Joni Ellis – Vice Chair

Jane Luzar (alternate)

#### **City of Gainesville Members**

Carla Lewis – Miles - Chair

David Ruiz

#### **Incorporated Cities (not Gainesville) Member**

Vacant

Gary Kocher (alternate)

#### **Staff Present**

Gina Peebles – Alachua County

#### **Outside Counsel Present**

Patrice Boyes

#### **Alachua County Member Absent**

BJ Bukata

#### **City of Gainesville Member Absent**

Deidre Houchen (alternate)

#### **Other Municipal Staff Present**

Betsy Waite, City of Gainesville

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

#### **Election of Chair**

**Motion:** Joni Ellis made a motion that Carla Lewis - Miles serve as Chair; Gary Kocher seconded; unanimous approval.

#### **Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion:** David Ruiz made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Joni Ellis seconded; unanimous approval.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion:** David Ruiz made a motion to approve the Oct. 21, 2019 minutes as presented; Joni Ellis seconded; unanimous approval.

#### **Review DRAFT Work Plan**

Chair Lewis-Miles questioned if Waldo had plans for their WSPP funding. Ms. Peebles read the list of proposed projects listed in the City/County Interlocal Agreement. The Board requested additional information on the specifics of the City of Newberry's contribution towards the Ag & Equestrian Center and IFAS.

The Board discussed whether or not the Community Center re-roof for the City of Newberry Municipal Building was an appropriate expenditure and the consensus was yes because it is a community center available for public use.

The Board discussed whether or not the purchase of equipment (City of High Springs tractor and Alachua County truck) was an appropriate expenditure. The consensus was yes because they are being used to develop and maintain WSPP funded projects. However, Ms. Peebles requested justification from the City of High Springs and will share it with the Board upon receipt.

Vice Chair Ellis questioned expenditures for the Hippodrome. Ms. Waite responded that it is a City owned building and the City provides a grant for on-going operations and handles large capital repairs.

Chair Lewis-Miles read BJ Bukata's email into the record. He did not support the use of WSPP funds for the SW 40<sup>th</sup> project because sidewalks are required for all development projects and are not a trail component. Ms. Waite explained that WSPP only funded the ten-foot multi-use trail, not the minimum five-foot wide sidewalk. **MOTION:** Joni Ellis made a motion to request justification for the SW 40<sup>th</sup> project, including the cost differential for the enhancement, and ask for future plans for similar projects, for discussion at the next meeting; Jane Luzar seconded; unanimous approval.

#### **Guidelines Update**

Vice Chair Ellis will request the desired guideline information in writing, which will be forwarded to the entire Board for discussion at the next meeting.

#### **Review Kevin Hart Email re: City of Gainesville Expenditure**

This item was discussed during the Work Plan item relating to the SW 40<sup>th</sup> project.

#### **2020 Infrastructure Surtax**

Ms. Peebles reported that a full cent surtax should generate approximately \$23 million per year. The projects currently being pursued by the Board of County Commissioners are Solar Conservation, Wild Spaces Public Places, Greenways & Trails, High Frequency Public Transport, Innovative Housing/Rejuvenated Communities, and Zero Waste Infrastructure. She will continue to update the Board as information becomes available.

#### **UPNA/JJ Finley Park Update**

Vice-Chair Ellis was asked to speak at a neighborhood association meeting last week because the neighbors are not happy about the posted hours for JJ Finley Park, because they don't allow for public access. Ms. Waite stated that the areas of parks that are lit are generally open until 11 p.m., but unlit parks close at dusk. JJ Finley is open after school until dusk. Because it gets dark earlier in the day during this time of year, the park does close earlier.

#### **Public Comment**

None.

#### **Other Business**

**MOTION:** Joni Ellis made a motion to cancel the December meeting; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

The Wild Spaces Public Places Citizens Oversight Board will meet next on January 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Grace Knight Conference Room.

## Alachua County - Member Attendance Report - 2019

### Wild Spaces & Public Places Citizen Oversight Committee

Member	Mar 11, 2019	Apr 08, 2019	May 13, 2019	Jul 15, 2019	Aug 19, 2019	Oct 21, 2019	Nov 18, 2019	TOTALS
Carla Miles	P	A	A	P	P	P	P	71.43%
H.Dudley Wade	P	A	P	P	A	A		50.0%
Joni Ellis			P	P	P	P	P	100.0%
Gary Kocher			P	P	A	A	P	60.0%
B.J. Bukata						P	A	50.0%
Deidre Houchen						P	A	50.0%
Jane Luzar						P	P	100.0%
David Ruiz						P	P	100.0%
Present:	2	0	3	4	2	6	5	70.97%
Absent:	0	2	1	0	2	2	2	29.03%
Excused:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

\* P = Present  
\* A = Absent  
\* E = Excused  
\* C = Canceled