

Attachment 1
East Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Council Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2007

Chairman Jon Rawlson Presiding

IN ATTENDANCE:

County Representatives

Commissioner Chuck Nelson, Brevard County
Commissioner Welton Cadwell, Lake County
Commissioner Elaine Renick, Lake County
Commissioner Teresa Jacobs, Orange County
Property Appraiser Atlee Mercer, Osceola County
Commissioner Brenda Carey, Seminole County
Commissioner Robert Dallari, Seminole County
Councilwoman Joie Alexander, Volusia County
Councilman Art Giles, Volusia County

Municipal Representatives

Mayor John Land, Tri-County League of Cities,
Apopka
Vice Mayor Mary Martin, Volusia County League of
Cities, Port Orange
Commissioner Cheryl Grieb, City of Kissimmee

Gubernatorial Appointees

Mr. Malcolm McLouth, Brevard County
Ms. Sue Carlson, Brevard County
Commissioner Evelyn Smith, Lake County
Mr. Jon Rawlson, Orange County
Mr. Daniel O'Keefe, Orange County
Ms. Aileen Cubillos, Seminole County
Ms. Maryam Ghyabi, Volusia County

Ex-Officio and Other Municipal Representatives

Ms. Vivian Garfein, FDEP
Ms. Susan Sadighi, FDOT
Mr. Frank Hickson, FDOT

Staff

Mr. Phil Laurien
Ms. Lelia Hars
Mr. Fred Milch
Ms. Laura Murray
Ms. Ruth Little
Ms. Kimberly Loewen
Ms. Claudia Paskauskas
Mr. Samer Bitar
Mr. Andrew Landis
Ms. Tara McCue

Other Attendees

Gerald Livingston, ECFRPC Counsel
Mr. Frank LaTorre, Nova Southeastern University
Dr. Tony Dyda, Nova Southeastern University
Mr. Robert Filebark
Ms. Kendra Cassell, Scott Partnership
Mr. Chuck Hurst, Embarq
Ms. Shelly Lauten, myregion.org
Mr. Dean Hybl, myregion.org

Members not in Attendance

Commissioner Mary Bolin, Brevard County
Commissioner Bill Lane, Osceola County
Commissioner Patty Sheehan, City of Orlando
Space Coast League of Cities, Ed Booth, Brevard
County
Ms. Maria Grulich, Osceola County
Mr. Jim Greer, Seminole County
Ms. Nancy Christman, SJRWMD
Mr. Michael Slayton, SJRWMD
Mr. Thomas Genovese, SFWMD
Mr. Russell Gibson, City of Sanford
Ms. Lennon Moore, OOCEA

I. Call to Order and General Business

Chairman Jon Rawlson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Ms. Ruth Little called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

II. Prior Minutes

Councilman Art Giles asked to amend the January minutes to show his attendance. Vice Mayor Martin MADE A MOTION that the January minutes be approved as amended. Mr. McLouth SECONDED THE MOTION and the MOTION TO APPROVE THE JANUARY MINUTES WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Livingston noted that the Minutes of the November 2006 Council Meeting had been tabled. Mayor Land MADE A MOTION to bring the November minutes from the table. The MOTION WAS SECONDED by Mr. Atlee Mercer. A discussion ensued about the process taken by the Executive Committee to review a verbatim transcript of the meeting and determine the wording to be used in the minutes. On a MOTION MADE by Mayor John Land and SECONDED by Mr. Atlee Mercer, MOTION TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER MINUTES AS AMENDED was PASSED with Commissioner Brenda Carey voting against approval.

III. Financial Reports

Chairman Jon Rawlson offered the January 2007 financial reports for consideration. With 33.3% of the budget year passed, the financial report shows we are under budget at 28%. On a MOTION MADE by Mr. Rawlson and SECONDED by Atlee Mercer, the January financial report was ACCEPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. Consent Action Items

MOTION for approval of the Consent Action Agenda was made by Vice Mayor Mary Martin and SECONDED by Atlee Mercer and the Consent Agenda was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

V. Chairman's Report - Mr. Jon Rawlson

Chairman Rawlson welcomed new members: Commissioner Cheryl Grieb representing the City of Kissimmee, Lake County Commissioner Elaine Renick, Gubernatorial Appointee Aileen Cubillos representing Seminole County, and Seminole County Commissioner Robert Dallari. The Chairman also recognized Dwight Lewis for his service to the Council with a certificate of appreciation.

Chairman Rawlson informed the Council of an opening on the FRCA Policy Board. The Council would like to make an appointment and all members were invited to make their interest in serving known to any member of the Executive Committee.

VI. Nova Southeastern University Orlando

Chairman Rawlson introduced Dr. Tony Dyda, Physician Assistant Program Director of the Orlando campus of Nova Southeastern University. Nova Southeastern University is the 6th largest nonprofit private university system in the nation. Dr. Dyda discussed the PA program, Nova Southeastern's cooperation with area colleges and hospitals, and Orlando's future as a "medical education Mecca." Several Council members asked questions and related positive experiences with Physician's Assistants. More information is available at www.nova.edu.

VII. Executive Director's Report – Mr. Phil Laurien

Mr. Laurien began the Director's Report with an update on the *myregion.org* project. The efforts of both Mr. Laurien and Shelley Lauten were recognized and appreciated by the Council. Mr. Laurien then reviewed information provided by 1000 Friends of Florida, which is very similar to *myregion.org* on a statewide basis.

Next, the Freight Rail Capacity Infrastructure Expansion Act, a federal tax code amendment, was reviewed. Mr. McLouth expressed his support for the Act and explained how expansion of rail could relieve road congestion, particularly with the amount of freight being received at Port Canaveral. He cautioned, however, that passenger rail is a separate issue. After reviewing the proposed letter of support, Commissioner Carey MADE A MOTION to approve the Council's endorsement of the Act by way of the letter of support. The MOTION WAS SECONDED by Vice Mayor Martin and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Project was presented by Mr. Laurien. The grants being offered by EDA have a \$2 million maximum for projects satisfying one of five requirements. Because of all the work just completed in the How Shall We Grow Project, Mr. Laurien believes the Council can come up with a project that hits all five points. A potential example was offered of a street car line in an existing urban neighborhood which would stimulate development within walking distance (2 blocks) of the line. Portland Oregon had three times the projected ridership on their streetcar project. Tampa spent \$55 million on 2.5 miles of street car, and attracted an 18 times multiplier in economic development. Commissioner Carey suggested looking into BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) as an alternative. Whichever project is chosen, we will be competing for the EDA contract with the southeast region of the US, not just Florida. The RPC Staff will continue to pursue this possible grant and keep the Council advised.

VIII. Announcements / Comments

Sue Carlson handed out information about a Sustainability Conference being put on by Florida Tech on March 6 and 7.

Chairman Ralwson read Resolution #01-2007 in honor of Teri Hunalp who passed away last month and asked Council members to sign a copy of the resolution to be presented to Teri's family.

Councilwoman Smith of the City of Eustis invited council members to attend the city's 105th celebration of Washington's birthday this Saturday.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, Chairman Rawlson adjourned the meeting at 12 noon.