

Attachment 1
East Central Florida Regional Planning Council

Council Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2007

Commissioner Teresa Jacobs Presiding

IN ATTENDANCE:

County Representatives

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

Municipal Representatives

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

Gubernatorial Appointees

Mr. Malcolm McLouth, Brevard County
Commissioner Evelyn Smith, Lake County
Ms. Aileen Cubillos, Seminole County
Ms. Maryam Ghyabi, Volusia County

Ex-Officio and Other Municipal Representatives

Ms. Nancy Christman, SJRWMD
Ms. Vivian Garfein, FDEP
Mr. Thomas Genovese, SFWMD
Ms. Susan Sadighi, FDOT
Ms. Lennon Moore, OOCEA

Other Attendees

Gerald Livingston, ECFRPC Counsel
Ms. Liz Alward, Brevard County
Mr. Pete Colverson, Pandion Systems
Mr. Timber Weller, Florida Division of Forestry
Mr. Charles Lee, Florida Audubon Society

Members not in Attendance

Commissioner Mary Bolin, Brevard County
Commissioner Welton Cadwell, Lake County
Commissioner Bill Lane, Osceola County
Commissioner Robert Dallari, Seminole County
Commissioner Patty Sheehan, City of Orlando
Mayor Rocky Randall, Space Coast League of Cities
Mayor Tom Walters, City of Oviedo
Ms. Sue Carlson, Brevard County
Mr. Jon Rawlson, Orange County
Mr. Daniel O'Keefe, Orange County
Ms. Maria Grulich, Osceola County
Mr. Jim Greer, Seminole County
Mr. Russell Gibson, City of Sanford

ECFRPC 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

I. Call to Order and General Business

Commissioner Teresa Jacobs called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Ms. Ruth Little called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

II. Prior Minutes

Commissioner Jacobs announced that because of a clerical error, the wrong meeting minutes were mailed with the information packets. The March 2007 minutes will be reviewed and considered for approval at the next council meeting.

III. Financial Reports

Mr. McLouth presented the March 2007 financial reports, noting that the Council is under budget. With half the fiscal year gone, expenses are just over 40%. MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT, SECONDED by Mayor Land, and UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

IV. Being Firewise in Florida

Commissioner Jacobs introduced Pete Colverson of Pandion Systems. Pandion Systems has been contracted by the Florida Division of Forestry to do Firewise outreach. Firewise is a program adopted in Florida from the National Wildfire Coordinating Group. After showing a short video, Mr. Colverson informed us about the availability of full day, half day, and 1-3 hour training sessions. He then introduced Mr. Timber Weller of the Division of Forestry. Mr. Weller gave additional information about the numbers of fires each year in Florida, and steps that can be taken to minimize risk as our population increases and more homes are built. There were many questions from Council members including questions about DRI requirements and prescribed burns. For more information and to schedule a free workshop, contact Peter Colverson or Christine Denny at Pandion Systems, Inc., at fire@pandionsystems.com or 888-372-4774.

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

Mr. Laurien reported on the status of the CFGIS Contract. The Contract with Digital Transfer Solutions (DTS) has been reviewed by attorneys and is now fully executed. The scope of work will primarily cover the update of the CFGIS web site, and restructuring our partnership with CFGIS and the FDOT.

Next Mr. Laurien gave a powerpoint presentation on the “How Shall We Grow” process. He explained the process of each city envisioning their future. Chief elected officials will place bubbles on a series of maps which indicate where they envision their city in 2050. They may include input from their commissioners or from the public. The information will be part of the final product included in the August 10 deadline. Questions were raised about annexation, the uncertainty of upcoming tax legislation, and the importance of the educational process. After discussion, it was agreed that this final phase of the “How Shall We Grow” process is critical and extending the timeline may be necessary in order to ensure the quality of the final product.

Mr. Laurien moved next to planning bills before the Florida Legislature. Mr. Laurien has met with the Secretary Pelham who has expressed the opinion that trying to revamp 20

years of growth legislation too quickly would be bad policy. The biggest concern for RPC's throughout the state is the possibility that DCA will transfer responsibility for comprehensive plan reviews to the RPCs. After discussion about the role of DCA, Mr. Laurien promised to keep the council members informed of legislative changes that may impact the Regional Planning Council and their role of advocate to member counties and cities.

VI. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

Mr. Laurien gave a brief background of CEDS. The ECFRPC is the governing body for the CEDS process, and *myregion.org* is the strategy body. Through CEDS, the Federal Government is trying to help regions be globally competitive. The task is to bring together various economic development agencies and facilitate discussions about strategies that will make the region more economically robust.

Due to lack of time, the full presentation on the CEDS project will be made at the May Council Meeting.

VII. Announcements / Comments

Commissioner Cheryl Grieb announced that the Osceola County Association of Realtors will be hosting a free seminar on Friday, April 27. An email will be forwarded to all council members.

Vice Mayor Mary Martin announced that next Thursday, April 26 is the MPO day in Tallahassee and also invited everyone to come to Port Orange for their Landside Jazz Festival and Art Festival in the City Hall area.

VIII. Adjournment

Mayor Land made motion to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business before the Council, Commissioner Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m.