



**NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

**JACKSONVILLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 22, 2022
9:30 a.m.**

Proceedings before the Jacksonville Housing and Community Development Commission taken on
Wednesday, June 22, 2022
Ed Ball Building, 1st Floor Training Room, Jacksonville, FL 32202
Commencing at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Commissioners

David Wakefield, Chair
Lauren Parsons Langham, Secretary
David Hacker, Commissioner (unexcused)
Ericia Moore, Commissioner
Thomas B. Waters, Commissioner
Sol Wynter, Commissioner
CM Randy DeFoor (excused)
Raul Arias, Vice Chair (unexcused)
Sharol Noblejas (unexcused)

City of Jacksonville Staff:

Thomas Daly, Chief
Barbara Florio, Commission Liaison
Melody Saftner, Commission Administrative Support
Adebisi Okewusi, Director of Finance
Tina Griffith, Affordable Housing Assistant Administrator
Kimberly Kosicki, Assistant Manager of Community Development

Guests Present:

Lawsikia Hodges, City of Jacksonville Office of General Counsel
Dalton Fowlie, City of Jacksonville Office of General Counsel Intern
Latoya Thomas, City of Jacksonville Beach

Staff:

Kenny Logsdon
Neolita Maharaj
Victoria Gentry
Raelyn Means
Pamela Young
David Hofseth
Robert Ownby
Teresa Curtis



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JACKSONVILLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Call Meeting to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Chair David Wakefield called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

A quorum was not present at the meeting, approval of minutes was not conducted.

I. Public Comments

No public comments.

II. Presentation of Carver Center by Latoya Thomas, City of Jacksonville Beach, Florida

Ms. Thomas informed the Commission of the various programs available at the Carver Center (“the Center”) in Jacksonville Beach to area youth and on what day the programs occur, and the goals of the programs. The Center is a division of the City of Jacksonville Beach Parks and Recreation Department. The Center provides numerous programs and activities in areas of recreation, health and wellness, the arts and entertainment, and education for children and families. Ms. Thomas informed the Commission of the target demographics of the Center and the volunteers that work with the youth and explained what the acronym F.A.R. stands for (Fitness, Arts, Resources). Volunteers with the football league are screened, as mandated, on an annual basis. Ms. Thomas added that most volunteers are City employees, and volunteers for tutoring programs are often teachers who are certified and already screened. Chief Daly added that the Universal Applications process now requires background screening. Ms. Thomas invited the Commission to take a tour of the facility. Ms. Thomas informed the Commission of the Community Assisted Policing Effort (C.A.P.E.) program and how the program reduces crime and improves relations between the community and police department. Ms. Thomas reported that qualifying low-to-moderate income youth are able to access financial assistance to participate in programs at the Center.

III. Presentation of CDBG-Disaster Recovery Programs by Raelyn Means, City of Jacksonville

Ms. Means introduced herself and her staff and provided the Commission with an overview of storm-specific disaster assistance programs available through CDBG-DR. The purpose of the program is to repair damaged homes so they are safe for habitation. Ms. Means informed the Commission of eligibility requirements for applicants impacted by Hurricane Matthew (2016). Ms. Means explained that the Hurricane Matthew program is primarily for rehabilitation, but three single-family homes are currently being demolished and rebuilt. Funding is made available to the CDBG-DR program through the Department of Economic Opportunity (“DEO”) and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”). The total amount of funding for the Hurricane Matthew program is \$4,590,513.58 and expenses total \$3,156,976.59 to date. The average project cost is \$65,912.00 and the maximum amount of assistance is \$100,000 per property. Waivers are available for properties that require demolition and require more funding. Program participants are required to remain in the home for at least 2 years after the project has been completed.

Ms. Means informed the Commission of the Hurricane Irma (2017) program, also known as the Voluntary Home Buyout Program (“VHBP”). The intent of the program is to acquire homes in the Irma floodplain. The VHBP program also provides relocation assistance to residents that need to leave the area. Ms. Means explained that this is a voluntary, but very challenging program because fair-market value will not go far in buying a new home. Ms. Means informed the Commission that the DEO has informed the City that the DEO is recapturing the funds and using funds for the State’s Rebuild Florida program. To date, there have been 52



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households that have expressed interest in the VHBP program and 7 applications have been received. Chief Daly added that homes owned by corporations are not eligible for the VHBP program.

IV. **Chief's Report**

Chief Daly informed the Commission of current progress of various Housing and Community Development Division programs. Chief Daly added the FY22-23 Budget and funding recommendations that the Commission approved during the last Commission meeting were approved by City Council on Tuesday, June 14th.

V. **2nd Quarter Report**

Ms. Griffith provided the Housing Accomplishment Report. The Headstart to Homeownership ("H2H") program is working to improve barriers with approved lenders and are using H2H funds to lower interest rates. The H2H program uses HUD's affordability model is being used so the homes are affordable in the long-term. Ms. Griffith added the Utility Tap-In Program ("UTIP") program now has more contractors available so more projects are being completed. Ms. Griffith reported that the Housing programs are on-target and working hard. Chief Daly added that SHIP funding is now being used for the Foreclosure Intervention programs, which has expended funding.

Ms. Kosicki provided updates regarding the various Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG"), Emergency Solutions Grants ("ESG"), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS ("HOPWA") programs. Ms. Kosicki reported that program staff has met HUD's required timeliness goal 2 months ahead of time and have met goals for ESG and HOPWA. Ms. Kosicki reported that programs were negatively impacted by the coronavirus ("CV") pandemic but have been working hard to catch up and expend funding within required timeframes. Chief Daly added that in addition to ESG funds, the Housing and Community Development Division has expended an additional \$2 million in ESG-CV funds used in shelters to mitigate pandemic impacts.

VI. **New Business**

There is no new business.

VII. **Unfinished Business**

There is no unfinished business.

VIII. **Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.



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CERTIFICATION

Recorded and Transcribed by:

Signature on File
Melody Saftner, Executive Assistant
JHCDC Staff Support

Submitted by:

Signature on File
Barbara Florio, Operations Manager
JHCDC Commission Liaison

Approved by:

Signature on File
Lauren Parsons Langham, Secretary
JHCDC