

**COMMISSION CONFERENCE  
DECEMBER 21, 2004**

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None Given	

Present: Mayor Naugle  
Commissioners Hutchinson, Teel, Moore and Vice Mayor Trantalis

Also Present: City Manager – George Gretsas  
City Attorney - Harry A. Stewart  
City Clerk - Jonda K. Joseph  
Sergeant At Arms – Sergeant Mark Furdon

### **I-A – Education Advisory Board Update**

Lu Deaner, Co-Chair of the Education Advisory Board, said that Maureen Dinnen, District 3 School Board Member, is unable to attend today. She acknowledged Leslie Carhart, Liaison to the Education Advisory Board. She said the Board is made up of diverse individuals, including private and public school teachers, community activists, founder of a children's center, and representatives from the African-American Library. She thanked the Commission for their assistance in acquiring South Side School.

Ms. Deaner further said that the Board decided to narrow their focus and concentrate on inequities regarding the suit filed against the County, communications improvement, and school readiness.

Brian Dassler, Co-Chair of the Education Advisory Board, said it is clear that public officials play an important role in education. Nearly 30,000 students attend the City's public schools, and of the 26 schools in the innovation zones, 12 are graded A-B, and only 4 are DRF. He said this is an improvement and a testimony to the hard work taking place in the schools. He further said that 60% of the students received free or reduced lunch and 80% are racial and ethnic minorities.

Mr. Dassler further said that cities could play extraordinary roles in education and that is why they are here today. He said one city sponsors an innovation zone-wide science fair, another city gives release time to employees to be reading mentors, one city takes confiscated funds and distributes them to the schools, and St. Petersburg sponsors school mentoring programs with employees. He said that Chattanooga provides two teachers at the lowest performing schools with financial incentives to teach in the area.

Mr. Dassler said they were concerned that the elementary schools do not have school resource officers, and they hope such officers would be provided in the future. He said there would be a community-wide forum so recommendations could be made as to how the City and its residents could play a more significant role in education. He said that further discussions would be held regarding charter schools.

Mayor Naugle said in their evaluation of inequities and comparing schools, if other schools had certain amenities and Fort Lauderdale's schools did not, could they lobby for money to be placed in the capital fund. Mr. Dassler said the single most visible evidence of inequity is in regard to facilities. The areas for focusing are not discreet. They work with one another so positive pro-active action could be taken. Mayor Naugle said a report card could be provided to the Commission, and then they could see what was needed and advocate for such things.

Mayor Naugle referred to some publicity regarding a coach and thought that possibly the Commission could assist.

Mr. Dassler said that Kendrick English, Stranahan football player in 1995, was injured and paralyzed. He works at the school in the technology lab. He received a vehicle to allow him to be fully independent.

Commissioner Hutchinson said the Education Advisory Board is very committed and she looked forward to their continued participation with South Side School. She thanked the Board for their leadership.

Commissioner Moore thanked the Board for their hard work. He asked if the schools in Chattanooga fall under their jurisdiction. Mr. Dassler said they did not. Commissioner Moore said that Chattanooga was augmenting teacher salaries from the City budget, and asked if further information could be supplied to the Commission on that issue. Mr. Dassler confirmed yes. Commissioner Moore wanted to do something through the Education Advisory Board in recognizing students for their scholastic ability. He mentioned that the NAACP has a program called ACT-SO, Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics.

Commissioner Moore was not sold on having school resource officers in elementary schools, and asked why this is necessary. Ms. Deaner said the officers establish a positive relationship with the students because many students fear such individuals. Mr. Dassler said Dr. Joe Melida, Director of Professional Standards and Special Unit, said part of the recovery efforts in Afghanistan revolve around discussions of schools being key targets because they are vulnerable and incite passion. This is what America is all about. School resource officers make sure that schools are equipped to deal pro-actively and reactively. He said Chief Roberts made a commitment so City schools are as safe as possible.

Commissioner Moore asked how many elementary schools fall within the City's jurisdiction. Mr. Dassler said there are 17 elementary schools. Mayor Naugle said that some of the boundaries do not match municipal boundaries, and therefore, this is a hard question to answer. Mr. Dassler said officers are only being supplied to schools within the geographic boundaries of the City.

The City Manager said the DARE Program is in existence in the elementary schools. Commissioner Moore was willing to consider having eight resource officers in the elementary schools and rotating them. He said the average cost of an officer is \$100,000 and the School Board contributes \$12,500. Therefore, mathematically the figures do not add up. Mayor Naugle said the figure needs to be adjusted due to higher salaries.

If the School Board as a taxing entity wants officers at the schools, Commissioner Moore felt they should pay the full salary. He said that he would agree to an officer being placed at a middle school, and possibly the officer could be one working on light duty. He felt this is a big expense for the City.

Mayor Naugle said he spoke with various principals regarding resource officers versus contributions being made to the schools, and most chose the money. Possibly a retired officer could perform the duty at a reduced rate. Discussions could be held with the

Union on this matter. Commissioner Moore said it was a good idea. Mayor Naugle said the scholastic recognition is also a good idea; it provides incentive to the students.

Commissioner Teel thought that using retired officers was a good idea and that PSAs are also another alternative to consider. She said further that the School Board should pick up the need for such officers. She said the City has a large employee base and rotations could be set up. Other groups assist in the schools and provide mentors.

Commissioner Moore said he spoke recently at Thurgood Marshall, and they wanted City employees to interact with the students to show them what public administration is all about. Mayor Naugle said that such a program exists with St. Jerome's School.

Leslie Carhart, Economic Development, said they would pull profiles of the schools and submit them to the Commission.

Vice Mayor Trantalis said he lives across the street from a school, and there are no sidewalks in the area. The School Board only provides sidewalks on the perimeter. He asked whose responsibility the sidewalks fall under.

Mayor Naugle said that some neighborhoods applied through neighborhood improvement programs for sidewalks.

Commissioner Moore thought that a priority list exists regarding sidewalks. Certain communities meet the Block Grant requirements for such improvements. Vice Mayor Trantalis said the students that walk to school do not necessarily live in the immediate neighborhood.

Mayor Naugle said the school crossing guards are also funded by the City, and asked if the areas were ever analyzed as to whether guards are needed in an area.

Bruce Larkin, Director of Business Enterprises, said that, in regard to the School Crossing Guard Program, the City works with the School Board and takes student counts at sites and relocates guards when necessary.

Commissioner Moore asked if an evaluation could be done as to where sidewalks are needed in areas surrounding schools. Vice Mayor Trantalis agreed this would be appropriate.

Mr. Larkin further said that the City is responsible for providing school crossing guards and a safe walking path in accordance with State Statutes. He said that City engineers go out with School Board personnel and check such paths surrounding the schools. There does not always have to be sidewalks, but safe pathways.

**Action:** Mayor Naugle asked the Board to provide information as to how the City's schools compare to others with respect to facilities, equipment. He also requested information about Mr. English with the thought of assisting from a public information perspective. Commissioner Moore was interested in more specific information about the City of Chattanooga and incentives they offer to teachers to attract them to particular schools. He wanted the Board to encourage their contacts to participate in programs that recognize children for scholastic achievement. Commissioner Moore was only agreeable to one elementary school resource officer on a rotating basis. Mayor Naugle

wanted the idea of a retired police officer to be explored. Commissioner Teel suggested PSA's or employees spend a brief period of time at the schools. Commissioner Moore suggested a career day. Vice Mayor Trantalis requested an assessment of sidewalks in neighborhoods in terms of children walking to school.

**I-B--Neighborhood Capital Improvement Program and Business Capital Improvement Program – Fiscal Year 2004-2005**

Jim Rampe, President of Coral Ridge Homeowners Association, said their request is for tabletop traffic calming features, not speed humps as listed in the memorandum. He said the tabletops are 30 feet square and only slightly raised.

Peter Partington, City Engineer, said that tabletops are normally reserved for intersections, but in reviewing this application they would be placed away from intersections. Basically, it is a question of semantics. He said they would consist of brick pavers.

Vice Mayor Trantalis said this is a more intelligent approach of individuals paying more attention to their speed. Commissioner Teel said this is also consistent with the master plan.

Mr. Ramp said the tabletops would be located between Middle River and Bayview Drive. There would be an increase in noise due to the use of brick pavers, but the majority of the homeowners would deal with the additional noise so traffic would slow down.

**Action:** Consensus as presented.

**I-C – Proposals for 2005 Legislative Session**

The City Manager said the package given to the Commission has information from the State and the County. Staff wants to know if the Commission has anything to add.

Linda Cox, City Lobbyist, said she is going to review the list and state to the Commission what could be attained and what could not. Regarding the Stadium, she spoke with the lobbyist for the league representing all the spring training facilities in the state. She said the Orioles are anxious to move forward with the rehabilitation of the stadium, and want to meet with the City in January. Ms. Cox said a bill was filed in the Senate and the House, providing five additional slots known as the sales tax rebate. The revenue from the stadium would be used for rehabilitation. She further said they want to file a member project as a backup. She wanted to contact a senator or representative from Broward County to file a member project. She felt there are going to be some non-recurring funds this year.

Ms. Cox continued to state that community centers and skate parks are being funded through FRDAP, and there could only be three at the same time. She was not sure of their status as of this time.

Phil Thornburg, Director of Parks and Recreation, said there are three outstanding and two would be opened.

Commissioner Moore urged the Commission to be prepared and liked the opportunity on Davie Boulevard for parking and a social center in the park. He asked which would be outstanding. Mr. Thornburg said it would be Riverland.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked to add Floyd Hall after Carter Park is complete. There were no objections.

Ms. Cox said they are meeting with the South Florida Management Water District tomorrow; the Governor has added two new criteria.

Ms. Cox further said there has to be a 50% local match. Commissioner Hutchinson asked if there is the ability to use the City's 30% for River Oaks and Edgewood drainage, along with the property owner percentage, as the local match. She said when an assessment project is done; the City normally pays 30%. The Commission will explore a funding source at the time it becomes necessary.

Ms. Cox said the Peele-Dixie Wellfield has an excellent chance of being funded since it involves the Department of Transportation, County and City. She said the actual wellfield is in Plantation, but the plant is at Davie Boulevard and State Route 441.

Mayor Naugle said that legislation is being proposed to limit the County's authority in regard to the Land Use Plan.

Commissioner Moore said the committee dealing with the matter arrived at a consensus, along with the subcommittee, except for the affordability of units.

Commissioner Teel asked about the historic properties survey. Ms. Cox said that traditionally they do not fund studies.

Broward Days - Commissioner Teel said that Broward Days falls on a City Commission meeting day. Mayor Naugle said that the meeting would be adjusted accordingly.

Ms. Cox said there is to be a strong emphasis this year on management, and the House and Senate would be passing legislation. There is also going to be emphasis on revising funding for local infrastructure. She did not think the legislature would provide new revenue sources, but would revise the existing ones, such as doing away with the cap of \$5,000 on the local option sales tax, doing away with restrictions for using such funds, changing requirements to levy local option sales tax, or allowing individual cities to levy the local option sales tax.

Mayor Naugle said the League of Cities always gave the local government the option to place the issue before the voters.

Ms. Cox said it helps when individual lobbyists from the various cities stand up and testify regarding impacts of this issue.

Mayor Naugle said the number one cause of lack of affordable housing is taxes.

Commissioner Moore said he is working on the CRA issues, and he believed a decision is going to be made. He said further that he wanted to keep the rules the same for existing CRAs, but offer a compromise for future CRAs. He felt they are beginning to

“win the battle.” The County is attempting to lessen the years the increment could be given, and if the proposed plan was near completion, the County wants the excess money on the table. They felt they are subsidizing more than necessary. They are attempting to have a pool and have an agreement with municipal entities, but Chapter 163 does not permit negotiation of a voluntary sharing of the increment. He hoped this would be concluded by January or February. He asked if Ms. Cox or someone in her office could join the League of Cities regarding this matter. He said it would not favor expansion.

Vice Mayor Trantalis said a request was sent last week under the new Redevelopment Program for a block grant for specific purposes due to a refusal on expanding the CRA in the South Middle River area. He spoke with a majority of the County Commissioners who were in support of this.

Commissioner Moore said it would be harder to create a CRA if slum and blight could not be shown. Municipal entities are utilizing the law to their advantage and the League is agreeable, but if this is a tool for revitalization, then it has to be used in a community that needs revitalizing.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked if they are seeking funds in addition to CRA funds for rebuilding the Aquatic Complex. Mayor Naugle confirmed yes and said there might be funds for sports and athletic programs.

State Legislature – Hurricane Victims - Commissioner Moore complimented the Legislature in regard to their efforts in assisting hurricane victims with their own revenue. He asked if a resolution could be prepared in that regard. (Consensus)

**Action:** Commissioner Hutchinson asked that Floyd Hull Stadium be added to the list of projects for which the City is pursuing FRDAP grant funding. (Consensus)  
With respect to River Oaks and Edgewood drainage, a local match is needed; the Commission will explore a funding source at the time it becomes necessary.  
Commissioner Moore complimented the Legislature in regard to their efforts in assisting hurricane victims with their own revenue. He asked if a resolution could be prepared in that regard. (Consensus)

#### **I-D – Commission Assistants & Coordinator**

Commissioner Moore said he spoke with individuals affected by this matter, and recommendations were made to utilize the original resolution permitting the coordination to be done by a supervisor. Coordination of special projects would be done by the Coordinator.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked if this could be walked on at tonight’s meeting. The City Attorney replied yes.

Mayor Naugle said the Coordinator could help the Mayor’s Assistant due to the Mayor’s heavy workload. Commissioner Hutchinson said that the Coordinator could help everyone.

**Action:** Approved as presented.

**I-E – Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade and Re-Opening of Joseph C. Carter Park**

Phil Thornburg, Director of Parks and Recreation, said Exhibit 1 shows a breakdown of costs, and the police amount is listed as \$13,800, but should be \$6,700. Everything else stays the same. The revised total is \$14,550.

Mayor Naugle asked what was done last year regarding police expenses.

Mr. Thornburg said that Assistant Chief Hurley had time donated last year.

Commissioner Moore said that last year different police entities offered their services, but he wanted funds appropriated this year in case services are not donated.

Mayor Naugle said it is a great training exercise having the jurisdictions work together, and then the rate is straight time.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked if monies were donated by the City last year.

Mr. Thornburg said there was an outstanding bill from the Committee last year in the amount of \$4,200. This year the parade group and staff are working together to tie the event with the opening of Carter Park.

Mayor Naugle said if the City works with other jurisdictions, then enough money should be received to pay off last year's debt and cover this year's event.

Commissioner Moore said the event needs police assistance. Mayor Naugle suggested that public officials from the other entities who are assisting could be named in the program.

Vice Mayor Trantalis asked if funds for Carter Park are budgeted. The City Manager said there is not a specific earmarked item in the budget, but there is a line item for these types of things. Vice Mayor Trantalis asked how much money is in the fund, and was informed of \$49,000 in Other Services. Vice Mayor Trantalis asked if other claims would be placed on such funds later in the year. The City Manager thought now that it has been discussed and the account is known, there will be requests made for usage. Vice Mayor Trantalis wanted to know how they money is spent to make sure it is kept within budget.

Commissioner Teel said it is important that the money owed from last year should be paid. She felt it is a bad precedent to send that the City would continue to fund events even though there is an outstanding balance.

Commissioner Moore said Joseph C. Carter was respected by everyone and he deserves the opening of this park for his hard work and efforts.

**Action:** Commissioner Moore asked the Police Department to assist in seeking funding from other agencies. Commissioner Teel wanted the previous year's balance of \$4,200 paid before proceeding with additional expenses.

**II-A – Fire Support Services Warehouse Clean-Up**



**Action:** Approved as presented.

**II-B – Emergency – Rotating Assembly and Clutch**

**Action:** Approved as presented.

**II-C – Emergency – Fence Installation**

**Action:** Approved as presented.

**III-B – Advisory Board and Committee Vacancies**

Board of Adjustment

**Action:** Deferred

Board of Trustees, General Employees Retirement

Mayor Naugle said he wanted to appoint John Tomlinson.

**Action:** Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting

Board of Trustees, Police and Fire Retirement

Mayor Naugle said he wanted to appoint Romney Rogers.

**Action:** Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting

Citizens Review Board

Mayor Naugle said he wanted to reappoint Fenel Antoine.

Commissioner Teel said she wanted to reappoint Linda Shallenberger.

Commissioner Moore said he wanted to appoint Roosevelt Walters.

Vice Mayor Trantalis said he wanted to reappoint Stephen Muffler.

**Action:** Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting

Code Advisory Committee

**Action:** Deferred

Community Appearance Board

Mayor Naugle said he wanted to appoint Steve Hillberg, Marnie Canavan, John Barranko and Patrick McTigue.

Commissioner Moore said he wanted to appoint Ayisha Gordon.

In response to Commissioner Moore's question with respect to term limits for the Community Appearance Board, the City Attorney indicated that on most boards, members serve until they are replaced. He offered to confirm that is accurate for this board.

Commissioner Teel said she wanted to reappoint John Brennan, and appoint Frank V. Reilly.

Vice Mayor Trantalis said he wanted to appoint Bill Hahne, George Henderson, Dan Remy and Les Hollingsworth.

Commissioner Hutchinson said she wanted to reappoint Jennifer Kanser and Marrison Mammano.

**Action:** Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting

Community Services Board

**Action:** Deferred

Downtown Development Authority

**Action:** Deferred

Economic Development Board

Commissioner Teel said she wanted to appoint Cort Neimark.

Commissioner Moore said he wanted to reappoint Gwen Watson and Gerri Washington.

Commissioner Hutchinson said she wanted to appoint Lisa Zelch, and reappoint Tim Schiavone.

**Action:** Formal Action to be Taken at Regular Meeting

Education Advisory Board

Commissioner Moore said he wanted to appoint Pam Brown.

**Action:** Formal Action to be Taken at Regular Meeting

Fire-Rescue Facilities Bond Issue Blue Ribbon Committee

Vice Mayor Trantalis said he wanted to appoint Thornie Jarrett.

Commissioner Hutchinson said she wanted to appoint Norman W. Thabit.

**Action:** Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting.

Insurance Advisory Board

**Action:** Deferred

Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board

Vice Mayor Trantalis said he wanted to appoint Mark Hartman.

**Action:** Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting

Unsafe Structures and Housing Appeals Board

**Action:** Deferred

Utility Advisory Committee

**Action:** Deferred

**IV – City Commission Reports**

Historical Grant

Commissioner Hutchinson said the historical grant application for South Side School was not approved by the Historical Commission.

Paint and Plant Program; Neighborhood Enhancement Action Team

Commissioner Moore said the community received the project well, and over 200 trees and 500 gallons of paint were distributed to the residents.

Revitalization of Sistrunk Boulevard

Commissioner Moore said that on December 19, 2004 the Sun-Sentinel published an article "*Don't Put Off The Revitalization*" regarding the efforts of the County on Sistrunk Boulevard. He felt that all of comments were sensible. He asked if the Commission could adopt a resolution supporting revitalization of this corridor. The Broward Workshop is working on this issue with the City, along with other allies. They are appearing before the County Commission regarding this matter. He spoke with Congressman Hastings on this issue and he is working to get funds donated to the project. Nothing should be allowed to delay this matter.

Mayor Naugle offered to meet with the District County Commissioner to seek his support.

Affordable Housing

Commissioner Moore said the past President of the National League of Cities, Charlie Lyons, will be in Fort Lauderdale from January 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Affordable Housing Roundtable on January 22, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Performing Arts Theater. He is coordinating a dinner with Mr. Lyons and asked the Commission to attend.

Sunrise Intracoastal Neighborhood Security District

Commissioner Teel asked if a resolution could be walked-on this evening for the Intracoastal Neighborhood Security District because they need to appoint their officers by the end of the year. There was no objection.

**V – City Manager Reports**

None given.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:02 p.m.