



SPECIAL MEETING: JOINT MEETING WITH THE CHILDREN'S TRUST OF ALACHUA COUNTY AND THE GAINESVILLE CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

November 04, 2020 at 4:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Call to Order

Mayor Poe of the Gainesville City Commission called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Chair Lee Pinkoson

Vice Chair Maggie Labarta

Member Tina Certain

Member Karen Cole-Smith

Member Nancy Hardt

Member Patricia Snyder

Member Cheryl Twombly

Member Susanne Wilson Bullard

ABSENT

Member Karen Clarke

Member Ken Cornell

Agenda Review, Revision and Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Hayes-Santos, seconded by Commissioner Saco, that this Matter be Adopted.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Hayes-Santos, Mayor Poe, and Commissioner Saco

Absent: Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Ward, and Mayor-Commissioner

Pro Tem Arreola

Presentation

1. 11.4.20 CTAC Presentation

ED Murphy gave a presentation on the History, Mission, and Vision of the CTAC, expanding on CTAC's four primary goals.

Mayor Poe requests that further data/metrics be broken down from county level to reflect the City of Gainesville and the Gainesville Police Department's catchment area.

Mayor Poe asks how the City of Gainesville can help in regards to transportation. The recent City transportation initiative "First Mile/Last Mile", an on-call service that drives people to their nearest bus stop, gave data that 50% of the ridership were students that lived less than two miles from school.

Chair Pinkoson requests more information about the "First Mile/Last Mile" program, Mayor Poe offered to share further metrics.

Mayor Poe asks how the City can help in a more meaningful way with after and out-of-school quality programming, what coordination is the Trust trying to provide to assist children reading at grade-level by third grade, and how can the City help to meet those goals?

ED Murphy reported the new agreement with the UF Youth Develop Research-Practice Partnership (YDRPP) to perform a needs assessment in Alachua County to discover the capacity and gaps in service of summer programs. A strategy would then target kids in grades k-8 to participate in programs that focus on reading skills, as well as other goals identified in the assessment.

Chair Lee Pinkoson explained that the NewboRN program, in which a registered nurse visits all new mothers and children in Alachua County, would serve as a first chance to inform parents of services on offer in the County.

Dr. Nancy Hardt gave examples of ways the City could potentially assist with improving the lives of families and children in Alachua County. She advocated for universal de-escalation training for law enforcement officers, especially when interacting with people with autism. Dr. Hardt also asked the City if housing policies could reflect and assist families with small children faced with eviction; this causes interruptions in school and reading level.

Dr. Hardt asked how after-school programs, such as the BOOST Alliance, handle situations where kids age out of one program, move to the next, and how to ensure children don't fall through the cracks in between.

Mayor Poe confirmed that the Gainesville Police Department participate in de-escalation training, though he will have to report back on specific strategies for people with autism. Regarding evictions, Mayor Poe stated that the City doesn't have a lot of authority to stay eviction notices. He suggested research to learn who has that authority in Alachua County so when a family is found to have this need, we know what can be done.

Commissioner Ward would like RTS services to be free for children in Alachua County.

Commissioner Saco reported that there is a federal law that protects children with homelessness or without steady housing. She suggests the School Board of Alachua County may have information on the McKinney-Vento Act.

Dr. Maggie Labarta suggests that we find services that meet families and children where they are, as this would reduce the transportation issue.

Dr. Patricia Snyder spoke about the Lectio Institute Campaign for Grade-Level Reading working to improve community literacy. Mayor Poe asks for their contact details to invite them to a City Commission meeting to present.

Mayor Poe suggests another meeting in six months.

Adjournment

Chair Lee Pinkoson adjourned the meeting at 5:04 PM.

Attendance:

Chair Lee Pinkoson
Vice-Chair Dr. Maggie Labarta
Treasurer Tina Certain
Member Dr. Karen Cole-Smith
Member Dr. Nancy Hardt
Member Dr. Patricia Snyder
Member Cheryl Twombly
Member Susanne Wilson Bullard

Mayor Lauren Poe
Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem David Arreola
Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos
Commissioner Reina Saco
Commissioner Gail Johnson
Commissioner Harvey Ward

Staff and Representatives

Executive Director - Colin Murphy
Communications Manager - Dr. Dan Douglas
Clerk of the Trust - Ashley Morgan-Daniel
Finance and Administration Manager - Jennifer Rivers
Deputy County Attorney - Bob Swain
City Manager - Lee Feldman
City Clerk - Omichele Gainey
City Attorney - Nicolle Shalley
Office of Equity and Inclusion Director - Teneeshia Marshall

Joined by phone

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Ms/Mr/Mx Schatz
Julie Moderie
Marie Small