

**Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County
July 2009 Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2009
Minutes**

Call to Order

The Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County (CTDC) meeting convened on Monday, July 13 at 6:49 PM.

June 2009 Minutes

The June 2009 minutes were accepted without modification due to a motion by Victor Wilhelm. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.

Treasurer's Report

Due to the absence of the treasurer, the approval of the treasurer's report was deferred on a motion by Victor Wilhelm. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.

Approval of New Members

Nicolas Callahan, David Graham and Linda Cooper were accepted unanimously without objection.

Ethics Commission Meeting

Philip Laibe reported on a recent Ethics Commission meeting. The most interesting discussion at the meeting was on whether to replace the word emergency with expedited when referring to City Council legislation that is put on the fast track for consideration by the full Council.

Charter Revision Commission

Conrad Markle attended the recent meeting of the Charter Revision Commission and was one of seven people who spoke before the commission. He asked the commission to take apart, rewrite and restructure section 91 of the Ordinance Code relating to the Code Enforcement Department and its appeal process. He argued that after reading the section, it is apparent that over the years contradictions have crept into the code. These contradictions add to a confusing situation and raise a question as to whether the appeals boards laid down in this section in fact really exist. This ties with the CTDC stance questioning the inordinate power of the General Counsel who is given override and waiver power concerning the convening of the appeals boards therefore setting his office up as a solitary hearing officer.

Along with section 91, section 518 of the Ordinance code that goes hand in glove with the aforementioned section needs to be scrutinized.

CTDC Website

A new look for the website was chosen with consultation by Kimberly Abelon and its conversion to the new format is moving along. Videos of the CTDC TV show are now on the website.

CTDC Lawsuit vs The City of Jacksonville

The city has requested dismissal of the CTDC lawsuit. We are not pushing for a quick resolution of the lawsuit at this time.

Fundraising Project

Suggestions were made by John Winkler for a calendar that identifies the twelve dumbest mistakes by the city of Jacksonville. Jesse Johnson motioned that we study the calendar idea. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.

City Budget

Louis Rose moved that we call our City Council members and insist that they set the 2009/2010 budget to equal the 2008/2009 budget cut by 10%. The motion was seconded. Jessie Johnson made a motion to table Louis' motion. This motion to table was seconded and approved.

Jesse Johnson made a motion that a committee be created to look at the budget and suggest potential budget cuts. The motion was withdrawn by Jesse Johnson.

Victor Wilhelm moved that CTDC calls for the 2009/2010 budget to be set to the 2008/2009 budget levels without the funding of the Jacksonville Journey and Jacksonville Economic Development Commission. The motion was withdrawn by Victor Wilhelm.

Curtis Wolf made a motion that a committee be created to look at the budget and suggest potential budget cuts. The motion was seconded and approved without objection.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM .

Respectfully submitted,

Curtis Wolf
Secretary, Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County

