

CONCERNED TAXPAYERS of DUVAL COUNTY (CTDC)

January 2010 "SPECIAL MEETING"
(Held at the home of Pres. Victor Wilhelm)
_____ Ironside Dr.
Jacksonville, Florida 32244
Sat., January 23, 2010

Minutes

Call to order:

The special mtg. of the Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County (CTDC) meeting, requested by New President Victor Wilhelm, convened at approximately 2:15 P.M. V. W. Pres. presided over the mtg. and Conrad Markle, newly elected secretary recorded the minutes of the mtg.

Dave Smith, Vice President called on conference line, on Victor's speaker phone.

Other members present: Victor Wilhelm, Pres.

Curtis Wolf, New Treasurer

Joe Andrews, outgoing Treasurer

Conrad Markle, New Secretary.

J. J. Jensen, board member

Tony Bates, "President Emeritus "and board member

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

TREASURER'S REPORT: Only that a smooth transition has been made in transferring fiduciary and financial responsibilities from the past year treasure Joe Andrews to the care of Curtis Wolf.

NEW BUSINESS:

Victor Wilhelm gave out a sheet of Topics necessary to be covered for future actions by the CTDC.

At that time Conrad Markle gave him 2 letters from Carla Miller, Jacksonville Ethics Officer covering a presentation made by she and the Ethics Commission and the accompanying letter addressed to the Charter Review Commission covering their past history and 11@ suggested topics to be considered in their consideration of reinstating the Ethics Code in the City of Jacksonville Charter.

Conrad Markle explained that he had met with Ms. Miller following the CRC Hearing. Thur 21 Jan 2010 concerning the stance of CTDC in relation to offering she and the Commission needed backing for the good of the Citizenry of Jacksonville in this matter.

She had requested these ideas be handed out to the group and depending upon individual feeling in this matter that letters stating those feelings be forwarded to Jeff Clements, communications liaison Charter Revision Commission.

Pres. Wilhelm received the pages which Conrad Markle had lamented he could only forward by Fax to the membership. Pres. Wilhelm volunteered to scan copies to the full membership.

Pres. Wilhelm then began to cover the topics on the outline he had compiled for

the mtg.

1) JEDC AUDIT: (Victor Wilhelm's Special Project)

Victor reported that he has had a meeting with Councilman Clay Yarborough, Ron Barton chairman of JEDC, and Kyle Billey (sp?0 city council auditor for discussion on organizing a request to put into motion the audit of the JEDC that CTDC has pushed for.

The cost to the city to perform such an audit is estimated to be \$150,000.00.

Victor said that he has requested an October audit date.

Victor also pointed out that we have been disappointed in the past due to an inability to schedule and coordinate all participating entities' presence.

He reiterated that this October date is looking good at this time.

2)Charter Revision Commission

Dave Smith, V.P. volunteered to do research on the elections issue

Joe Andrews will draft a CTDC Resolution in favor keeping all constitutional officers and officials on elected basis.

CTDC will back Carla Miller, Ethics Officer in her request to return the Ethics Code to the city charter (after 38 yrs. since removal due to state constitution conflicts with the former removed version).

The question was posed as to the difference in Effectiveness of having the Ethics Code placed back into the Charter.

Tony Bates pointed out the workability of utilization under the charter.;

If only in the ordinances 10 votes by the City Council can waive an item.

If under the Charter the rule of law can't be circumvented by council or mayor without court approval (?...legislature approval?)

5 Yr. strategic plan to be demanded of Mayor as per CRC member G. Oliveros request.

CTDC voted for a resolution recommending against this.

Those voting against the 5 yr. plan:

Joe Andrews, Dave Smith, J. J. Jensen, Conrad Markle

Curtis Wolf and Tony Bates abstained with an uncertainty voiced.

Victor proposed the drawing of the finished resolution to be voted on at next regular board mtg. 8 Feb 2010.

3) Television "Taxwatch" Ch. 29 Comcast

Tony voiced need for reconstruction of schedule due to his personal medical conflicts the next several months.

Conrad hosted past production Wed 13 Jan. at Comcast Studios 9 AM.

w /Dave Smith who will assume Tony Bates' regular host spot .

Guest was Troy Stanley candidate for Congress dist # 4. (Rep.)

Dave asked Tony who is already scheduled for upcoming spots.

They are: Victor Wilhelm, John Winkler scheduled fr March 2010 prod.

It was pointed out that Curtis Wolf tapes the episodes but needs someone to provide redundancy in case of a breakdown at some future point.,V.W.

emphasized.

4)"MEETUP"

CTDC calendar will begin being posted there FYI TV future programming can be added later.

E-Mail addresses are not accepted.

There is a separate space to enter secured E-Mail addresses.

5)"FACEBOOK " VW emphasized Internet visibility;could be a useful tool for advertising and information.

J. J. Jensen and Tony Bates said they had had it and canceled due to security fears.

Joe Andrews said he would not list on it.

Dave Smith has it, Curtis Wolf? _____. \

Conrad reticent and skeptical as to benefit.

6) "TWITTER" again VW emphasized future consideration of adding as beneficial. Skepticism voiced.

Benefit of it's use in getting info out of Iran during internet shutdown/rioting emphasized as an example of where it has proven it's benefit.

7) RADIO PROGRAM.FM 105.3 provided by Andy Johnson, member CTDC
Request to call in on Mtg. days in particular help Andy emphasize CTDC Presence.

8) INFORMATION BROCHURE VW showed "palm card" as possibility (app. 3.5" x 8.5")

www.vistaprint.com a source to order these if deemed worthwhile at later date.

9)SOLICITATION OF QUESTIONS: To field to candidates in upcoming elections.

10) TAX EXEMPT STATUS OF CTDC: Should we maintain?

Joe Andrews said, "Tired of voicing need for change yr. after yr."

Joe turned over P.O. Box key to new incoming treasurer Curtis Wolf.

Paperwork on incorporation status of organization will follow separately.

11) FRIEND OF THE TAXPAYER AWARD:

Conrad Markle proposed John Crescimbeni, previously mentioned by Tony Bates as a possible candidate, also Glorious Johnson and Clay Yarborough were mentioned.

J.J. Jensen gave jocular recommendation of C-man Meserve , "If he is indicted and goes to jail he will not be able to add or vote on legislation".

12) DEDICATED TELEPHONE LINE FOR JJ JENSEN FOR?

VW offered CTDC buying special phone/line one option.

13) BUDGET REVIEW WITH MAYORAL STAFF: Tony Bates has been negotiating for past yr. with Kerry Stewart, mayoral chief of staff to convene a group of +-15 members who are interested in in depth budget process discussion with mayor's staff and auditors; to screen proposed budget priorities upcoming.
Needs to be before Mayor's future scheduled town hall Meetings on Public Budget

Recommendations Members having voiced prior interest are: Tony Bates, John Winkler, George Hall, Conrad Markle, Scott McNaughton, Curtis Wolf, Kimberly Avalon (member?)

Meeting would probably be at 11:30 AM at City Hall.

VW will place 'WORD' document on line.

Adjourned approximately 4 PM (16:00)

Pizza and soft drinks were provided to the mtg. by president and host Victor Wilhelm. The Group thanked the host for his hospitality.

Next Mtg. regular time/date Piccadilly Cafeteria, 6 PM 8 Feb 2010

Respectfully submitted:

Conrad Markle

Secretary, Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County