

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida held on April 14, 2005.

PRESENT:	Mayor	Karl Flagg
	Commissioner	Mary Lawson Brown
	Commissioner	Hernan Azula
	Commissioner	James Norwood, Jr.
	Commissioner	George Sanders

ALSO PRESENT - City Manager Allen R. Bush; City Attorney Donald E. Holmes; City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers; Planning Director Adam Mengel; Police Chief Gary Getchell; Fire Chief Ken Venables; Parks Supt. Jeff Norton

INVOCATION - Father John Jacobs, PPD Chaplain & Priest, All Saints Anglican Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Harriett Holiday

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Flagg

Approval of Minutes - 3/24/05 - Commissioner Sanders moved to approve the minutes as corrected to include Commissioner Sanders' vote in the 8:34 p.m. roll call vote, as noted by Commissioner Norwood. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION - FLORIDA VOLUNTEER MONTH - Cynthia Asia, State Chairman of Volunteer Florida, read a Resolution signed by Florida Governor Bush and his cabinet on April 5, 2005, designating April as Florida Volunteer Month, and presented it to Mayor Flagg.

PROCLAMATION - Mayor Flagg read a presented a proclamation to Cynthia Asia endorsing the month of April, 2005 as Florida Volunteer Month in the City of Palatka.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Sam Deputy, 917 Carr Street, said he wanted the Commission to be aware of a situation he recently experienced. There was a rezoning issue on a piece of property located within 60 feet of his house. The notice on the proposed rezoning went up on April 1. He discussed this with his neighbor, Mr. Alexander, that weekend, and he wanted to come get the information on the request so they could know more about it. He called Building & Zoning the following Monday, April 4, to ask for the information. He knows that the information should be made available to the public. It was not made available until Tuesday. He was expecting a phone call on Monday, but did not receive one. The staff was very courteous to him on Tuesday. He and his neighbors received no notification by mail, and they should have. He was told that the matter would probably be tabled, and when he asked about the notification policy, he was told that there were different types of notifications for different types of zonings. His neighbor also hadn't been notified by this time. He spoke to a Planning Board member about the matter, and discovered he had more information than the Planning Board member had, and in fact our Planning Board member hadn't even visited the site. During the Public Hearing on April 12, it was announced that the matter would be tabled. He stood at the podium and tried to speak, but was told discussion would not be allowed. He serves on the County Planning Board and their policy is that if someone comes to the meeting, they can be heard. He has a list of questions on the entire matter, which he will leave with the Clerk. He would like answers to these questions. The list of questions was given to the Clerk and entered into the record.

Allegra Kitchens, 1027 S. 12th Street, said she was at the same meeting, and was surprised that Mr. Deputy was not able to speak. During a prior meeting when an item was tabled, the developer was allowed to speak.

Len Freeman, 422 River Street, V. President of Downtown Palatka, Inc., handed the Commission the information Downtown Palatka intends to bring forward at the workshop on April 19. It was compiled by the members of the Downtown Merchants' Association and many concerned citizens. They look forward to the town meeting coming up.

Michael Woodward, 501 Atlantic Avenue, Interlachen, said the Palatka Daily News quoted Planning Board Chairman Bunky Roberts as saying that the Jutras development "is going to be there whether you like it or not" during the 4/12/05 Planning Board meeting. Some people believe this infers that the decision has already been made, that public input is not really meaningful, and is just a formality. He hopes that this is not the case. The public has a right to be heard and listed to, and their opinions duly considered. He understands Mr. Roberts is an honorable man, and if anything may be too honest. He represents a number of people here in Palatka who are concerned about the type of development that will go there. His clients want to see the property redeveloped, but the question is how. Development should be safe and compatible with the surrounding neighborhood. If what Mr. Roberts meant is that eventually there will be development, they agree, but the "like it or not part" is what they disagree with.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Adopt revision to Appendix 13 of the Palatka Personnel Rules & Regulations, "Procedures for Purchase of All Equipment and Supplies," to conform to State of Florida Statutes.
- b. Award Bid for PPD Roof Replacement to Prestige Construction Systems, Inc. for \$88,808.00, to be funded through Better Place Plan monies.
- c. Authorize execution of Supplemental Agreement No. 05-03 with Passero Associates, Airport Engineers, for the design, bidding and oversight of partial overlays of Taxiway's A & D, Lighting Upgrade for part of TW "C", and install perimeter fencing along Moody Road and SR 100.
- d. Authorize execution of Change Order No. 1 to BGO's Contract for Airport Taxiway "A" Pavement Rehabilitation to add Grate Top and Storm Pipe Rehabilitation, which will not result in a change to the "Original Contract Sum" of \$528,420, per Airport Engineer's Recommendation.
- e. Authorize execution of contract with Ayers & Associates for professional engineering services for FEMA Joint Hazard Mitigation Grant & Flood Mitigation Assistance Application for \$24,500.
- f. Accept Alex Sharp's Resignation from the Palatka Code Enforcement Board effective April 5, 2005.
- g. Forgive Code Enforcement Lien on 2712 St. Johns Avenue of \$185.42, per recommendation from Code Enforcement Board.
- h. Adopt 2005 Summer Meeting/TRIM Workshops Schedule as recommended.
- i. Authorize Release of FDOT Ferryboat Grant Funds in the amount of \$300,000; approximately \$200,000 to be used for purchase of ferryboat/water taxi, piggy-backing results of New Smyrna Beach RFQ/bid award to Florida Trading Company, LLC; and approximately \$100,000 to be used for land-side support/city dock improvements.

Commissioner Brown asked to pull Item 3(i) from the consent agenda. Commissioner Norwood moved to approve Consent Agenda Items (a) through (h) as presented. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM No.3(i) - Release of FDOT Ferryboat Funds - Commissioner Brown said it's not that she doesn't want the Commission to release the money, but she felt it was necessary to bring the Commission up to date on recent events. She and another member of Pride of Palatka, Inc. went to Tavares to meet with a manufacturer of pontoon boats. They have been working with him, and he came and spoke to their group yesterday. They thought they would be able to piggyback onto New Smyrna Beach's boat bid, but that boat will be very different from the one they desire. She showed the Commission a 'rendering' of a small pontoon boat that will transport 49 people. They want to start with a smaller boat and work their way up. There is a paddlewheel on the boat, the windows are made of a strong type of glass similar to plexi-glass, and the decorations make the boat look like an authentic paddlewheel boat. It is powered by two outboard motors with four-stroke engines, which are more efficient. The metal, cushioned seats are in the middle of the boat. At some point in the future they may

want to remove the seats and install tables, and that could be done. The "stacks" have been lowered to accommodate local bridges. It will be handicap accessible.

The FDOT says they have to have a working and functional budget. She wants the commission and citizens to work with them to raise money to support the budget with a 'rainy day fund' in the bank to take care of emergencies and surprises. She can distribute the manufacturer's name and phone number, if anyone wants to contact him. Their group has put out an RFP to find an operator for the boat. They have had some inquiries and are awaiting responses.

With this boat, when people come to town for day trips, they can get off the train, ride in the trolley to downtown, shop, eat and take a boat ride.

This boat can be purchased out of the first \$300,000 FDOT ferryboat grant. Everyone who wants to use this boat needs to come together and get the money together to make this happen.

Mayor Flagg noted the request tonight is being tabled pending the results of another RFP. Mr. Bush said this boat's cost is right around \$225,000. Commissioner Brown noted the 'landside improvements' are for the ticket booth, dock preparations, landing, etc. They anticipate that this will come back before the Commission very quickly. They have to have the money obligated by June. She is asking the Commission to allow her to ask FDOT to move forward on the funding now so they can get this in the works.

Mr. Bush said if FDOT sees the City is moving forward with this, they will be encouraged. This is a much more economical operation than what has been previously proposed. They will come up with an agreement between the City and Pride of Palatka, Inc. prior bringing it back to the Commission. There are still several hurdles to overcome. Mayor Flagg said it looks like it has to come back to the Commission before it goes to FDOT, so there is no action the Commission can take tonight. Commissioner Brown asked for a vote of confidence.

Commissioner Sanders moved to table authorization to release FDOT Ferryboat Grant Funds to a time certain of May 12. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. Per the question, Commissioner Brown said the budget has been drawn up, as has a business plan. They need to show they can operate it without any hang-ups, and need to show they have enough money to operate it. This boat will take people to Murphy's Island, and Welaka has applied for a FRDAP grant for dock improvements. They will need to hire a captain and mate on a volunteer basis until they can pay someone. They also need gas money donated. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unopposed.

John Trendler, 513 Emmett Street, said tonight the City Commission decided to table an agenda item to release \$300,000 in funding for this riverboat. He'd personally like to see a riverboat on the River, but to expect the taxpayers to pay for this venture at this time is blatant arrogance and a total disregard for the taxpayers of this City. This grant will come from federal taxpayer funds. He has extensive experience with boats. This is not a commercial vessel. It is a pontoon platform with dressing on it. It is not built for what this city is trying to do. The concept is very admirable, but this business plan, of which he has a copy, is an example of something that is in dire need of a lot of homework. If this commission thinks it can purchase a safe, reliable commercial vessel, outfit it, upgrade it to Coast Guard standards, staff it, run it, market it and insure it for less than \$500,000 to \$1 million, they are mistaken. It can't be done. They can amend the business plan from stem to stern, but it has no resemblance to meeting funding for a true ferryboat. There is nothing in there that meets the standards for the grant. Trade shows and conventions are not part of the ferryboat program. If the members of the commission would spend as much energy on the issues of the City, they would have a fully staffed police department and a restored Larimer Arts Center. On Saturdays, downtown is a ghost town. The responsible decision is to put the riverboat behind them, until they have a thriving downtown. They don't have to use taxpayer money to fund a riverboat. Considering this commission's penchant to get into a sparring match with people who don't agree with them, he won't stick around for the Commission's response.

Allegra Kitchens, 1027 S. 12th Street, member, Pride of Palatka, Inc. Board of Directors, said Mr. Trendler is vastly uninformed. The Plan he is speaking of was presented for the first riverboat concept, which was a floating convention center, but what was discussed tonight is a much smaller boat to be used as a ferryboat/water taxi. They are working closely with FDOT on this and they have advised them of their progress every step of the way. They don't intend to hold conventions on this boat. The State has even said it wants to use this boat to transport Rails to Trails users from the Riverfront Park to the Ravines. What Mr. Trendler is referring to hasn't even been discussed in over a year and a half. He hasn't been to any recent meetings and is not a member of the Board of Directors, and his information is extremely old. In the future, if this smaller venture is successful, they may apply for a grant for a larger boat, but don't intend to now.

Len Freeman, 422 River Street, co-owner of River Ventures, Inc., which is a houseboat business, thanked Commissioner Brown for pulling this item. He did receive the back-up material that was provided for the agenda, and was amazed at the lack of information. There was nothing to back up the \$100,000 item for the upgrade of docking facilities. Also, he is amazed that the City wants to spend tax dollars to go into business to compete with him. He has operated his business for five years at Crystal Cove Marina. They've brought hundreds of families to Palatka to enjoy their boat. They don't offer the water taxi service because it is economically not feasible to do so. They've been in business long enough to prove that, and have offered on numerous occasions to provide the documentation to prove it. They do provide day trips on the river, which are promotional events, and encourage longer bookings, as that is how they make their money

He was not consulted and has received no RFP on the operation of this vessel, and their captains are more experienced with driving vessels on this river and with the surrounding land than anyone else. They should at least have a chance to respond to an RFP. If there is one out, he'd like to get a copy of it. If an RFP has gone out for the building of the vessel to other than the three respondents to the New Smyrna Beach RFP, they have numerous names of professionals that are in the business of building boats.

A few months ago, Congressman John Mica held a workshop on this item that was attended by around 50 people, including professional boat operators from Florida and San Francisco. The Congressman asked everyone in attendance to provide him with one example of this type of operation that has operated successfully, or profitably, without subsidy from any other entity, and no one has been able to give him one single example of a profitable operation. Where will the other dollars come from?

The donation of time, energy and money are good. They will need it for operations, maintenance, repairs, promotion, insurance, etc. He has previously asked to dock his boats at the City Dock, and was turned down, which is why they are at Crystal Cove Marina now. The Congressman made it very clear that he opposes spending any money on this venture until a comprehensive, logical business plan had been presented to his staff, and to his knowledge that has not been done. It's time to scuttle this idea until it becomes a viable, economically feasible operation. If they want to gain the support of Congressman Mica to revitalize this City, he suggests they do what he asks. His operation already provides these contract services to SJRWMD and others.

Allegra Kitchens, 1027 S. 12th Street, said Mr. Freeman is also out of the loop. The meeting with Congressman Mica did happen, and everything he said about Congressman Mica is true. They have followed Congressman Mica's advice on everything they are doing, and are currently working with NEFRPC, who is working diligently with their group, to do just what the Congressman asked. They have met many times with Congressman Mica since the meeting Mr. Freeman is speaking of. Comparing what they want to do with Mr. Freeman's boat business is like comparing a taxicab with an RV; it's not the same thing. They don't want to compete with Mr. Freeman. A privately owned boat can't be moored at the city dock for over a certain length of time by federal law. This boat will be publicly owned. They are following the laws and the guidelines the NEFRPC has set for them, and they are all working together to meet Congressman Mica's stipulations. Mr. Freeman seems to be hung up on the fact that the City won't let him park his boat at the City Dock. It's not what the City won't let him do, it's what the law says they can't let him do.

Commissioner Brown said they aren't trying to run anyone out of business. They don't want to compete with anyone. They are trying to draw people to the City to fill the hotels, shops and restaurants, and to do tourism. She approached Mr. Freeman about entering into a partnership with them on what they are trying to do. As to grants, that is how the City gets things done. These funds aren't going into anyone's pockets. The profits will go into the revitalization of downtown and the waterfront. She asked Mr. Freeman to sit down with her to work out a joint venture to make his boats available to tourists who come here and desire to stay overnight. They want to help the town grow. Other folks believe this is a good idea. Amtrak says they will even bring people here for day trips. They have worked on this since 1994. Other cities and towns are purchasing water taxis, so why can't Palatka? This grant money was all going to towns in the Midwest to purchase boats, and they are just trying to bring some of that money to Florida. Florida has a greater need for water transportation funds than anywhere else, but the State wasn't getting its fare share. At least they are now getting some of their money back. She was under the impression that an RFP had been sent to Mr. Freeman. If he doesn't have one, she will see that he receives one. The City didn't send it out, Pride of Palatka did. They are all volunteers who got together to do something for Palatka. They have quality volunteers, and include attorneys, accountants, other professionals, and aren't doing things shabbily.

Mr. Freeman said River Ventures does day trips, which is what this boat will be doing. He hasn't seen another business plan, but would like to. Day trips are not a profitable end of his business; it serves only as a promotional tool. Their boats are very similar to what they are thinking about purchasing. Also, no one has told them where they are going to get enough money to put this boat into operation and make it work. Qualified captains make in excess of \$75,000 a year, and it will take three or four of these captains to man this boat full time.

Commissioner Brown asked Mr. Freeman to come sit down with their group to discuss this. She believes this is due to a lack of understanding and communication. They want to figure out a way to make these things happen. When Mr. Freeman continued to criticize their group during Congressman Mica's meeting, the Congressman asked him to please stop doing it. The Commission has other City business to take care of tonight, and they need to move on. Mr. Freeman said she has been discussing this item in this forum many times and for many years, and they owe him a few minutes of discussion time. There is still no one who has produced any information that shows that this venture is economically viable and will not be a burden upon the city or whoever is going to operate it. He is willing to sit down with them and show them what it will take to make this work. At this time, the market is not here to make it work; if it were, he'd be doing it. He tried to do this very type of boat twenty-five years ago, and discovered it wasn't economically viable. That's why they are in the houseboat business, and they do bring people to town. They are about trying to revitalize Palatka, not about spending taxpayer money to compete with businesses with absolutely no viable business plan. There is no way they can have one.

PLANNING BOARD VACANCY - Interviews for one position vacated by Nick Harden, term to expire 12/31/06 - Mr. Rudolph Peshera and Ms. Michelle Jeanson were both present for interviews. The Clerk noted they both meet the statutory qualifications to hold this position and both live inside the city limits. Mr. Mengel said this is a very demanding position and is getting more demanding all the time. The person needs to have the time to devote to the position, be willing to serve, and be objective in their decisions. After interviews were completed, Mayor Flagg noted appointments would be made at the April 28 meeting.

CONLEE MURAL COMMITTEE - Request for \$1,000 to repair Heartbeat of Palatka Mural - John Alexander, Chairman, thanked the Commission for the support they have given the committee in the past. They are preparing a mural site on the side of Palatka Office Supply, which will feature wildflowers, to be painted by members of the Palatka Art League. At this time, the mural "Heartbeat of Palatka" is in terrible disrepair, due to the ravages of the hurricane, wind, sun and nature. The artist, Terry Smith, is asking for \$1,000 to bring that mural back to its original beauty. People entering and leaving this

parking lot see this mural. He hopes the Commission will consider helping the Mural Committee restore this mural, as it depicts this very building during Palatka's heyday.

Mr. Bush stated he attached a memo to the agenda, along with a copy of the Mural Site Agreement, which states that maintenance is the responsibility of the Conlee Mural Committee. He knows there were some extraordinary circumstances behind this request. There is no money budgeted for this.

Commissioner Sanders said since they know what the cost of the repairs will be, he suggested they advance next year's donation of \$1,000 and allow them to use it now. He knows that they are currently raising funds to spend money on the Wildflowers mural, and can't afford to make these extensive repairs.

Mayor Flagg asked what the precedent of the Mural Committee is when maintaining murals, and if businesses have been held accountable for restoring murals on their buildings. Mr. Alexander said they have not asked other businesses to donate money to restore their murals. They have held fundraisers for restoration and upkeep. Mayor Flagg said the Conlee Mural Committee needs to ask the Commission for an advance, so that it is not tied into the Mural, but into an advance of the money they receive on an annual basis.

Commissioner Norwood concurred with Commissioner Sanders, but he does not like to advance money when they haven't even set the budget. He'd like to allocate it during the budget planning session. They don't know what the City's needs will be, and don't need to arbitrarily advance money.

Commissioner Brown said the murals put forth an image that makes the City look good, and she want to support the murals program. Part of this is the City's fault, because the building had problems they weren't aware of. People will come to City Hall and see that wall and how poor it looks. They need to make the mural whole again. If the building hadn't had structural problems, some of the damage wouldn't have occurred.

Mayor Flagg said there is a need to take care of this, but there is an agreement that the City signed and agreed to that states that all murals will be maintained by the Committee, who will bear the costs. They need to see what the community will rise up and do, instead of authorizing, by default, tax dollars for this. A fund should be set up to deal with these murals, which are beautiful. It is understood that there will be maintenance involved with the murals. They need to put the word out that the need is there. Mr. Alexander said no other mural has been in this much disrepair. Mayor Flagg said at some point all murals will have maintenance issues.

Randy Braddy, Richard VanDoren, Dr. Perallon, Sam Deputy, Chip Laibl, and Len Freeman stood and volunteered to donate the funds necessary to fix the mural. Mayor Flagg said he will also contribute.

Allegra Kitchens, Conlee Mural Committee, thanked everyone for their donations. They have separate accounts set up for each mural to address maintenance, but these damages are extensive. They have been a part of the city's budget for six years.

Christy Sanford, 312 Dodge Street, said this stretch of cement could not be given code approval today, and if this was due to high wind they need to plant a 'tree break' and should dig up a stretch of the asphalt to accommodate it. Trees will protect the building and mural. A block grant would accomplish this for them.

John Alexander thanked the audience for its great spirit of cooperation, and said if anyone wants to contribute the address is, P.O. Box 1901, Palatka FL 32178. Donations are tax deductible.

AGENDA ITEMS 6 - 11; Ordinances making changes to Chapter 94, Zoning - Adam Mengel, Planning Director, said a Planning Board meeting was held two days ago to address the next six items. Item Number 6 to permit flea markets in C-2 and M-1 zoning comes with a recommendation to deny. Item Number 7, amending buffer requirements,

has been tabled by the Planning Board. Item Number 8 regarding a 35' structure height limit in R-3 zoning comes with a recommendation to amend that is different than the original request, so there are two ordinances to review for that particular agenda item; the first is the petitioner's request, and the second reflects the Planning Board's recommendation to build in a conditional use to go higher than 35 feet. Item No. 9 regarding the table of Land Use Designations comes with a recommendation for approval. Item No. 10 regarding amending the PUD minimum from 10 to 2 acres has been tabled by the Planning Board and comes with no recommendation. Item Number 11 concerning the lapse of a PUD overlay has been forwarded for the Commission's review.

Per the question, City Attorney Holmes said a motion to remove item Nos. 7 and 10 altogether would be appropriate, as they come with no recommendation. As to those tabled items, the Planning Board tabled them so that staff could make some revisions before they will approve and transmit the items to the Commission. Without a recommendation from the Planning Board, the Commission can't consider them.

Commissioner Brown moved to remove Agenda Item 7, Ordinance amending Chapter 94 pertaining to Buffer Requirements, and Agenda Item 10, Ordinance amending Chapter 94 pertaining to reducing the minimum PUD acreage from ten to two, from the Orders of the Day. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Azula, Brown, Norwood, Sanders, and Mayor Flagg, yes; Nays, none. The motion passed unopposed.

Mayor Flagg asked if they will be experiencing a recurrence of the 48-hour "window" of items coming from the Planning Board to the Commission, what is causing that, and why was it that close? If their meeting is Tuesday night, and the Commission meeting is Thursday night, it leaves no time to study the recommendations on the level they need to study them. If this is the trend, why is that the trend, and if it needs to be adjusted, can they adjust it? Mr. Mengel answered it was communicated to him that there was a desire to expedite certain items on the Agenda, and he undertook the task to accomplish that. Mayor Flagg said he would like to know who is rushing these things. They need to follow protocol and procedures, and make sure everyone gets the proper information at the proper time, and not be so hasty to make decisions that may come back to haunt them. This needs to be fixed and it is Mr. Mengel's job to fix it. This will not work with such rapid growth. Items need to be signed off on by Mr. Bush and Mr. Mengel before coming to the Commission.

Mr. Bush asked, given the short time for review, if it would be appropriate to table all these items until the April 28 meeting? Mr. Holmes said that would be up to his discretion and that of the Commission members. He is not aware of any procedural impediments to their going forward on these items, he is not aware of any. Legally, there is nothing to keep them from going forward now. There is also no reason for them to table, but nothing to keep them from tabling, if that is their desire.

Allegra Kitchens, 1027 S. 12th Street, said she realizes this is all totally legal, but they need to avoid the appearance of evil. She knows all of them are honest people, but this bears a semblance of impropriety because it is coming so fast. There has been quite a bit of community concern on these items. They spoke about some of these revisions this at the March 24 meeting. Two days later the PDN advertised a special called meeting for the Planning Board to consider these revisions. As public officials, they need to avoid the aura of impropriety. Many of them attended the Planning Board meeting and are here today. The FFI developer was tabled to the May 3 meeting, and all these ordinances relate to his development. These items need to be tabled to the first meeting in May so that their hands appear clean to the public. She knows they talked about making these changes in the March 24 meeting, but this all looks very odd to them; it is too fast.

Commissioner Norwood said he hasn't had an opportunity to look at this; when he sat down tonight they were changing out sheets in his Agenda. It would be futile for him to vote on an item when he has not had time to know the contents of it. Commissioner Azula said they have discussed these agenda deadlines over the years, and they continue to get these things thrown at them. He concurs with Commissioner Norwood, and he hates making decisions on something he's not had an opportunity to study. He doesn't like

last minute changes. They need more advance notice. Commissioner Norwood said they have set deadlines for items to come on the agenda. It makes the Clerk look bad, and she does an excellent job. If these items aren't in by the agenda deadline, they shouldn't be on the agenda.

Commissioner Sanders moved to table Agenda items 6, 8, 9 and 11 to a time certain of April 28th. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Azula, Brown, Norwood, Sanders, and Mayor Flagg, yes; Nays, none. The motion was declared passed. Mayor Flagg said Mr. Bush needs to fix the system, as it is broken. It was totally unnecessary for the Commission to take this action. If an item is not fully prepared at a pre-agenda meeting, he does not expect it to be on the Agenda. Mr. Bush agreed, and said the reason these items showed up this late is because the Planning Board meeting was scheduled after the pre-agenda meeting took place. He said these items should not have been scheduled for this particular agenda in the first place.

Mayor Flagg apologized to the citizens who came to speak on these items. They are trying to follow procedure. There is no other agenda other than what they see here. They hold to the "Government in the Sunshine" laws, and do not violate those laws with out-of-the-sunshine meetings. The Mayor participates in the pre-agenda meetings with City Staff, and if he doesn't participate, the Vice Mayor does, but no other commissioner does. Sometimes, what the public reads in the newspaper is just as much news to the Commission as it is to the public.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS - There were none.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS - Commissioner Brown

- Said she brought back some information from NEFRPC on a new group purchasing procedure; they can save money by participating in a purchasing group. It is an application she'd like the City Manager to look at in order to save money.

Commissioner Azula

- Thanked all the citizens who took their time to come to today's meeting. It is very fulfilling to see that citizens are more committed to coming to meetings and providing them with input. It is good to see this type of participation.

Commissioner Norwood

- Said the rowing regatta kids will be here tomorrow night, and asked Mr. Deputy to fill the Commission in on the spaghetti dinner scheduled at the First Presbyterian Church.

Sam Deputy said the kids will be here tomorrow night and the commissioners are invited to help greet and serve the kids. It is their way of saying "welcome to Palatka, and have a good time while you are here."

Commissioner Sanders

- Thanked all those who volunteered so quickly to contribute to fix the mural. He also intends to contribute.

Mayor Flagg

- Said the format for next Tuesday's meeting will be board-meeting format with the City Commission, Planning Board and directors for Downtown Palatka, Inc. represented. Each Board will be given the opportunity to call their respective meeting to order. Everyone will at first give an executive summary, and Downtown Palatka will lead off. They ask that individuals involved with Downtown Palatka, Inc.'s planning to please let the Board of Directors represent their views, and allow them to do the speaking for all of them; if they want to give input, they need to give it to their respective representatives, which will make the meeting go more smoothly. They don't want individuals citizens giving input. Their respective leadership needs to equip and empower the citizens who attend to give their input to their leadership prior to this workshop. The initial tuning of

these two instruments has been done; this meeting is to fine-tune all components of the plans from the City and the Downtown Merchants, which are the entities that are involved. They are not seeking new ideas and input. No one will be alienated or excluded from the procedures; they look forward to seeing everyone Tuesday evening.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Norwood.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR