



Duval County Legislative Delegation

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MINUTES
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AND GENERAL PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2019
1:30 P.M.
117 W. DUVAL STREET
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Chair Jason Fischer called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. followed by the invocation and pledge.

Members present: Senators Bean and Gibson; Representatives Daniels, Davis, Duggan, Fischer, and Yarborough. Member excused: Representative Byrd.

A quorum was present.

The agenda was adopted by voice vote.

Chair Fischer then opened the floor for nominations of the Chair of the Delegation and recognized Representative Duggan, who nominated Representative Kimberly Daniels. There being no further nominations, Representative Daniels was elected unanimously as Chair. Chair Daniels then presented Representative Fischer with an award for his service as Chair.

Chair Daniels then opened the floor for nominations of the Vice Chair of the Delegation and recognized Senator Bean, who nominated Representative Clay Yarborough. There being no further nominations, Representative Yarborough was elected unanimously as Vice Chair.

Speakers:

1. Vice Chair Elizabeth Andersen, Duval County Public Schools- Spoke about the School Board's legislative platform and worries about fair pay increases for all employees
2. Mark Vanloh and Michael Stewart, Jacksonville Aviation Authority- Thanked the Delegation for their support and asked for support of the Governor's budget
3. Dr. David Szymanski, University of North Florida- Talked about healthcare and the funding request to provide comprehensive healthcare to students

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117 W. Duval Street, Suite 240
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4. Dr. DeShanna Brown, Edward Waters College- Asked for continued support for their summer program and to help build their online program
5. Theresa Rulien, Child Guidance Center- Reported on the need for mental health programs and for fair Medicaid reimbursement rates
6. Laura Oldt, Alzheimer's Association- Discussed Alzheimer's statistics and the Association's legislative goals for the year
7. Sharon Hoffmeyer-Dykes- Spoke in opposition of bills that remove religious exemptions and shared concerns with vaccinations
8. Linda Levin, ElderSource- Elaborated on the legislative priorities for the year to help provide more services for the elderly
9. Deloris Quaranta, Northeast Florida Women Veterans, Inc- Discussed the role of the organization and asked for more funding
10. Judy Sheklin, Jacksonville Area National Organization for Women- Asked for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and for reproductive protection bills
11. Susan Aertker- Spoke on nondiscrimination bills and asked for the support of a variety of bills
12. David Strickland, Jacksonville Symphony- Talked about the symphony's education program and asked for funding support to reach more children
13. Meghan Vickers, First Coast Freedom Fighters- Stated the reasons for the organization's opposition to SB 64
14. Mary Robinson, League of Women Voters- Spoke for Medicaid expansion being handled at the state level
15. Teresa Miles, Women's Center of Jacksonville- Elaborated on the Center's mission and asked for equal rights support
16. Kevin Gay, Operation New Hope- Thanked the Delegation for their support and discussed the success of the organization and their legislative asks
17. Susan Halil, Northeast Florida Dental Hygienists' Association- Asked for support of dental therapy as a way to expand dental access
18. Dean Porter, Hunger Fight- Asked for support of their appropriation's request to help forward their goals
19. Bobby Lee, Native Fresh- Spoke to the Organization's mission and asked for a multi-county request
20. Theresa Johnson, Beaver Street Enterprise Center- Thanked the Delegation for their support and elaborated on the Center's successes
21. Michelle Harcourt, FreshMinistries, Inc.- Elaborated on youth crime rates in Jacksonville and how to help lower the rate
22. Leon Baxton, Communities in Schools of Jacksonville- Elaborated on the goals of the organization and asked for funding
23. Raymur Rachels, Stop 5G Jax- Touched on health concerns and aesthetics of a 5G tower, asked for local control

24. Lisa Lovelady – Expressed opposition to 5G because of the lack of privacy and lack of control of aesthetics
25. Ennis Leon Jacobs- Asked for the support of a claims bill which supports wood treatment plant employees
26. Jaqueline Dowdy, River Region Human Services- Spoke about the history of the center and the services they provide
27. Michelle Beumer and Javon Robinson, Special Olympics Florida- Thanked the Delegation for their support and asked for continued funding. Javon then spoke about his favorite sports and how it has impacted him.
28. Melanie Davis, Stop 5G Jax- Concerned with the rollout of 5G and asked for local control
29. Bonnie Hendrix, Women’s March – Asked for support of the Equal Right Amendment and for equal pay
30. Kimberly Reed, Pace Center for Girls, Jacksonville- Elaborated on the mission of the center and spoke about how they positively impact at risk young women
31. Angela DeMonbreun, Solar United Neighbors/League of Women Voters- Spoke about the organization and how they impact solar growth in neighborhoods
32. Leah Kennelly, Stop 5G Jax- Asked for the legislature to reconsider SB 1000 which deals with 5G implementation
33. Riley Cherry- Expressed opposition to multiple bills that deal with removing religious exemptions and told her story dealing with vaccinations

ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS NOT ON AGENDA

34. Tammy Tibbles- Elaborated on the legislation that she supports and the bills that she opposes
35. Jim Jandreau, FLiCRA- Spoke to the mission of FLiCRA and thanked the Delegation for their support and help with protecting seniors
36. Marcus Haile, Learn to Read Jacksonville- Thanked the Delegation for their support and asked for funding support
37. Janet Adkins, Dayspring Village- Asked for funding support to help mental health assisted care living facilities
38. Shana Richardson- Spoke in opposition of removing religious and medical exemptions for vaccines
39. Heather Davis- Spoke in opposition to requiring vaccines and to bills that step on individual rights
40. Betty Harvey, River Region Human Services- Shared her personal story and how River Region helped her turn her life around
41. Karen Irving, River Region Human Services- Shared her personal story and how River Region helped her turn her life around
42. Desiree Manning, River Region Human Services- Shared her personal story and how River Region supported her during recovery

43. K Searey Dannheim- Spoke about her concerns with the implementation of 5G and asked for a rethinking of the current legislation
44. Rosimar Duca- Spoke in opposition of removing religious and medical exemptions for vaccines
45. Faye Johnson, Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition- Elaborated on the goal of the Coalition and spoke about infant mortality statistics
46. Maurine Meleck- Elaborated on her concerns with the correlation between vaccinations and the growing rate of autism
47. Bart Walchle- Shared his personal story and his concerns with forced vaccines
48. Marie Walchle- Expanded on her concerns with requiring vaccines for children and the increasing number of vaccine injury
49. Elizabeth Phelps- Spoke in opposition of forced vaccines and legislation that removes religious exemptions

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

This is not a verbatim transcript but a summary of the proceedings. A recording is on file in the Delegation office and posted online on the Delegation website.