

MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



A NEW DAY.

Mayor's Disability Council Board Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 3:00 to 5:00 PM | City Hall St. James
117 W Duval St / 4th Floor, Mayor's Conference Rm**

Members Present: Ray Pringle, Stephanie Young, Natalie Alden, Dan O'Connor, Barbara Brown, Denise Torres, Anida Pollo, Jose Morales, Ron McCauley

Ad-Hoc Members Present: Gonza Gonzague, Lou Anne Hasty, Michael Andrew (JTA), Lt. Michael Nguyen (JSO), Sgt. Mike Gore (JSO), Cpt. Rickie Grace (JFRD), Shannon Nelson (JFRD)

Staff Present: Kara Tucker, Lois Smokes, Tereese Goodloe

Citizens Present: John Nooney, Cynthia Stewart

Meeting called to order at: 3pm by chair Ray Pringle

Pledge of Allegiance: *All in Attendance*

Welcome and Introduction:

- Ray Pringle, 2025 MDC Board Chair

Parliamentarian: Jose Morales

Vote to Approve Minutes:

- *Moved by: Dan O'Connor/Jose Morales to approve minutes from: December 3, 2024 & January 14, 2025. Seconded by: Jose Morales/Dan O'Connor.*

Guest Presentation: Unable to attend

Announcements/Updates: Kara Tucker, *Chief COJ Disabled Services*

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- MDC Membership: Available Seats (2) added to website
 - Alexis Gonzalez resigned, took a Border Control job
- 2024 End of Year Report Review (*copy sent to Administration*)
- Sponsorship Request (*Board Review*)
- Mayor Deegan Budget Town Halls [Jacksonville.gov – Upcoming Events](https://jacksonville.gov/UpcomingEvents)

Motion made by Natalie Alden to remove Walter Johnson from the Board due to non-compliance, 2nd by Dan O'Connor.

- Discussion opened to present/send Walter a plaque or something to thank him for his years of serving on the Board
- All in favor of suspending membership

Motion made to accept Alexis Gonzalez resignation by Jose Morales, 2nd by Dan O'Connor.

- All in favor of accepting the resignation

Motion to approve sponsorship request made by Natalie Alden, 2nd by Denise Torres, after discussion (below) all agreed, and motion was passed

- Discussion opened; Jose Morales questioned what are the sensory bags for? *Cpt. Rickie Grace - will be on each rescue vehicle.*
- Denis Torres questioned, is REVAMP the primary database for emergencies or any other database? *Shannon Nelson All of the above Rapid SOS helps with 911 communicators it populates information provided to Rapid SOS, Revamp is our Duval County Watch Office JaxReady.com/revamp*

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- Sensory Rooms set up in each one of the Shelters during an emergency
- **Jax Ready Fest-April 25 & 26 (Friday & Saturday)**
 - 9am - 10am Friday, Security and Emergency Preparedness Council
 - 10am - 3pm (Limited Attendances) School field trips & Senior trips
 - Day 2 - Saturday open to the whole community
 - Asking for hands-on Exhibitors - interactive booths

Subcommittee Reports:

- *Employment-Stephanie Young*
 - *Entrepreneurs Program Informational session, Monday, February 24, 2025*
 - *Pledge Card Program still on hold*
 - *Website - Educational Videos*
 - *October Mentoring Day- pending Pledge Card*
 - *Chamber Event- pending Pledge Card*
 - *Job Fairs - looking to get involved*
 - *Educating Employers - Diversity & Inclusion*
- *Adaptive Recreation/Access to Wellness- Ray Pringle*
 - *Director of Parks & Recreation, Daryl Joseph - Guest Speak, gave updates on Jacksonville Parks*
 - *405 parks in Jacksonville*
 - *Park for Children with Disabilities:*
 - ✓ *Blue Cypress (therapy pool)*
 - ✓ *Oceanway*
 - ✓ *Tilly Fowler*

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- ✓ *Ed Austin*
- ✓ *McGirt's Creek*
- *Gave update on Emerald Trail & Sunny Acres*
- *Accessible Walking Trails at several of the parks*
- *Katy Ehas - Groundworks Jax as Guest Speaker at one of the Subcommittee meetings to talk about Emerald Trail*
- *Legislation, Education & Public Safety (LEAPS) - Denise Torres*
 - *Looked at Public Safety & Infrastructure - Art Museum*
 - *Regional Transportation Center - status of the Awning*
 - *Human Trafficking - youcanstopht.com*
 - *Housing Task Force - February 19th at CIL*
 - ✓ *St. Johns County - 4-units available*
 - ✓ *Filled 3 spots at Hogans Creek - waitlist*
 - ✓ *Family size unit available for low-income but not accessible*
 - *Houses, Town Homes, and Duplexes available, go to Habitat for Humanity - explore home ownership to see if you qualify - Mark Walker (CEO Habitat for Humanity)*
 - *Autonomous Vehicles - not very accessible*
 - *Vision Zero Project*
 - *James Brady & Mark Rosser Scholarships - keep the same for this year*

Ad Hoc Reports:

- *Duval County Public Schools - Amy Valentine & Rebecca Scissors*

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- *Summer Programs team starting to meet*
- *June 23 -July 18: Preliminary Oates for extended school year- Summer Program for students with disabilities who are recommended through their IEP to attend and for the Recovery years - 3rd grade & 8th- 9th if failed and missing 1-2 credits.*
- *February 13th, 12noon, presentation on TEAMS about requesting accommodation for parents and caregivers only (not requesting accommodations for students).*
- *Jacksonville Sheriff's Office - Lt. Michael Nguyen/Sgt. Sean Holliday- 2024 Traffic Stats:*
 - *Increased paying Ticket Enforcement by 11%*
 - *Traffic Homicide decreased by 15%*
 - *MLK Parade moved to Monday, 02/17*
- *Jacksonville Public Library/TalkingBooks - Tonja Ferrell (not present)*
- *Jacksonville Transportation Authority- Mia Johnson/Tsopie Trottie*
 - *Michael Laedrum - in for Mia Johnson*
 - *Ridership - 22,658 riders*
 - *OTP Connexion:*
 - *pick up 89%*
 - *Appointments 95%*
- *MV Transportation -Jim Neddo/Brenda Matthews*
 - *Been assisting U-Serve for the last 2 weeks*
- *Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) - Gonza Gonzague*
 - *No update*

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- *Career Source of NE Florida* - Lou Anne Hasty
 - *Career Source Northeast Florida - job fairs (virtual & onsite) very often, check calendar*
- *Brooks Rehabilitation* - Megan Hyman
 - *Not present*

Public Comment (Speaker Cards): John Nooney

- Speaking about Transportation - JTA
- Advocacy for Waterways and Public Access in Jacksonville
- Pointed out his name was spelled wrong in minutes from a previous meeting

Stephanie Young spoke about the Gate River Run

Jose Morales introduced Ms. Stewart, finishing social work at CIL

Adjourn Meeting- motioned by Ron McCauley

Chair: Ray Pringle | **Vice-Chair:** Stephanie Young

Members: Natalie Alden, Barbara Brown, Teona Haugabook,
Ron McCauley, Jose Morales, Dan O'Connor & Anida Pollo

Disabled Services Division (904) 255-5466