

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Aggregation Task Force
March 16, 2005

The Aggregation Task Force met in the de Aviles Room at City Hall on March 16, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. with Commissioner Crichlow presiding. The following were present:

Roll Call: Donald Crichlow, City Commissioner
Irene Areola
Philip McDaniel

Absent: Gerald Dixon
Ronald Stafford

City Staff William B. Harriss, City Manager
Mark Knight, Director, Planning & Building
Martha V. (Nell) Porter, City Clerk, (recording)

Also present: James L. Zimmerman, 3 Palm Row

Members of the task force discussed how they would present the proposed ordinance at the City Commission Workshop scheduled for April 20, 2005 at 4 p.m. in the Alcazar Room. A tag-team approach was suggested with members of the Task Force presenting various sections of the proposed ordinance.

Commissioner Crichlow distributed copies of an outline for the presentation and members discussed which items each member would present. Commissioner Crichlow noted that he still had the large boards that could be used for the presentation.

It was noted that City staff had been able to extract RS-1 and RS-2 areas from a data base making it possible to send a notice to property owners in

those specific zoning districts to notify them of the workshop, and it would be on the City website and the local government television Channel. A discussion followed concerning the content of the notice and the possibility of developing a brochure giving a brief overview of the proposed ordinance by answering frequently asked questions.

Members discussed the importance of hearing from people who supported the proposed ordinance as well as those who were opposed to it.

In response to a question regarding the role of the Planning and Zoning Board, Mr. Harriss explained that if the City Commission decided to move forward with the proposed ordinance, after the introduction and first reading by the City Commission, it should go

to the Planning and Zoning Board where there would be a public hearing and the PZB could then make a recommendation to the City Commission.

Ms. Areola said Cathy Dupont had been getting the word out to the neighborhood associations.

Mr. Harriss pointed out that City staff could notify the public, but he cautioned that it was not appropriate for staff to try to sell the idea.

It was noted that the Task Force could write a letter to the editor of the St. Augustine Record as an additional effort to get the word out to the public.

A discussion ensued following a comment by Mr. Zimmerman concerning the possible impact of aggregation on the entire city tax base, and Commissioner Crichlow noted that taxes would increase with the transfer of ownership of properties. Various scenarios related to aggregation of lots were discussed.

The consensus of the Task Force was to meet on Wednesday, March 23, 2005 at 3 p.m. to rehearse the presentation in preparation for the workshop with the City Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.