

Duval County Soil and Water Conservation District
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:00 p.m.
Zoom Teleconference



Supervisors in Attendance: Hunter Anderson (Chair), Jennifer Casey (Vice Chair), Allen Moore (Treasurer), Ashantae Green (Supervisor Elect)
Affiliate Members: Joshua Rosenberg (NativeJax)
Partners: Lauren Christiansen (COJ), Gayandrail Henderson (COJ)
General Public: Shanell Davis-Bryant (Groundwork Jacksonville), Javon Williams (Jacksonville Youth Works), Dexter Raysor (AlkaVita Alkaline Water)

Meeting Called to Order: 4:00 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions– Jennifer Casey
2. Overview of proposed Regeneration Park and [NACD Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant Initiative](#) (deadline for proposal Feb 15) – Jennifer Casey
3. Review of proposed design – Joshua Rosenberg
4. Comments from participants
 - a. Shanell Davis-Bryant – Design needs to be simplified, make sure it is low maintenance, community concerns about safety/lighting (notes destruction of tree water bags on the site in the past), there is a concrete pad under the grass on the site, the circular design of the raised bed is too complicated for volunteers to install – consider right angles, consider smaller demonstrations – demo sites don't need to be full size to teach the concept, might be a good site for a rain garden which is not in proposed design, suggests Green Team might be willing to build benches for park, notes the importance of community incentives, suggests simplifying grant proposal to a first phase that focuses on training, installation and maintenance of fruit tree guilds, possible partnership with Groundwork Jacksonville on TD Greenspace grant, encourage an environmental justice approach in the grant, completion of # workshops on site could allow participants to get bigger incentives (gift cards, food), consider volunteer hours match in the grant proposal (2019 rate was \$27.20/hr)
 - b. Gayandrail Henderson – The city might have restrictions, if raised beds are too high they could cause safety concerns (hiding people), ADA needs to be considered in the design, city would require exact planting list
 - c. Javon Williams – Requests street view of proposed park, offers 80 registered volunteers from Jacksonville Youth Works, notes that community engagement needs to include entertainment (not just food/money), consider a crowdfunding campaign with tax write off
 - d. Lauren Christiansen – Notes possibilities for agribusiness education on site such as gleaned for citrus and selling at a farmers market to reinvest in the project, would tentatively offer support for a simplified project provided liability and maintenance issues are addressed
 - e. Dexter Raysor – Suggests JTA credits or 2 for 1 passes might be a great community engagement incentive
 - f. Ashantae Green – Notes success of the project depends on community engagement
5. Next Steps

- a. Allen Moore – Offers to get soil tested and research soil issues
- b. Joshua Rosenberg – Will modify design to a simpler phase 1 approach based on recommendations from COJ and Groundwork Jacksonville
- c. Javon Williams and Ashantae Green – Will work on the community engagement piece including incentives
- d. Shanell Davis-Bryant – Will review our draft grant proposal and offer recommended revisions
- e. Lauren Christiansen and Gayandrail Henderson – Will provide potential COJ obstacles and requirements

NEXT MEETING – January 11 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom teleconference

Meeting Adjourned