

JEFFERSON COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES

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September Monthly Meeting Minutes

Mayor Mary Rose Evans, JCLC Vice-President, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7:00PM, Central Bank/Hurstbourne, 2nd floor Community Room, 9300 Shelbyville Road. She called for introductions of attendees.

Minutes: Mayor Evans referred to the June 17, 2015 JCLC Anniversary Celebration minutes. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes by consensus.

Treasurer Report: Jack Will, JCLC Executive Director, was called on to give the Treasurer's Report for Mayor Jim Ising, Treasurer. Opening balance as of August 1, 2015 of \$7,033.08; income of \$2700.15; expenses of \$1583.34; balance as of August 31, 2015 of \$8149.90. The report was accepted per previous approval by the Board.

Student Intern: Mayor Evans gave an overview of the Board's partnership with the University of Louisville Political Science Department in its student intern initiative. She introduced Bryce Kleinsteuber who will serve as the JCLC Student Intern for September-December, 2015. Bryce gave personal and educational background information inclusive of his work with the Kentucky State Legislature as a Legislative Aide. He will work with the Suburban Cities in gathering data on tax rates and services for each City, Urban Service District, unincorporated areas of Jefferson County and the Jefferson County PVA tax rates and overall county services.

Community Reports: Marty Nemes, Kentucky League of Cities, invited everyone to the KLC Annual Conference, September 29-October 2, 2015 in Owensboro, Kentucky. He also reported that the City of Richmond, Kentucky has just received a City of Ethics designation. Mayors interested in more details on this recognition can contact KLC or the City of Richmond. He also reviewed the various KLC training program offerings.

Jack Will reported on a community ceremony to be held at the Inter Faith Center, 4000 River Road, Nation of Islam Mosque. It is in support of the center which was recently vandalized with anti-Islamic hate language.

Program: Mayor Evans introduced the September meeting program panel: Mayor Bonnie Jung, City of Douglass Hills; Mayor Glenn Sea, City of Worthington Hills; Mayor Rick Tonini, City of St. Matthews. They will give information on their city and community initiatives for cities.

- 1. Mayor Bonnie Jung: The City of Douglass Hills was founded in 1973 and was identified as a 4th Class City with a population of 5700, 1929 homes, condos and apartments and seven different deed restrictions. Its budget comes from property tax and the local insurance premium tax. The City operates a swimming pool and facility which is one of the last in the community. It serves as a focal point for the community and its swim team has produced several national award and Olympic swimmers. The City is currently**

identifying funding for city officials to attend various training sessions and inter-local agreements with neighboring cities on services.

Mayor Jung started her governmental career in the office of Mayor Harvey Sloane, City of Louisville; Office of the State Attorney General; State Legislator Aide and the Office of 3rd District Congressman Mike Ward. This experience taught her the value of connectivity with local and state officials by citizens. She reviewed strategies on continued connectivity with State Legislators particularly in between sessions. This connect will pay dividends on important issues. She also encouraged the cities to utilize JCLC as a clearinghouse on issues affecting cities.

- 2. Mayor Glenn Sea: The City of Worthington Hills is located in Northeast Jefferson County. He is a native of Louisville and grew up in the Newburg neighborhoods. He sees education as a key issue that will affect the future of all cities and our community. The quality of life in our cities and overall community will decline without an adequate workforce, engaged citizenry and future City leaders.**

He focused on the high dropout rate among students and the inadequate skill levels for employment. He urged all cities to connect with Jefferson County Public Schools in or nearby their city. He is personally involved with the West End School for Boys which is a weekday Boarding School for middle school males who lack family support, read below grade level and are potential dropouts. It was founded and operated by Robert Blair, former Kentucky County Day Administrator, and his wife. It is open to volunteers at all levels of faculty and administrative staffing.

- 3. Mayor Rick Tonini: The City of St. Matthews was incorporated in 1950. It was originally comprised of potato farms and known as the potato capital of the world. It grew through three housing booms, 1920's after WWI; late 1930's after the 1937 flood; and 1950's after WWII. It has a park, two major hospitals, St. Matthews Branch Library with the largest area circulation; City Hall; 4600 homes and budget of \$13m+. He is focused on the value of Suburban Fire Departments and issues facing them. He is Chair of the St. Matthews Fire District and Vice-Chair of the County Fire Districts. The districts are now comprised of a paid professional staff after originally being staffed by volunteers. The Departments are continually challenged by the cap on authority to increase tax rates above the 1947 law of \$.10 per \$100. There are 22 Fire Districts in the county and four have merged in recent years. They are first responders based on location of the fire or emergency situation. There is a need to change the 1947 state law and give the Districts the ability to present a tax rate increase to their constituents. This is currently opposed by various state legislators and the Metro Mayor.**

The attendees interacted with the panelists through questions and answers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor David Brown, Secretary