

Equity Advisory Board

Date: February 19, 2026
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: County Administration Building - Grace Knight Conference Room
12 SE 1 Street, 2nd Floor, Gainesville, FL 32601

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Yvette Carter, Gerie Crawford, Jorelle Degen, Ronald Rawls, Ashton Weber, and Frank White.

Members Absent: Darrell Bagby, Kali Blount , Alena Lawson-Bennett (Excused)

Staff Attending: Courtney Wilson, Heather Akpan, Ben Chumley, Ivy Bell, Camisha Alexis

EAB has a Quorum

Ron Rawls prepared to receive that motion for and excused absence for Alena Lawson-Bennett

Motion to Excuse Alena Lawson-Bennett for Presurgical Appointment for husband, raised by Gerie Crawford for the record. Jorelle Degen Seconds

Ron Rawls - Motion been made and properly seconded. Is there any discussion?
All in favor Aye- All opposed Nay- None. The Aye's have it. the Aye's have it.
Motion passed unanimously and carries.

2. Public Comment

No Public Present

3. Approval of the Agenda

Frank White made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Yvette Carter second; unanimous approval; motion carried. Add Ashton Weber name to next Agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes

Gerie Crawford made a motion to approve the January 15, 2026 minutes as presented; Jorelle Degen second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

5. Growth Management Takeaway from Workshop

Ron Rawls, "Wonderful! Alright now so at the last meeting they wanted clarification conversations from the Workshop on January 15, 2026, concerning with Growth Management Last and conversations that they had on Equity & Demographic Analysis and community and public engagement. We have someone online that could talk us through those conversations today."

Heather Akpan, "Camisha if you would, we talked about this a little bit today and if you could remind people where this is in the handout that you gave them and we can kind of start the conversations there."

Camisha Alexis, " I can provide a little bit of a bit of back round. This is one of the first two topics that we reviewed in the audit with Dr. Houchin, one of the very first two, I believe in late 2024, so it's probably been a while since you all guys this."

6. Equity & Demographic Analysis

Putting Equity & Demographic Analysis at backend.

7. Community Public Engagement

Putting Community Public Engagement at the backend.

8. Member Comments

Next meeting pick 2 or 3 elements to discuss. Chair would like to have a meeting to prior to next EAB meeting to discuss path forward. What to do in next meeting, what elements to discuss. Suggestion to put together a list of all elements with direction of what was discussed, what needs to be discussed, when we discussed it, here are any recommendations we have for that, and what needs to be planned. Meeting with Chair and a person from Growth Management.

That presentation in August all the advisory boards, go to the board, just kind of talk about the status of what your doing, and kind of your major things. So that's not necessarily your recommendations meeting. The policy meeting or a special meeting is when we would really sit down and say here are the recommendation from the EAB as to how we believe we should proceed on the comprehensive plan.

Next meeting have past presentation, and proper personnel to discuss the element. Add agenda review to the schedule for the chair.

Staff given the update on the Community Outreach Manager.

9. Public Comment

No Public Present

10. Announcements

None

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52.