



**NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

**JACKSONVILLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, July 22, 2020  
9:30 am**

Proceedings before the Jacksonville Housing and Community Development Commission taken on  
Wednesday, July 22, 2020  
Virtual Meeting  
commencing at approximately 9:30 a.m.

**Commissioners**

David Wakefield, Chair  
Raul Arias, Vice Chair  
Diana Galavis, Commissioner  
David Hacker, Commissioner  
Curtis Hart, Commissioner - **Excused**  
Ericia Moore, Commissioner  
Sharol Noblejas, Commissioner  
Lauren Parsons-Langham, Commissioner  
Thomas B. Waters, Commissioner

**City of Jacksonville Staff:**

Dr. Johnny Gaffney - Unexcused  
Mary Staffopoulos, OGC  
Thomas Daly, Chief  
Nicole Spradley, Board Administrative Support  
Barbara Florio, Board Liaison

**City Council:**

Council Member Ju'Coby Pittman

**Guests Present:**

Cindy Watson, JASMYN  
Angie Miller  
Shannon Nazworth, Ability Housing  
Mario Chatman  
Carson Tranquille  
Jacquelyn Perry  
Rena Rettinger  
Mark Frink  
Alowe

**Staff:**

Travis Jeffery	Kenny Logsdon	Chiquita Moore
Robert Ownby	Melody Saftner	Laura Stagner-Crites



## NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### JACKSONVILLE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

#### **Call Meeting to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

Chair David Wakefield called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. He read into the record the instructions for conducting a virtual meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2020, February 26, 2020 and April 22, 2020 meetings was made by Commissioner Thomas Waters and seconded by Commissioner Raul Arias.

#### **Motion Passed: 8-0**

#### **I. Public Comments**

No public comments.

#### **II. Presentation**

Cindy Watson, CEO-JASMYN, shared a powerpoint presentation and discussed the services provided by JASMYN. Due to COVID-19 many of the services are now offered online or temporarily shut down; however, they are still providing food, showers, laundry, housing and testing. The organization was awarded \$40,000 in CDBG funds during Fiscal year 2017-2018 to renovate a porch on a building owned by JASMYN.

Chair Wakefield inquired about the number of people being served and HIV testing.

Cindy Watson explained that JASMYN provided housing for approximately 135 young people in 2019 and were averaging about 20 a month in early 2020 until services were reduced due to COVID-19. JASMYN partners with the Health Department to offer HIV testing. In 2019 they tested approximately 1,000 young people and were averaging 85-100 a month in 2020 until they shut this service down in March and April due to COVID-19. Testing has resumed; however, they are testing below the monthly average. She mentioned that when testing resumed, they had 5-6 positive tests in a 3-week span, typically they average 12 positives cases a year.

Commissioner Hacker inquired about the housing process?

Cindy Watson explained that prior to COVID-19 JASMYN would accept walk-ins and had longer hours of operation. Many of the clients are discharged from hospitals or referred by doctors. JASMYN partners with organizations such as Sulzbacher and Youth Crisis Center to offer additional services to clients.

#### **III. Chief's Report**

Chief Tom Daly discussed staff changes to the Community Development team. He mentioned that HUD recognized the Division for meeting timeliness at 1.38 which was an improvement over last year. Governor DeSantis vetoed the SHIP funds for the entire state; the funding will revert to the Sadowski Fund for future use. The Chief is conducting feedback interviews with the Universal Application applicants that did not receive funding. He also reported that the Ken Knight Drive area buyout is underway, the Voluntary Home Buyout Program was heard at MBRC on July 13<sup>th</sup> and legislation is to be filed, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta Community Heroes (SHIP) has a remaining balance of approximately \$270,000, The Headstart to Homeownership (H2H) program has a remaining balance of \$371,700, and the Foreclosure Registry program will begin accepting applications on August 1, 2020.



## NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Commissioner Waters encouraged the City to be proactive in providing rental and mortgage relief.

Commissioner Noblejas asked for more information about the Ken Knight Drive area buyout.

Chief Daly explained that the program is funded through the Department of Economic Opportunity under CD-DR, homes are purchased at market value and qualify for a \$15,000 incentive. To qualify, homes need to have flooded or were damaged during Hurricane Matthew. Once the property has been acquired, the land becomes greenspace in perpetuity.

Commissioner Noblejas toured the area and saw tarps on roofs. She asked if there was a plan to mitigate the flooding issues.

Chief Daly is not aware of any stormwater improvement projects for the area and would refer to the City's budget/CIP list to see if there were any stormwater improvement projects for that area.

-Council Member Pittman asked for a breakdown of renters versus homeowners for the area and inquired about apartments.

Chief Daly said that they are only reaching out to property owners.

Council Member Pittman inquired about the UAE program.

Chief Daly explained that Habijax is renovating four homes and we are working with Builders Care to renovate storm impacted housing. The UAE funding cannot be used in a floodplain.

Chief Daly ensured Commissioner Waters that anyone residing in homes participating in the Ken Knight Drive buyout will receive assistance with relocating.

Travis Jeffery provided a summary of the second quarter housing report. A handout was provided with full details. He explained that to-date 51 projects have been closed out. Projects slowed in the spring, but are moving again.

Chief Daly provided a summary of the second quarter Community Development report. A handout was provided with full details. He reported that ESG and HOPWA are looking good for the year with most of the funds already spent.

Chair Wakefield asked if all the projects have started yet.

Chief Daly and Liaison Florio agreed that all projects have started spending money.

#### **IV. New Business**

No new business.

#### **V. Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business.

#### **VI. Meeting Adjourned**



**NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

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**\*\* Meeting minutes were approved at the August 26, 2020 JHCDC Zoom meeting\*\***

**CERTIFICATION**

**Recorded and Transcribed by:**

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Nicole Spradley, Administrative Assistant  
JHCDC Staff Support

**Submitted by:**

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Barbara Florio, Operations Manager  
JHCDC Board Liaison

**Approved by:**

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David Wakefield, Chair  
JHCDC