

## **Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

### **November 9, 2023 Meeting Summary**

Hybrid Meeting: Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Road, Jacksonville and on ZOOM

#### **Meeting Attendance**

**CPAC Members:** Rhonda Boyd, Chair, Timber Oaks HOA; Victor Coleman, Vice Chair, Central Fairfax Community Association; Leroy Kelly, Carver International; Roxsan Currier, Marietta Senior Center; Jacqueline Harrington, Grand Park; Velma Rounsville, Timber Oaks HOA; Vanessa Cullins-Hopkins, Pebo Corp.; Elaine Billups, Better Living Community Association, Inc.; Murphy Nmezi, Royal Terrace; Bettye Scott, Ribault Manor; Gwen Nmezi, Royal Terrace; Henry Scott, North Riverside CDC.

**ZOOM:** Doretha Tompkins, Riverview; Jackie Williams, Planning and Development; Coleman Shepard; Kym Maye, Duval Soil and Water Conservation; Angie Nixon, Florida House District 13; Tom McLeod, Panama Park

**Excused:** Waynetta McGraw, Jacksonville Ranch Club II.

**Staff and Elected Officials:** Scott Adams, JPL; Tyrona Clark-Murray, City Council District 9; Paula Renfro, Duval County Public Schools; Assistant Chief Harry Massey, JSO Zone 5; Captain Damian Bell, JFRD; Shay Hill, JEA; Thomas Yeagle, MCCD; Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Services Office; Lisa Ransom, Neighborhood Services Office

**Guests:** Nabaa Ali; Ronnie Christopher; Sallie Barnes; Marilyn Brown; Antonia Bryant; Paul Stasi, City Rescue Mission; Roxie McLeod, Panama Park; Camika Jerido, USA Unlimited; Breanna Durden; Jeanette Mitchell; Hayley Spring, Blue Zones Project; Constance DeVaughn, Woodstock Neighborhood Association; Roxie Powell, Woodstock Neighborhood Association; Ginny Winters; Brenna Durden; Jeanette Mitchell; Leo Brown, Brooklyn Neighborhood Association and Lydia Bell, Metro Gardens Neighborhood Association.

#### **Meeting Summary**

**1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Vice Chair Victor Coleman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Edwina Henry confirmed that a quorum was present.

**2. Approve Summary of Previous Meeting:** The October Meeting summary was approved.

**3. Presentation/Speaker:** None.

#### **4. Elected Officials Report:**

The Honorable Tyrona Clark-Murray provided the following updates:

- Mallison Park will be receiving funding to resurface the track, which is used by the public as well as for public school athletic events/meets. In addition, there is funding for various upgrades like benches at the basketball court, fencing and various other items.
- Funds have been committed for a pilot program in the 103rd Street area to help with a mental health initiative.
- In late August, JSO was able to shut down a Fentanyl pill operation, along with other types of narcotics, in an area near the Mixon Town community.
- Working in conjunction with another Council member, funds were dedicated for the New Town Success Zone Park, on the Edward Waters University campus, and the legislation is forthcoming.
- As a veteran, Council member Clark-Murray took a moment to wish a Happy Veterans' Day to all those who served, as well as to the families of those who served.

#### **5. Chair's Report:** Rhonda Boyd, CPAC Chair, announced that:

- Three regular attendees have applied to become full CPAC Members and are currently awaiting their Mayoral Letter of Appointment to the CPAC: Ms. Sallie Barnes, Robinson's Addition; Ms. Ginny Winters, Pickettville Civic Club; and Dr. Camika Jerido, USA Unlimited, Inc.
- 2024 Schedule of Northwest CPAC Meetings – please make note of the dates. The NW CPAC does not meet in December. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024.

- Chair Boyd took a few minutes to reflect on the past three years and her time as Chair. She thanked everyone for their support.

## 6. Scheduled Staff Reports:

**JEA** – Jenelle Milton – Not present.

**Jacksonville Sheriff Office** – Assistant Chief Harry Massey was appointed to his position in July of 2023, and he stated that he was glad to represent District 5. The Assistant Chief provided the following report:

- District 5 is down 28% on crimes against persons; overall crimes against property are up 38% due to a spike in car thefts, KIAs and Hondas, specifically.
- In response to speeding calls, JSO has been engaging in traffic deployments in District 5. Violators, when stopped, are given warnings and/or citations, when needed.
- Massey's first Assistant Chief Walk is November 30<sup>th</sup> on Fifteenth Street between Palafox and McMillan Streets.
- Lastly, Assistant Chief Massey urged CPAC Members to report neglected, vacant properties, where there might be squatters or illegal activities. JSO has a public nuisance and abatement team that is working to clean up this district by getting the nuisance properties torn down.

**Harry Massey, Assistant Chief** – (904) 384-8028 or [JSODistrict5@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:JSODistrict5@jaxsheriff.org)

**Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department** – Captain Damian Bell made the following recommendations to promote safety:

- Thanksgiving fire safety – turkey fryers should be kept at least 10 feet away from the building. Make sure the turkey is not frozen. Don't overfill the turkey fryer with oil. Captain Bell also recommended keeping a fire extinguisher nearby.
- Christmas trees should be at least 3 feet from the fireplace and any heating elements. Unplug Christmas Lights at night. Natural trees should be kept watered.
- Contact a fire protection company to test fire extinguishers. With the change to daylight savings time, it would be an ideal time to test smoke and carbon dioxide detectors.

**Captain Damian Bell** – (904) 255-3298 or [DamianB@coj.net](mailto:DamianB@coj.net)

**Municipal Code Compliance Division** - Thomas Yeagle, Senior Code Compliance Officer, Zone 5, reported on the following items:

- There were 1,373 inspections completed in the last 30 days and 47 litter signs were removed. Any litter sign observed in the right of way and/or on public property will receive a citation.
- Following a neighborhood inspection, 215 cases were opened in the Normandy and Normandy Village Neighborhoods
- Yeagle gave a brief discussion on how to submit complaints by contacting MYJAX online or by calling 630-CITY. He stated the importance of having the correct address of the problem property, along with your name, address and a brief description of the complaint.

**Thomas Yeagle** - (904) 497-9548 or [TYeagle@coj.net](mailto:TYeagle@coj.net)

**Jacksonville Public Library – Main Branch** – Scot Adams, Manager Highlands Regional Library, shared information on several programs and events:

- The Highland Branch has started sensory, friendly story times for children aged 2 to 5 years old, on Mondays from 11 am to 11:30 am.
- The Main Public Library will be offering a class on starting your own business on Tuesday, November 14 from 2 pm to 4 pm, both in person and virtually, through the small business development center.
- The Bradham and Brooks Branch is hosting a Lit Chat with Nat Glover on December 9 at 2 pm to discuss his new biography, "Striving for Justice."
- Additional information about these events and others can be found on the Main Library's website at [www.jaxpubliclibrary.org](http://www.jaxpubliclibrary.org)

**Scott Adams** – (904) 255-6407 or [SAdams@coj.net](mailto:SAdams@coj.net)

**Public Works Department** - Chris LeDew, Chief Traffic Engineer, announced that Nina Sickler is the new Director of the Public Works Department, then proceeded with his report:

- The Traffic Engineering Division is responsible for all the city streets, roadway signs and pavement markings, as well as all the traffic signals in the county and they also conduct traffic studies and review crash data.
- Traffic Engineering is currently conducting a traffic study at the Trout River and Lem Turner Road. They believe an additional turning lane is needed. The study should be completed in January.
- Concerning the traffic back-ups at Ribault Middle School, Traffic Engineering will install speed humps, as a safety project.
- In relations to the condition of veteran gravesites, Dave McDaniel, Chief of Mowing and Landscape Maintenance has the list of city-maintained cemeteries – (904) 255-4301 or [McDaniel@coj.net](mailto:McDaniel@coj.net). Additionally, the information is available online.

**Chris LeDew** – (904) 255-7528 or [CLeDew@coj.net](mailto:CLeDew@coj.net)

**Duval County Public Schools** - Paula Renfro, Chief Academic Officer brought information to address a question that was asked last month about tracking high school students after graduation.

- DCPS does not currently track or keep a database of where students go post high school but does track a myriad of other data while they are still in school.
- DCPS tracks the number of scholarships awarded – this last graduating class was awarded \$152.6 million in scholarships.
- DCPS Dual Enrollment Rates is at 94.1% - every high school offers advanced placement and will have either early college or dual enrollment.
- Over 21,000 students have taken at least one CTE Class (CTE – Career Technical Education) and 4,746 students will graduate with an industry certification from 62 different academies.

**Paula Renfro** – (904) 390-2115 or [renfrop@duvalschools.org](mailto:renfrop@duvalschools.org)

**Neighborhood Services Office** - Edwina Henry, Neighborhood Coordinator, made several announcements:

- The 2023 Neighborhood Awards and 30<sup>th</sup> CPAC Anniversary Event was held Thursday, October 19. Thank you to those who were in attendance for being part of the experience. Photos from the event will be available on the [coj.net](http://coj.net) website soon.
- The City of Jacksonville has launched a new, rebranded website: [www.jacksonville.gov](http://www.jacksonville.gov). Patrons accessing [www.coj.net](http://www.coj.net) will automatically be rerouted to the appropriate [www.jacksonville.gov](http://www.jacksonville.gov) webpages.
- The Directory of Neighborhood Organizations has a few listings that were not updated to reflect the new City Council Districts after redistricting was completed. The Neighborhood Services Office is working with the appropriate City of Jacksonville Departments to resolve the issue.

**7. Old Business** - None.

**8. New Business** – None.

**9. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:**

- **LUZ (Land use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs Subcommittee** – LeRoy Kelly, Subcommittee Chair, reported that five LUZ Applications were reviewed and four were approved.
  - A motion was made to approve Z-5120, at 6239 New Kings Road, with a recommendation that a landscape buffer be put in place against future residential development. The motion was approved.
- **Nominations and Elections Subcommittee** – Roxsan Currier, Subcommittee Chair, presented the Slate of Candidates for 2024 NW CPAC Chair and Vice Chair. There were no nominations from the floor.
  - The CPAC elected Victor Coleman, Chair and Rhonda Boyd, Vice Chair.
- **T.R.U.E. Commission** - Velma Rounsville indicated that the T.R.U.E. Commission had just adjourned and that she will give her report in January.

## **10. Public Comments and Announcements:**

- Hayley Spring, Blue Zones Project - Blue Zone Project Jacksonville is hosting a community clean-up on Saturday, January 20, 2024, in the NW CPAC District. Location and details to follow. Ms. Spring is looking for recommendations for areas in need of a clean-up or neighborhoods interested in hosting a clean-up. Please see her after tonight's meeting.
- Ms. Spring also announced that White Harvest Farms will be hosting a Farmers' Market on Saturdays. The grand opening is this Saturday, November 11, 2023. The White Harvest Farms is located at 5348 Moncrief Road.
- Lydia Bell, Metro Gardens Neighborhood Association and Leo Brown, Brooklyn Neighborhood Association—announced that the Jacksonville City Council will hold a meeting this coming Tuesday for public comments about the buy-out of the liquor store on Golfair Boulevard. They are requesting support in protesting the City's payment of \$1.8 million to purchase the property.
- Paul Stasi, City Rescue Mission North Riverside – gave a reminder that City Rescue Mission is here to help anyone who's suffering from homelessness or addiction – please refer individuals who could use assistance, or the services provided. City Rescue Mission (CRM) has residential recovery programs, as well as shelter care service with intensive case management. CRM is currently doing a sock and blanket drive and these items will be given out during the Thanksgiving Meal on November 22, 2023, and the Christmas Meal on December 20, 2023.
- Member Doretha Tompkins was nominated and won the award for Keep Florida Beautiful. She received recognition for two decades of service. Additionally, she also won the 2023 Mayor Jake M. Godbold Award through the Keep Jacksonville Beautiful Commission.
- Vice Chair, Victor Coleman acknowledged his election as 2024 NW CPAC Chair and thanked everyone for their support.
- Rhonda Boyd acknowledged her election as 2024 Vice Chair and thanked everyone for their support in the past and wished everyone and their families a safe and joyous holiday season. She also invited everyone to enjoy the refreshments she brought as an end of the year celebration.

## **11. Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm.**

The next Northwest CPAC Meeting is Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 6 pm at the Lincoln Villa Senior Center, 7866 New Kings Road, Jacksonville 32219 and on ZOOM.