

North Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

November 8, 2023, Meeting Summary

Oceanway Senior Center, 12215 Sago Ave. W

Zoom Meeting ID: 869 9318 1164

Passcode: 595972

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members: Dr. Donald Green, Chair; Deborah Green, Captiva Bluff HOA; Sharon Bivins, Blue Grass/Northwood NA; Dot Mathias, Charter Member; Tommy Ruffin, Council Appointee District 8; Bessie Williams, Copper Hill Assoc.; Joseph Tate, Copper Hill Assoc.; Mike Getchell, Eagle Island; Pat Hilleman, Amelia View HOA; Jane Love, Amelia View HOA; Ingrid Montgomery, Victoria Preserve HOA; Larry Henderson, Victoria Preserve HOA; Jennifer Casey, Parque Diane HOA; Michael Wozniak and Shelley Wozniak, Lydia Estates; Charles Barr, Hand For Jax; Herlena Washington, Greater Works Church, Inc.; Pat Hilleman, Amelia View.

Zoom: Jamie Lacy, San Mateo NA Inc.; Glenn Fowler, Northside Business Leaders.

Visitors: Mark Bivins, Blue Grass Northwood; Sylvester Wilkins, Alta Lakes; Vera Jones-Wilkins, Alta Lakes; Paul Forte; Barry Farmer; Aletha Mikell, Victoria Preserve 2; Sandra Jones, Biscayne Estates; Tina Feggan; Kelvin Postell, Greater Works Church; Nancy Frashner; Belinda Grissett, Blue Grass Northwood.

Zoom: Mary Sperow; Lenell Cunning; Sharon Sumlar; Renee Marina; Cheryl Stewart; Janetta; Pat Medley; Vera Jones-Wilkins; Earnestine Johnson; Christina Salsa; Sasha Pearson; Robertha Walley; Donna Philbrick, SMN, Inc.; Janetta Jones, Smith Point HOA; Christa Salsa.

Staff and Elected Officials: Capt. Byron Jackson, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department; Assist. Chief Chuck Ford, JSO; Jackie Spiritas, JPL; Chiquita Moore, Director of Operations Neighborhoods Department; Jackie Spiritas, JPL; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; Stephen Nutt, Planning and Development Department; Charles Benson, MCCD; Victoria Schultz, DCPS.

Meeting Summary

- 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum:** Chair Dr. Donald Green called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Michelle Godwin-Ware verified a quorum.
- 2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:** The October summary was approved by the CPAC.
- 3. Elected Officials Report:** None
- 4. Chair Report:** Chair Green reported:
 - The 2023 Neighborhood Awards and CPAC 30-Year Celebration was fantastic. Everyone had a wonderful time. San Mateo was the winner of the Neighborhood Award for Planning District 6. As Chair of the Citizens Sales Surtax Oversight Committee, Dr. Green made his first presentation to the surtax committee on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.
 - Chair Green and the CPAC thanked Michelle Godwin-Ware.
- 5. Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Assist. Chief Chuck Ford reported:**
 - Beginning November 24, 2023, police presence will be increased at the River City Mall, and JSO will be present throughout the holiday.
 - JSO is holding a conference on gang violence to collaborate with community members nationwide.
 - Crime to property and violent crimes are down in District 6.
 - A new reporting system has been implemented. It is now easier to pull up current crime reports. Citizens may call the substation and request a report.Assist. Chief Ford may be reached at (904) 696-4335.
- 6. Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD) – Capt. Byron Jackson reported that with Thanksgiving approaching quickly, citizens should be cautious when frying turkeys.**
 - Keep propane tanks 10 feet from homes and structures to prevent fires.
 - Minor burns should be wrapped with clean gauze or a band-aide and kept dry and clean.

- There are five types of fire extinguishers. Use the appropriate extinguisher or a multi-purpose fire extinguisher to put a fire out before it catches somewhere.
- Place Fire extinguishers in the kitchen and throughout the house. Small kitchen extinguishers can be purchased at Walmart, Home Depot and Lowes.
- Place no more than five strings of lights on a power strip. Do not use extension cords; however, unplug them at night if you must use an extension cord.
- Inspect heaters regularly for damaged cords before use.
- Keep kids and pets away from space heaters.
- Have several fire exit routes planned around your home so everyone knows what to do.
- Advise children that it is okay to take something to break a window so they can escape if there is a fire in the home.
- Water spreads grease fires. A lid for a pan should be used to smother the fire.

Capt. Byron Jackson may be reached at (904) 255-3283.

7. Staff Reports.

- **Neighborhoods Department** – Chiquita Moore, Operations Director, reported:
 - Thanked those who attended the 2023 Neighborhood Award and CPAC 30th Anniversary celebration. The Neighborhood Services Office did a great job putting together this fantastic event.
 - The Neighborhoods Matching Grant application cycle is open. The application cycle closes on December 11, 2023. If interested in applying, please contact Robert Ownby at (904) 255-8283 or ROwnby@coj.net.
 - The Universal applications cycle will open soon. This program is for non-profit organizations or anyone who has a non-profit and is looking to expand and organize some programs that could be beneficial in the social service world. For more information, visit the Housing and Community Development Division website: <https://www.jacksonville.gov/departments/neighborhoods/housing-and-community-development>.
 - Please continue to submit your concerns and issues through <https://myjax.custhelp.com/app/home> or by calling customer service at (904)630 – 2489 (CITY). The City of Jacksonville can no longer accept anonymous complaints. Real-time updates are provided via email or text to those who have submitted a ticket. Many citizens complain about how long it takes to remedy some issues. The extended time frame could be for a few reasons, such as a new funding year and the need for more Municipal Code Compliance Officers.
 - She thanked Dr. Green for doing a great job as the North CPAC Chair and consistently bringing District 6 concerns to the CPAC Chairs' Mayor's quarterly meeting.
 - Animal Care and Protective Services (ACPS) is overcrowded and desperately needs volunteers, fosters, and those willing to adopt a pet. November adoption prices and discounts are available. Dogs over six months old are free; dogs six months and younger are \$40. All cats over one year old are free; kittens under one year old are \$40. On Friday, November 10, 2023, a Veterans Day event is scheduled at the shelter downtown, 2020 Forest St. An adoption event will occur on Saturday, November 11th, and Sunday, November 12th, at the Regency Pet Smart, 356 Monument Rd.
 - The City of Jacksonville has launched a new website, Jacksonville.GOV. City email addresses will not change, and citizen's methods of communication will not be affected.
- **Duval County Public Schools (DCPS)** – Victoria Schultz, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resource Services, reported:
 - The Duval County School Board voted to extend acting Superintendent Dr. Kriznar's contract for an additional six months through the end of this school year.
 - Several schools are currently scheduled to be rebuilt in the North District. Highlands Elementary, which will be combined with Pine Estates Elementary. The estimated completion is August 2024. It was announced to the community that Sheffield Elementary is scheduled to be rebuilt. The project will start next school year.
 - The School Choice window will open on January 1, 2024. Several virtual sessions will be available for parents to sign up to watch from their homes, and the choice process will be explained. DCPS will host two school showcase Saturdays. The first is scheduled for January 27, 2024, and February 3, 2024.

Victoria Schultz may be reached at Schultz@duvalschools.org.

- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Derek Dixon, Transportation System Manager District 2 Urban Planning Office, reported:
 - The I-95/I295 North Interchange Operational Improvement project will improve traffic flow and safety and increase capacity. Residents should expect lane closures and nighttime detours throughout the project. The estimated completion date is spring 2024.
 - Citizens had questions and expressed concerns about:
 - Semi-trucks parking along Duval Road near the gas station and the Amazon center.
 - Semi-trucks traveling on Duval Road.
 - The widening of Heckscher Drive near Blount Island.
 - The status of signage for the San Mateo community indicating Eastport Road is a designated truck route to keep the semi-trucks from driving along Baisden Road and allow JSO to cite the trucks caught not using the correct road.
 - Installing stop lights on Baisden Road before the construction is completed to decrease the number of accidents.
 - Installing signage in both directions along Duval Road to indicate a change in the traffic pattern coming in so many feet.
 - Cleaning trash along the landscape past the Dames Point Bridge.
 - Mr. Dixon advised that FDOT does not police semi-trucks. Citizens should contact the motor carrier company or JSO traffic control if there is an improper issue with semi-tractors parking or violating truck routes.
 - Contractors are on an eight-week schedule to clean debris around the various city bridges.
 - CPAC members can check the FDOT advisory for nighttime closures on the FDOT website at <https://nflroads.com>.
 - Citizens are welcome to send photos to Mrs. Godwin-Ware or Mr. Dixon to help identify their concerns and the location.

Derek Dixon may be reached at (904) 360-5653 or derek.dixon@dot.state.fl.us.

- **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Jackie Spiritas, Executive Assistant 1, reported:
 - Libraries will be closed in observance of Veterans Day on Friday, November 10, and Saturday, November 11, 2023. We will also be closed for Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 23, and Friday, November 24, 2023, for Thanksgiving.
 - Citizens now have access to Flipster, a free digital magazine service provided courtesy of the Jacksonville Public Library. Residents may download magazines like Consumer Report, Glamour, Vogue and Sports Illustrated. Visit the JPL website at www.jpl.com for more information.
 - The Library Foundation of Jacksonville invites you to spend an evening with author Steve Berry in the Conference Center at the Main Library on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. Included in the price of the event ticket is dinner by Fred Cotton's Bar-B-Que, desserts from bb's restaurant. Proceeds will go toward the JaxKids Book Club, which provides free books for all Duval County preschoolers in registered Voluntary Pre-K centers. To purchase your ticket, please visit the Jacksonville Public Library link: <https://jaxpubliclibrary.org/blog/purchase-your-tickets-steve-berry-and-support-jaxkids-book-club>.

Jackie Spiritas may be reached at (904) 255-6463 or Spiritas@coj.net.

- **Municipal Code Compliance Division (MCCD)** – Charles Benson, Code Compliance Supervisor, announced that the new fiscal year for the City of Jacksonville has started. Service Request numbers will now begin with 2024. A total of 1,314 inspections were completed in October. MCCD will dedicate a few days to the nuisance signs as they are becoming a big problem throughout Duval County.
 - Mr. Benson provided the following updates:
 - MCC has been concentrating on the Turtle Creek area near Harts Road. Many issues have been addressed.
 - The minivan that Mrs. Bivins reported as abandoned has been towed.
 - The car dealership outside of Madison Wood Apartments has been cited for not properly running a business and a few nuisance issues.
 - An entire project will be conducted in January, starting from Bush Drive along Dunn Avenue and Lem Turner Road.

Charles Benson may be reached at CBenson@coj.net.

- **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports.**
- **Governmental Affairs and Planning & Development** – Chair Green and Stephen Nutt, City Planner I. The North CPAC, Governmental Affairs Subcommittee, reviewed four applications. Recommendations for two companion applications were made.
- **WRF-23-22 (2023—0753) – Waiver of Road Frontage: 10110 Fort George Rd.:** The applicant seeks to reduce the road frontage requirement from 80 feet to 60 feet for developing a single-family dwelling. CPAC members unanimously passed the motion for the recommendation.
- **AD-23-76 (2023-0754) – Administrative Deviation: 10110 Fort George Rd.:** This application is the companion to WRF-23-22. The applicant seeks to reduce the lot area from 43,560 sq ft. to 11,463 sq ft. and reduce the lot width from 100 ft. to 60 ft for the development of one single-family home. The North CPAC recommends that the Planning and Development follow the guidelines set forth by the Comprehensive Plan concerning water and sewage for companion applications WRF-23-22 and AD-23-76. CPAC members unanimously passed the motion for the recommendation.

Stephen Nutt may be reached at (904) 255-7849 or SNutt@coj.net.

- 8. Chair and Vice Chair Elections** – Sharon Bivins lead the elections for the 2024 North CPAC Chair and Vice Chair. Mrs. Bivins presented the slate of officers, Jamie Lacy as Chair and Charles Barr as Vice Chair. A nomination from the floor for Larry Henderson as Vice Chair was made by Michael Getchell. Mr. Barr received eight votes, and Mr. Henderson received four votes. The 2024 CPAC Chair will be Jamie Lacy, and Charles Barr will be the vice chair.
- 9. Neighborhood Coordinators Report** - Neighborhood Coordinator Michelle Godwin-Ware thanked those who attended the Neighborhood Award and 30th CPAC Anniversary program on Thursday, October 19, 2023. Photos of the Neighborhood award winners and CPAC chairs can be found on the Neighborhood Services Office website: <https://www.jacksonville.gov/neighborhoodawards>. Additional images will be added soon. Mrs. Ware also thanked Chair Green for his commitment to serve as the North CPAC Chair.

Michelle Godwin-Ware may be reached at 904-255-8236 or Michellegw@coj.net.

10. Unfinished Business - None

11. New Business – None

12. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements: None

13. Motion to Adjourn: Chair Dr. Green adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: **Wednesday, January 10, 2024**, 5:30 p.m. Hybrid - **Oceanway Senior Center**, 12215 Sago Ave. W., 32218, and via Zoom. Meeting ID: 869 9318 1164 Passcode: 595972.

Next Governmental Affairs Subcommittee Meeting: **Wednesday, January 10, 2024**, 4:30 p.m. **Oceanway Senior Center**, 12215 Sago Ave. W. 32218 and via Zoom. Meeting ID: 869 9318 1164 Passcode: 595972.

Summary prepared by Michelle Godwin, Neighborhood Coordinator, Neighborhood Services Office, (904) 255-8236 or MichelleGW@coj.net

A copy of the audio recording of this North CPAC meeting is available through a Public Information Request by calling 630-CITY. Details about Public Records can be found on the City's Website: [COJ Public Records Request](#).