

North Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

April 12, 2023, Meeting Summary

Oceanway Community Center, 12215 Sago Ave. W

Zoom Meeting ID: 869 9318 1164

Passcode: 595972

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members: Dr. Donald Green, Chair; Jamie Lacy, Vice Chair; Mike Getchell, Eagle Bend Island; Jane Love, Amelia View; Michael and Shelley Wozniak, Lydia Estates; Sharon Bivins, Blue Grass Northwood; Deborah Green, Captiva Bluff HOA; Bessie Williams, Copper Hill HOA; Ingrid Montgomery, Victoria Preserve HOA; Larry Henderson, Victoria Preserve HOA; Bob Austin, Blue Grass Northwood; Jim Sumara, HDCC; Jennifer Casey, Parque Diane HOA; Jane Love, Amelia View; Vicki Drake, DCC of PTS/PTA Assoc; Tommy Ruffin, District 7; Mike Getchell, Eagle Bend Island.

Zoom: Josephine Fiveash-Porter, Northlake HOA; Glenn Fowler, Northside Business Leaders.

Visitors: Charles Barr; Ernestine Feggans; Pat Hilleman, Amelia View; Paul Forte, Eden Group; Donald Drake; Patricia Copper, Blue Grass/Northwood; Carol Reaves, Harts Estates, HOA.

Zoom: Mary Sperow, Donna Philbrick, SMN, Inc.; Lynn Vandenhoy, SMN, Inc.; Pat Medley; Lenell Cunningham; Herlena Washington; Mark Bivins, Blue Grass/Northwood; Sharon Johnson; Dwain Blackwelder, San Mateo; Earnestine Johnson.

Staff and Elected Officials: Byron Jackson, Jacksonville Fire, and Rescue Department; Chuck Ford, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office; Cheryl Riddick, JTA; Jackie Spiritas, Jacksonville Public Libraries; Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Services Office; La'dora Taylor, Parks, Recreation and Community Services; Charles Benson, MCCD; Tiffany Morales, Military Affairs and Veterans; Wendy Ahmed, Jax Human Rights Commission.

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 March 8, 2023, summary was approved by the CPAC.
- 3. Chair Report:** Chair Green announced that he must submit the North CPACs Capital Improvement Program (CIP) recommendations to Capital Improvement Administrator Kathleen Collins on May 1, 2023. The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee would like to recommend that the North CPAC resubmit the items from their 2022 CIP recommendation letter. A motion was made to resubmit last year's recommendation by Tommy Ruffin. Jennifer Casey seconded the motion. The motion passed with one opposition by Larry Henderson.
 - Chair Green asked Sharon Bivins to update the CPAC regarding the cleanup on March 23, 2023. Mrs. Bivins reported that volunteers from the North CPAC and several neighborhoods in Planning District 6, Council Member Gaffney Jr., and a few officers for the JSO participated in the St. Johns River clean-up along Dunn Avenue on Saturday, March 18, 2023. The North CPAC will host another clean-up on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Volunteers will meet Mrs. Bivins in the Burger King Parking lot at 937 Dunn Ave. The areas to be cleaned are Dunn Avenue to Harts Road, continuing up Harts Road and ending at Bonnelly Drive.
- 4. Elected Officials Report:** Council Member Reggie Gaffney Jr., District 7, announced that he plans to attend the North CPAC clean-up on Saturday, April 22, 2023. He reported that:
 - The Gold Rush Hotel was served on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, and is scheduled to go before the nuisance and abatement board on Thursday, April 27, 2023.
 - Council Member Gaffney contacted Trader Joe's, Winn Dixie, Publix, and Rowes

Grocery Stores regarding opening a grocery store along Dunn Avenue. Rowes expressed interest in opening a store along Dunn Avenue, Lem Turner Road, or Oceanway.

- Chick-fil-A has not decided whether to continue constructing their new restaurant in the North Creek neighborhood across from First Coast High School or move to another location in Planning District 6. Council Member Gaffney Jr. said he would keep everyone posted when he has additional information.

Council Member Reggie Gaffney Jr. may be reached by calling his office at (904) 255-5207 or emailing RGaffneyJr@coj.net.

5. Presentation: None

6. Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Assistant Chief Chuck Ford reported that crime is going down in Planning District 6.

7. Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD) – Caption Byron Jackson reported that:

- Spring is here, and everyone should make it a habit to check the batteries in their smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. Residents who need a smoke detector can call 630-CITY (2489) to request one.
- Families should have a family emergency plan in place and should practice the plan at least twice a year. A communication plan should also be in place to help contact and locate family members. The plan can be helpful during natural disasters and fires. He advised that the keys for burglar bars be kept close to the door or window they are on. He also suggested that parents teach their children that it is ok to break a window if they need to escape from a fire, where to locate it, and how to use the key to unlock the burglar bars.
- The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will host a National Prescription Drug Take Back Day event on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Duval County residents will have several collection sites that will provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of expired, unused or unwanted prescription drugs. For a list of the various collection sites, please visit <https://DEA.CollectorSites.com>.

Caption Byron Jackson may be contacted at (904) 255-0000

• **Jacksonville Public Library (JPL)** – Jackie Spiritas, Executive Assistant I, reported:

- The community input meeting held regarding the new library was well attended. The public provided much good input. Those who could not attend can email their recommendation to Mrs. Spiritas at Spiritas@coj.net, and she will forward the information to the project manager, Devon Holland.
- The Lit Chat interview for May will feature author and historian Wayne Wood. The discussion will take place on Saturday, May 6, at 2 p.m. in person at the Main Library in the Special Collections Department and via Zoom. The Beaches Branch Library will hold a Lit Chat interview with Cookbook author and chef of the Blue Bamboo Restaurant, Dennis Chan, in person on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 3 p.m. Please visit the Jacksonville Public Library website at www.jpl.com to register for both events.
- A writer's lab for those interested in honing their craft and getting their work published will be held online Saturday, May 13, 2023, at 10 a.m. Please visit the Jacksonville Public Library website at www.jpl.com to register.
- Early voting begins Monday, May 1, 2023, and continues through Sunday, May 14, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. To find an early voting JPL location, please visit the Jacksonville Public Library website at www.jpl.com. You may also visit the Duval County Supervisor of Elections for a list of early voting locations, <https://www.duval elections.com/General-Information/Learn-About-Elections/About-Early-Voting>.
- National Library Week is April 23, 2023, through April 29, 2023. Celebrate by visiting your library, meeting the librarians, checking out books and other great items in your library's collection, or taking time to learn your library's story.

Jackie Spiritas may be contacted at (904) 992-7101 ext. 220 or spiritas@coj.net.

• **Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA)** - Cheryl Riddick, Director of Customer Engagement, reported that:

- Beginning on April 16, 2023, the JTA Mobility Works Program will set up a detour on Alta Drive between Faye Road and Port of Jacksonville Parkway to allow JTA contractors to raise the

elevation of the roadway in two locations. JTA anticipates that the detour will be in place from April 16, 2023, through June 14, 2023. Mrs. Reddick stated that Cantrece Jones with Acuity Design Group (ADG), Mark is the point of contact if there are any questions or concerns regarding the project. She may be reached at (904)619-8605 or CJones@adgmark.com.

Cheryl Riddick may be contacted at (904) 632-5522 or Criddick@jtafla.com.

- **Military Affairs and Veterans (MAV)** – Tiffany Morales, Veterans Outreach Coordinator, reported two events are scheduled for May.
 - The Memorial Day Ceremony will be held Monday, May 29, 2023, at the Veteran's Memorial Wall between TIAA Bank Field and the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville, 1145 East Adams St. The pre-ceremony will begin at 8 a.m., and the ceremony will start at 8:30 a.m.
 - Military Spouses Night Out will be held Thursday, June 15, 2023, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Vystar Veterans Memorial Arena, 300 A. Phillip Randolph Blvd. Free parking will be available in Parking Lot Z. To register; please visit WWW.TINYURL.COM/SPOUSESNIIGHTOUT2023.

Tiffany Morales may be contacted at (904) 255-5524 or tmorales@coj.net.

- **Municipal Code Compliance Department (MCCD)** – Charles Benson, Code Compliance Supervisor, reported that 1,517 inspections were completed in the month of March. Mr. Benson announced that:
 - Information brochures about illegal signs were available on the sign-in table. He advised that when the violator who has placed the signs at the intersections and median is found, citations ranging from \$50 to \$300 are issued. The proceeds from the citations go back into the MCC division and JTA. Anyone can remove and dispose of litter signs in the right of way and medians. The MCCD is gauging interest in citizens to volunteer to assist with sign enforcement.
 - Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program (JAR) applications are still available. The JAR program assists with required abatement services at no cost to qualifying citizens. The program only prevents liens from being placed on the property after the abatement occurs. For more information, please visit the Municipal Code Compliance Departments' website at MCC Jacksonville Assistance and Relief Program.
 - It is required to provide a name and address when reporting an issue using the MyJax app or (904) 630-CITY (2489). Additional information that is helpful to the MCC officers is a contact number, email, a description of the violation, and where and when it is observable.

Mr. Benson had no updates for CPAC members but advised that his team is staying proactive and closely monitoring Planning District 6

Charles Benson may be contacted at (904)255-7299 or Cbenson@coj.net.

- **Parks Recreation and Community Services** – La'dora Taylor, Parks District Manager, reported that:
 - The Lonnie Miller splash pad is estimated to open at the end of May.
 - Eartha Napoleon Parks playground replacement was recently completed.
 - The plans for an inclusive playground for Oceanway Park have begun. Inclusive means everyone is part of the play, with peers of all abilities.
 - First Coast High School's pool is in the planning phase with a completion date of 2024.
 - The four-field expansion at Sheffield Park is in the design phase with a completion date of the fall of 2023. The Pickle Ball Court editions are in the planning phase and have an estimated completion date of 2024.
 - Summer Camp will start the third week in June at various sites; Oceanway is a popular campsite that fills up quickly. Summer camp fees are \$95 for each two-week session. A voucher program is available for those who cannot afford the cost. A total of 300 vouchers are available.
 - Parks, Recreation, and Community Services is preparing for this year's summer programs. Positions for lifeguards and summer camp counselors are available. Free lifeguard training is provided. The salary for the lifeguard position starts at \$14 an hour. Please visit <https://www.coj.net/employment> for a listing of the current job openings.

La'dora Taylor may be contacted at (904) 255-7946 or LadoraM@coj.net.

- **Jacksonville Human Rights Commission (JHRC)** – Wendy Ahmed, Executive Director of JHRC, announced that on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Shultz Center, 4019 Boulevard Center Drive, from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., the JHRC will be hosting The City of Jacksonville Fair Housing Expo. This year's theme is "The American Dream: Fair and Affordable Housing. The community is invited to come and learn about the available resources to help with renting or buying a home, how eviction may affect your credit when trying to rent or buy a home, and the resources available to a person with a disability.

Wendy Ahmed may be reached at (904) 255-5372 or WendyA@coj.net.

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports.

- **Governmental Affairs and Planning & Development** – Vice Chair Lacy.
The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee reviewed nine applications. Recommendations for four of the applications were made:

New Business

- **AD-22-92 – Administrative Deviation: 9765 Main St., N.:** To approve the request with the allowance that the requested deviation of decreasing the number of off-street parking spaces from 168 to 115 only applies to the current business. Should another owner take over the company, the business will revert to the 168 original off-street parking spaces. CPAC members passed the motion unanimously.
- **2022-0891 – Planned Unit Development: 12804 Lem Turner Rd.:** To approve the request with the following allowances. The developer considers the quality of life regarding the size of the driveways and streets. The CPAC is requesting that the developer consider increasing the size of driveways to allow for more than one vehicle to park. As well as increasing the width of roads to provide emergency vehicles enough space to drive through the community and turn around easily when responding to emergencies. The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee strongly encourages the developer to speak with JFRD and JSO to obtain their input regarding the need for wider roads. CPAC members passed the motion unanimously.
- **2022-0895 – Planned Unit Development: 0 New Kings Road:** To approve the request. CPAC members passed the motion with one opposition. The majority ruled.
- **Approved 2023-0008 – Conventional Rezoning: 212 Sago Ave.:** To approve the request. CPAC members passed the motion unanimously.
- **Transportation** – Vacant.
- **Ad-Hoc-Taxation, Revenue, Utilization and Expenditures (T.R.U.E)** – Vacant
- **Neighborhood Coordinator's Report** – Michelle Godwin-Ware, Neighborhood Coordinator, announced that the 2023 CommUniverCity applications are due Thursday, April 27, by 5 p.m. Attendees will be notified by Monday, May 1, 2023, if selected. The training takes place twice a week for four weeks, starting Tuesday, May 16, 2023, and ending Saturday, June 10, 2023. Applications for the 2023 Neighborhood Awards competition will be available soon. The award program is meant to recognize organizations and neighborhood groups that have improved the quality of life in their neighborhoods and communities. Mrs. Godwin-Ware also explained the process of becoming a CPAC member.
Michelle Godwin-Ware may be reached at 904-255-8236 or Michellegw@coj.net.

8. Unfinished Business – None

- 9. **New Business** – Tommy Ruffin motioned that the CPAC submit a letter of appreciation to Erin Abney, City Planner III, for providing excellent service to the North CPAC, Planning District 6. Mike Getchell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Old Business - None

11. Public Comments/Concerns/Announcements:

- Mrs. Cooper stated that Planning District 6 does not want the development of more Dollar General, Dollar Tree, and Family Dollar stores. She hopes more grocery stores will bring their business to Planning District 6.
- Larry Henderson advised more members of the CPAC to attend the City Council meetings.
- Paul Forte provided the CPAC with an update on the progress of the road construction on Owens Road and Main Street. Mr. Forte also informed the CPAC that Chief of

Transportation Planning Laurie Santana shared information with him regarding a new program in the design phase called the Venture Out program. The program will allow citizens to use their computers to accurately report and attach pictures when submitting issues with roads, such as potholes.

12. Motion to Adjourn: Chair Dr. Green adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Next CPAC Meeting: **Wednesday, May 10, 2023**, 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, May 10, 2023**, 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](#).