

District #1 - Urban Core

Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Meeting Location: Ed Ball Building – Training Room 110 – 214 N. Hogan St.

Chair: Christina Parrish 434-0959 ceparrish.CPAC@yahoo.com

Vice Chair: Gloria DeVall 449-4340 gloria.devall2010@comcast.net

Mayor's Representative: Carolyn Shehee-Williams 630-1636 cshehe@coj.net

Neighborhood Coordinator: Marilyn Fenton-Harmer 255-8236 mfharmer@coj.net



Meeting Summary Monday, March 4, 2013

Members

Christina Parrish, Chair	Gloria DeVall, Vice Chair
Ruth Arnold, 2 nd Mile	Gerre Walker, 12 th Street Loyalty
Catherine Morton, 12 th Street Loyalty	Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts
Bobby Lee, FreshMinistries	Celia Miller, Good Neighbor MANIA
Levoyus Partlow, Good Neighbor MANIA	Darcel Harris, Mother Midway AME
Greg Radlinski, Parks at the Cathedral	Erica Trent, Pathways Academy
Dorothy Merrick, Plaza Condominiums	Rev. W.C Hamilton, St. John's
Doug Vanderlaan, SPAR	

Excused – Louvenia Tippins, Michelle Hughes, Caroline Shehee-Williams

Guests

Donna Barrow, ECA C/M Lumb	Tony Allegretti, Jax Chamber
Jackie Padgett, Jax Lime	Bob Gosnell, Jax Lime
Jeff Bittner, Jax Lime	Phil Hetzner, Jax Lime
Nick Caggiano, Jax Lime	Bill Harris, Jax Lime
Jennifer Savage, Dalton	Heather Houston, Dalton
Richard Lewis, Plaza Condominiums	Robert Hyde
Michelle Tappouni, SAMBA	Cesar Grijota, Vystar Credit Union
Roslyn Phillips, The Hester Group	Marvin Dunbar, PNG, The Hester Group
Ysryl, Jacksonville Youth Works	

Staff/Resource

Michelle Barth, COJ	Kenny Logsdon, HCDD
JSO Zone 1 Lt. Kenny	Mark Hartley, Parks
Nelson Beard, Municipal Code	James Green, FDOT
Samantha Paull, Planning	Tony Williams, JPL Eastside
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, HCDD	

Call to Order

Chair Parrish called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan St., established that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone.

Approval of the Minutes

Member Merrick made a Motion to accept the minutes from the February 4, 2013 meeting as corrected:

- The bike lane on Atlantic Boulevard – when the project is finished, there will be a bike lane in each direction along Atlantic Boulevard, from Kings Avenue to Stevens Street / Old Hickory Road. <http://www.i95overlandbridge.com/documents/2013-02-12-Atlantic-BLVD-Bike-Lane.jpg> It is not part of the detour during construction and it is unknown at this time when, or if, it will become available before construction is finished.
- The painting will be the silver arch above I-95, where it goes over Myrtle Avenue and the rail yard. We are not painting the "tunnel" under the tracks and I-95.

A second was made by Member Arnold. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed. The Motion carries.

Chair Parrish introduced guest speaker Tony Allegretti. He lives and works downtown. Mr. Allegretti was the first Director of RAM (Riverside Avondale Market).

Guest Speakers

Tony Allegretti, Director of Downtown Engagement, Jacksonville Chamber, introduced himself and gave a presentation on Mayor's Browns Reinvestment Plan. He stated that exciting things are happening. Here are some of the things he is working on from the Chamber:

- He is the producer for the Community First Saturday on the North bank. They have lots of activities for the entire family.

- o They have had 30 stationary bikes with a spinning class on the river.
- o There are walking tours
- o Bike Tours have been free (subsidized) that are usually \$60.
- o They have partnered with JTA and have had the Skyway open.
- o In April they are moving behind the Times Union Center to be closer to the Skyway.
- o Last month they gave away 3 bikes.
- o At the next First Community Saturday they will be giving away Jacksonville Suns tickets.
- They are looking at event planning for Hemming Plaza.
- In August they are planning a leadership tour by train to Charleston. The goal is to plan a tour and see what they are doing and to have camaraderie with the business owners.

Mr. Allegretti is also a Board Member on the Downtown Investment Authority (DIA). He is 1 of 9 Board members. He passed out a handout on Mayor Brown's Reinvestment Plan. Members had questions and concerns on the following:

- When the DIA was started City Council stated that there has to have a plan in place. Is that done? The DIA does need a CRA Plan to do deals that would not have to be sent back to the City Council for approval. They are working on who will do the CRA to present to the City Council. It may go faster if a City of Jacksonville staff member does it. They hope to have it done by late summer. They do have one that was in place for downtown but needs updating i.e. Friendship Fountain is listed in it. There are a number of thresholds that will have to be met.
- Members wanted to know the boundaries of the DIA? It is from I-95 West and South and State Street from the North and the river from the East.
- Members stated there are about 40% of the street lights out on Union and State Street. DVI use to inventory the street lights. Call them into JEA or you may want to twitter.
- Members wanted to know what position the DIA Board was taking on the Mobility fee. They voted 6 to 1 to oppose Council Member Clark's Ordinance 2013-94.
- For information on the DIA contact Michelle Stephens at (904) 630-1979 or at msteph@coj.net to confirm meeting dates and times.
- The next meeting date has changed to Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 3 p.m. with the location to be determined.

Tony Allegretti can be reached at Tony.Allegretti@myjaxchamber.com or 904-366-6695

Member Radlinski made a Motion that the Urban Core CPAC supports the adoption of Ordinance 2013-89. Member Merrick made the second. There was no discussion. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed. The Motion carries.

Jacksonville Lime Project (Tallyrand at 1915 Wigmore Street) Jackie Padgett gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Keystone Properties and Carmeuse Lime and Stone Inc. The facility will manufacture lime, which will be used primarily to purify drinking water. The PowerPoint is attached.

Members had questions and concerns on the following:

- Where are you on the air permits? They have just submitted the application. They hope to be approved by August.
- When will the construction and operation begin? If all goes well and the permits are in place they hope to be in operation by October 2014.
- Will the product be brought in by ship? They will be the lime stone from ships but the product will be disbursed by trucks within a 160 mile radius of Jacksonville. There may be some shipping to the Caribbean later on.
- Of the \$38 million dollar investment what incentives has the City of Jacksonville committed? The tax abatement and ½ of the reduced property tax for the next 6 years for just over \$1 million dollars.
- Where is the location? 1915 Wigmore Street.
- What impact will there be on residential? The site is on the JaxPort terminal site.
- Of the 22 jobs will they be hired locally or transferred? No, the Northeast Florida area.
- What age group will you hire and can they be ex-felons? The person has to be 18-years old and has to have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- The kiln will be 12-stories tall, is there any alternative to this to reduce the size? Not really. It is energy efficient. At different sites they are older and the technology is less efficient.

For more information contact Consultant Bill Harris at 404-626-2990 or wharrisco@aol.com

Elected Officials Reports – ECA Donna Barrow was present but the presentations went long and she had to be excused.

Staff Reports:

JSO Zone 1 – Lt. Kenny had no report but answered questions on the following:

- How can JSO prevent the homeless from living under the expressways? This is an ongoing issue. They can't force them to seek shelter but they do encourage them to go the Sulzbacher Center for the homeless. After 10 p.m. if they are in Hemming Plaza they can remove them from the park since it is closed. It was also asked what to do if a homeless person is sleeping on stairs in front of their home/apartment/business? Call JSO at 630-0500. JSO has been working with the business community to post "No trespassing" signs so they can remove them.

For more information call the JSO Zone 1 Sub Station at 924-5361 or JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org

Mayor's Representative – Ms. Shehee Williams was excused.

Ms. Shehee Williams can be reached at 630-1994 or CSHEHEE@coj.net

Project New Ground – The Hester Group's Marvin Dunbar reported the following:

- They have signed contractor Entact to proceed and will break ground in the next 10 days with a 100 parcels in the Forest Street site.
- OU2 in Springfield is proceeding.
- 5th and Cleveland site is ongoing and still getting access agreements
- Ms. Phillips stated there will be a meeting on March 19th which Springfield Association has requested.

Members had questions on the following:

- What are the boundaries of Project New Ground (PNG)? Ms. Phillips will send the boundaries with a map since there was some confusion if the eastside of Main Street was included.
- Member Miller would like to have a meeting on the 5th and Cleveland site. There are a couple of legal questions that Good Neighbor MANIA has had for years. Ms. Phillips would be more than happy to set up an appointment. Attorney Nelson was working on this as a City Attorney but has since gone into private practice.

Project New Ground can be contacted at 630-CITY (2489) or the Outreach Center at 357-8077.

Duval County Public Schools – not present

Mr. Bishop can be reached at 390-2511 or bishopj1@duvalschools.org – www.duvalschools.org

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – Jim Green reported on the following:

- In January FDOT received \$38 million for JaxPort for Mile Point. Once it is dredged, this will enable the larger ships to come into the port for longer hours and more frequency then having to depend on the tides.
- FDOT will be going for bids for \$78 million for the I-95/JTB interchange. There will be a southbound and eastbound flyover. There will be a left lane to go west to the hotels off I-95. At Belfort there will be an overpass for the traffic getting on I-95 so that the traffic doesn't crisscross. This will be a safety improvement. Construction should begin in 2014.
- The interchange at I-10 and SR 23 – Cecil Commerce Parkway will be expanding to include US 90 – Beaver Street which will access the warehouses. It is a \$51 million project and should start construction in 2015. There will be no tolls for motorists using this expanded interchange, tolls on the outer beltway begin south of New World Avenue.
- The I-95 North I-295 Interchange will have a new flyover, with construction starting in 2016. Last year they added the south bound lane and now a 4th level will be added to remove the left hand exit. This is a \$145 million project.
- There will be a new bypass road for 301 which will go around Starke. They will build a controlled access around Starke to meet increasing traffic, especially large trucks, while protecting the downtown buildings.
- Their fiscal year is from July to June.

A member had a question if MLK would close any ramps. As reported previously no ramp will be closed due to public comments.

Mr. Green can be reached at 360-5684 or James.green@dot.state.fl.us

Parks & Recreation – District Park Manager Mark Hartley reported on the following:

Follow up from previous meetings:

- There is legal fishing behind Channel 7 on the North bank behind the tent at Metro Park.
- City-wide there are 50 locations for boat/fishing or both.
- The order for mulch for children's play sets has been submitted to purchase \$200,000 citywide.
- The question on automated lights at certain parks will be looked at with daylight savings time when they need to be reprogrammed. They will do an analysis and hopefully it will be completed by next month.
- The Metropolitan Park and Urban Parks Ad Hoc Committee that Council Member Lee is on is studying the noise level at events.
- The 8 signs for "No fishing" have been posted on the Riverwalk. Officer Grant stated that JSO will be giving verbal warning tickets for 30-days than start the actual ticketing. Chair Parrish thanked Mr. Hartley and the Parks Department for their help with this concern.
- The Confederate Park grand opening has been rescheduled to April 4, 2013.

Members had questions and concerns on the following:

- When will the "Don't Feed the Ducks" sign go up at Confederate Park? Mr. Hartley will check on this.
- There is a Canary Date Palm tree in the middle of the Island at Confederate park that has died and needs to be replaced. Mr. Hartley will have the Urban Forester Don Robertson check on this.
- They wanted to know what the issue was at Metro Park – there are two: at times the sound level exceeds the ordinance level and time frame and Metro Park is outside the Entertainment District. Ideas are being suggested to correct this such as a special new digital sound system. If that is the decision they will look for a partner to get this done. Currently they only have 5 to 6 events yet they can have 14 ticketed events. He will bring back more information on this at the next meeting.

Mr. Hartley can be reached at 472-2865 or mhartley@coj.net

Planning and Development – Samantha Paull reported the following:

- Exception-13-03 and Companion E-13-09 for Riverside Presbyterian Church, 1016 Oak Street. They would like to renovate the second floor of the building to have missionaries stay there a couple of weeks out of the year and also reduce the landscaping. A question was asked if they would have homeless stay there. No.

Ms. Paull can be reached at 255-7852 or spaul@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance – Supervisor Nelson Beard reported that there are 1215 active cases in the Urban Core.

He has continued to have his officers check 2719 Fairfax but there has not been anything to cite. The officer did call the owner and he asked him if the tenants could please place the trash in a can so the dogs in the neighborhood do not spread it all over the place. The owner stated that he would ask them to buy a can or he would.

Members had the following questions:

- What percentages of cases result in fines? That depends since the majority of cases are resolved. Then some issues need abatement and that would produce a lien and not a fine. It could be less than 10%. Then there are the snipe signs that if tracked down get a written citation. So far this year they have written 100 snipe sign citations.
- What percentages of condemnations are there in the Urban Core? That also depends on if the property has a number of structures on a parcel of land or if it is vacant. Supervisor Beard will check on this and report back.
- There is a building at 1504 N. Myrtle Ave. that has had no activity on it since 2009. How does that happen? The owner was trying to get a historic designation on the property and when that goes into place – Code Enforcement is on hold. They did not get the designation and are now moving toward a demolition. There is no date yet but it takes some time for this process.
- Can signs be posted on the city right-of-way or behind the sidewalk? What about community events or government sponsored events? Signs cannot be placed in the right-of-way since it is illegal. There are rules with signs behind the sidewalk and will check out Ord. 741 to see the details. Officer Beard will also check on the events. Snipe signs can be reported to 630-CITY (2489).

Supervisor Beard can be reached at 255-7041. Municipal Code can be reached at 255-7000.

Neighborhoods - Housing and Community Development Division

Neighborhood Coordinator Marilyn Fenton-Harmer reported items on the attached report.

Ms. Fenton-Harmer can be reached at 255-8236 or Mfharmer@coj.net

Chair's Report

- Chair Parrish asked to be excused and Vice Chair DeVall ran the remainder of the meeting.
- At future CPAC meetings we will have on 4-4-13 a Tour of the Duval County Unified Courthouse and Art in Public Places, Christie Holechek. At the 5-6-13 meeting the Duval County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Nikolai Vitti will be the guest speaker.

Subcommittee Reports

- Preservation – Chair DeVall stated they had their first meeting for the year. They will work on looking at other cities downtown to see best practices with vacant and blighted buildings.
- Parks – Chair Radlinski stated that the parks had already been talked about with Mr. Hartley.
- TRUE Commission – Rep. Radlinski reported that they have been working on the legislative tracking which included the Council Member Clark's 2013-94. They will recommend opposing 2013-94. They also discussed the Downtown Investment Authority 2013-89 with no opinion. They will be looking at 2013-53 on the re-allocation to spend money on the right-of-way mowing and turning street lights back on.
- *Member Merrick made a Motion to support Mayor Brown's 2013-53. Member Demopoulos seconded the Motion. Discussion ensued about how the city looks and the amount of money that will be slated for each service restored. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed. The Motion carries.*
- New Member Harris asked who to call about gardens that are not being maintained – 630-CITY (2589).

Unfinished Business – none

New Business

- Member Vanderlaan brought up Ordinance 2011-190 asking HUD to stop vouchers for Eureka Gardens. There is a new owner for Eureka Gardens that was the former Flagship Property and after them BMLR and now GMF Jacksonville Pool LLC that is from Tennessee. They own numerous properties and some are in Springfield such as the University Plaza. He talked about asking Council Member Jones to add other properties besides Eureka Gardens to 2011-190 but before that happens would like more information on JSOs program Crime Free Multi Family Housing. Member Vanderlaan has talked with the new Zone 1 Assistant Chief as well as the new owners at GMF Jacksonville Pool LLC. A suggestion was made to mandate tenants to come to a residents meeting and participate.
- Vice Chair DeVall welcomed new Member Harris and asked her to introduce herself. Ms. Harris stated she is retired from Prudential and worked there for 31 years. She is a notary. She represents Mother Midway AME Church on the Eastside.

- *Member Vanderlaan made a Motion to oppose Council Member Clark's Ordinance 2013-94 on the mobility fee. Member Radlinski seconded the Motion. Discussion ensued on the wording to be sure that it was correct. The Urban Core CPAC had written a letter on the sunset of the moratorium of the mobility fee. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed. The Motion carries unanimously.*

Public Comments/Announcements

- Tony Williams from the Jacksonville Public Library, Eastside Branch, introduced himself and stated that he will be attending the Urban Core CPAC meetings in the future.

Adjournment

Member Merrick made a Motion to adjourn and was seconded. The Vote: All were in favor; none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

***A tour of the Duval County Unified Courthouse by Judge Gary Flower
will meet at 4:15 p.m. in the lobby of the Courthouse at 501 West Adams Street***

The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on Monday, **April 1, 2013** at 5:30 p.m. in
Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street

Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhood Coordinator
255-8236 or Mfharmer@coj.net