

# 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](mailto:ceparrish.CPAC@yahoo.com)

**Vice Chair:** Gloria DeVall 449-4340 [gloria.devall2010@comcast.net](mailto:gloria.devall2010@comcast.net)

**Mayor's Representative:** Carolyn Shehee-Williams 630-1636 [cshehe@coj.net](mailto:cshehe@coj.net)

**Neighborhood Coordinator:** Rosemary Wesolowski 255-8261 [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)



## Meeting Summary Thursday, September 5, 2013

### Members

Gloria DeVall, Vice Chair  
Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts  
William Hamilton, St. John's Lutheran Church  
Darcel Harris, Mother of Midway AME  
Dorothy Merrick, Plaza Condominiums  
Levoyus Partlow, Good Neighbor M.A.N.I.A.  
Ashley Strickland, MaliVai Washington Kids  
Doug Vanderlaan, SPAR

### Excused – Chair Christina Parrish

Greg Radlinski, Parks at the Cathedral  
Delores Swain, Grand Blvd.  
John Swain, Grand Blvd.  
Erica Trent, Pathways Academy

### Guests

Richard Lewis, Plaza Condominiums	Valerie Ansell, Hens in Jax
Annakay Hines, Hens in Jax	Wes Savage, Hens In Jax
Lauren Trad, Hens in Jax	Mr & Mrs. Collier
Genora Crain-Orth, Hens in Jax	Hallien Williamsberg

### Staff/Resource

Samantha Paull, Planning	Nelson Beard, Municipal Code
James Green, FDOT	Kenny Logsdon, HCDD
Rosemary Wesolowski, HCDD	

### Call to Order

Vice Chair DeVall called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Conference Room 851 on the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan St., established that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone.

Due to the new (temporary) location of the CPAC meeting, Senior Planner, Kenny Logsdon informed the attendees of the location of the restroom, emergency location and rendezvous location in case of an emergency evacuation. Also, the group discussed how much they missed Marilyn Fenton-Harmer. Mr. Logsdon shared with the group that at an upcoming City Council meeting there will be a Resolution in her honor; details will be provided as soon as they are available.

### Approval of the Minutes

*Member Demopoulos made a Motion to accept the minutes as presented from the August 2013 meeting.*

*A second was made by Member Hamilton. The motion passed unanimously.*

### Guest Speaker

**Lauren Trad, Hens In Jax** introduced herself and shared how a trip out of the country got her interested in owning hens/chickens. After returning home, she and her family adopted hens for her children. Soon after they adopted their chickens, they learned that hens/chickens are

illegal within the City Of Jacksonville in most residential zoning areas. Trad said that she and Hens in Jax are a grassroots group trying to change the existing local ordinance in regard to hens/chickens in Jacksonville, Florida. The organization hopes the proposed ordinance changes will allow citizens to legally own and maintain a limited number of hens on private property within Jacksonville/Duval County.

June 11, 2013 an updated proposed Bill was filed that would legalize hens in Jacksonville backyards. The proposed Bill covers, as currently written, would legalize and allow homeowners to keep up to four hens in all residential areas – except where superseded by Home Owner Association and other neighborhood regulations. This is a welcomed change for many hen-supporting neighborhoods like Springfield and Riverside that were left out in previous versions specifying low density (RLD) zones only. The bill still outlaws roosters, free ranging and backyard slaughtering.

Trad recognized that one of the biggest hurdles is to overcome many misconceptions; some of the misconceptions are: they smell, they are loud, they carry disease, they don't belong in urban or suburban settings and you need a rooster to get eggs. According to Hens in Jax the facts are: an average dog produces a lot more waste than a chicken, a well-kept coop has almost no smell, only roosters are loud and we are NOT advocating for any roosters, chickens are no more likely to carry disease than any pet bird and most grocery store eggs are unfertilized – you don't need a rooster in order for a chicken/hen to lay an egg.

Trad showed a PowerPoint presentation that shared many attractive coops that a home owner could build or buy for their backyard. She also extended an invitation to visit her chicken coop at Trad's Nursery, 8178 San Jose Blvd., 32217 for ideas and to ask questions.

There were a number of questions for the CPAC members:

*What will happen to those that neglect the chickens?* Currently, Animal Care and Control will not pick up the animals, but Standard Feed Store has started a program to re-home the chickens.

*What about salmonella?* With proper hand washing techniques with soap and water, salmonella is not a problem.

*Does the ordinance state that the eggs are only for private use?* Yes, it is illegal to sell the eggs.

*How many hens/chickens will the proposed ordinance allow each family to own?* For those homes on less than 1.5 acres, they can own up to 4 hens/chickens and for those over 1.5 acres, they can own up to 8 hens/chickens.

*Are you proposing that every family and neighborhood have hens and chickens?* No, the laws of the HOA and or Neighborhood association will not be impacted by this ordinance.

A motion was made to send a letter to City Council to show support for the ordinance to allow hens in Jacksonville. There was some further discussion that included abandoned chickens, salmonella and avian flu. The motion was restated and the CPAC voted 6-1 in favor of sending a support letter.

**Elected Officials Reports** – none present

**Staff Reports:**

JSO Zone 1 – not present

For assistance and information call the JSO Zone 1 Sub Station at 924-5361 or

[JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org)

**Mayor's Representative** – Ms. Shehee Williams - not present

**Duval County Public Schools** – not present

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

- The Mathews Bridge project is running behind schedule, but is expected to be completed this fall.
- The Overland Bridge is underway and will be going on for 3 or more years.

There were a couple of questions about Liberty Street and Union Street; but it was determined that they are City of Jacksonville roads, not FDOT. Mr. Green did state that FDOT would be involved in resurfacing State Street from the post office to the foot of the bridge.

**Mr. Green can be reached at 360-5684 or [James.green@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:James.green@dot.state.fl.us)**

**Planning and Development** – Planner Samantha Paull informed the CPAC that Planning is working on the following applications in District 1:

- There is an application for re-zoning on Forest St. (in Brooklyn) to go from a CRO to CCG1
- There is an exception and administrative deviation at 122 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street for a multi-family complex
- Waiver of liquor distance on West Adam Street to reduce the distance from 1500 feet to 750 feet (from Churches & Schools) for a full liquor license.

**Ms. Paull can be reached at 255-7852 or [spaul@coj.net](mailto:spaul@coj.net)**

**Project New Ground** – not present

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

**Parks & Recreation** – not present Mr. Hartley reported on the following:

**Mr. Hartley can be reached at 472-2865 or [mhartley@coj.net](mailto:mhartley@coj.net)**

**Jacksonville Public Library** – not present

**Public Works** – not present

**Neighborhoods – Code Compliance** – Supervisor Nelson Beard reported that there are 1822 active cases in the Urban Core. Code compliance completed a systematic inspection in the Phoenix area last week and this opened 71 new cases in that area.

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

**Neighborhoods – Housing and Community Development Division** – Neighborhood Coordinator Rosemary Wesolowski introduced herself. Rosemary started with the City of Jacksonville 8.5 years ago as the Neighborhood Coordinator for the Southeast District and in 2007 was also assigned the Greater Arlington Beaches District. Upon Marilyn's resignation, Rosemary was assigned the Urban Core District and Mary Beth Ridderman was assigned Marilyn's other district, the Northwest District. Due to the quick turnaround time with Marilyn's resignation, there wasn't any time to discuss the needs or the standards of the Urban Core CPAC. After the introduction, there was a lot of discussion about moving the Urban Core CPAC meeting location to the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference (room 851) for future meetings. Rosemary also reminded the group about the HOA and Condo association training/certification that will be held on September 17<sup>th</sup> in the Ed Ball Building. Rosemary also extended an invitation to the CPAC to partake in the SE CPAC Bus Tour on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. There was also discussion about contacting Marilyn Fenton Harmer to extend their appreciation to her. Kenny Logsdon spoke up and asked for those that are interested in contacting Marilyn to email him at [Logsdon@coj.net](mailto:Logsdon@coj.net).

**Ms. Wesolowski can be reached at 255-8261 or [rosemary@coj.net](mailto:rosemary@coj.net)**

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## **Chair's Report**

- No report
- **Subcommittee Reports**
- **Preservation** – Chair DeVall reported on the following:
  - She stated that the Durkeeville property on West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Historic Planning Commission (HPC) did merit that this property should be recognized as a landmark. The landmark decision was granted due mainly to the folk art that is in the home. DeVal stated that Joel McEachin gave an interesting presentation on the home and the nature of the folk art details of the home. This will go before City Council in October.
  - Brooklyn is poised to become a historic district. At this time the historic district is small in geographic area: the area consists of approximately 16 homes, 2 churches and a couple of commercial buildings. The HPC agreed to have Joel McEachin move forward with the needed documentation for this proposed historic area. There is an issue that there are so few homes left in Brooklyn, but this would preserve what is left. There was a request to have Joel McEachin come and speak on Brooklyn. It was noted that in the interim, the group could read a recent article by Ennis Davis (MetroJax) that illustrates life in Brooklyn during the 1860's -1870's. Planner, Samantha Paul was able to provide some background on Brooklyn; she stated that Brooklyn was one of the oldest neighborhoods in Jacksonville and that at one time mansions lined the river; these mansions were affectionately called "The Row". As one moved west from the river the homes were more modest and the area also had an active and vibrant commercial area.
  - The LaVilla "Shotgun Houses" that went before the LUZ subcommittee have all been designated as landmarks. Right now there is not a plan for them, but they are safe from demolition.
- **Transportation** – not present
- **Parks** – no report
- **TRUE Commission** – no report
- **Nomination** – Doug Vanderlaan stated that he has a group of 3 to serve as the Nomination Subcommittee. At the next meeting the subcommittee will meet prior to the main meeting.

**Unfinished Business** – none

## **New Business**

Member Merrick stated that there will be a Welcome Reception to introduce Aundra Wallace as the new Downtown Investment Authority Director. The event will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2013 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Skyline Dining & Conference Center (42<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Bank of America Tower); reservations are encouraged. A flier for the event was distributed.

Member Merrick also made the request to have the Downtown Investment Authority attend CPAC meetings.

## **Public Comments/Announcements**

## **Adjournment**

*Member Demopoulos made a Motion to adjourn and was Member Vanderlaan seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.*

The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on  
**Monday, October 7, 2013** at 5:30 p.m.,  
at the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Training Room