

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: Gerre Walker 355-9757

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

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



Meeting Summary Monday, June 4, 2012

Members

Christina Parrish, Chair
Dimitri Demopoulos, Churchwell Lofts
Michelle Hughes, FreshMinistries
John Swain, Grand Boulevard
Erica Trent, Pathways Charter High School
Gloria DeVall, Preservation SOS
Susan Noonan, Springfield Women's Club
William Hamilton, St. John's Church

Gerre Walker, Vice Chair
Louvenia Tippins, Charter Member/Rep. Dist. 8
Deloris Swain, Grand Boulevard
Greg Radlinski, Parks at the Cathedral
Dorothy Merrick, Plaza Condominiums
Doug Vanderlaan, SPAR
Victoria Hamilton, St. John's Church

Excused – Amanda Searle, Celia Miller

Honored Guest – Mayor Alvin Brown

Guests

Madeline Skinner, The Hester Group
Debra Tinsley
Kendalyn Green, NJCDC
Richard Lewis, Plaza Condominiums
Michelle Tappouni, SAMBA
John Nooney

Marvin Dunbar, The Hester Group
Bill Brinton, City Beautiful Jax
Cheryl Williams, City Beautiful Jax
Ted Pappas, City Beautiful Jax
Beverly Mills, Esquire Deposition Solutions
Brad Fralick

Staff/Resource

Caroline Shehee-Williams, Mayor's Liaison
Elaine Spencer, Neighborhoods, HCDD
Daphne Colbert, Mayor's Office
Johnny Johnson, Municipal Code
Cheryl Riddick, DCPS
Jonathan Bishop, DCPS

Terrance Ashanta-Barker, Neighborhoods
Kenny Logsdon, Neighborhoods, HCDD
Lt. Christian Smith, JSO Zone 1
Pam Roman, Parks
Jim Green, FDOT
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhoods, HCDD

Call to Order

Chair Parrish called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, established that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone. Chair Parrish announced the procedure for the question and answer session with the Mayor.

Approval of the Minutes

Member Arnold made a Motion to accept the minutes from the May 7, 2012 meeting. A second was made by Member Vanderlaan. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed.

Staff Reports:

JSO – Zone 1 – Lt. Christian Smith reported:

- There were no patterns and trends except some burglaries in Brentwood.
- A Downtown Initiative will provide \$19,500 for 94 four-hour shifts for off-duty officers to patrol on bikes, unmarked and marked cars from June 9 until August 18, 2012.
- Members expressed a preference that officers walk beats in the Urban Core and asked that the Durkeeville area be included.
- For information call the JSO Zone 1 Sub Station at 924-5361 or JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org

Guest Speaker – The Honorable Mayor Alvin Brown

Chair Parrish introduced the Mayor and welcomed him to the meeting.

Mayor Brown expressed his thanks to all in attendance and acknowledged Housing and Community Development Chief Elaine Spencer and Director of Neighborhoods Terrance Ashanta-Barker.

Mayor Brown discussed his administration's goals and accomplishments, including:

- Attracting quality jobs, noting that the unemployment rate in Duval County is 8.4%, with around 37,000 people out of work.
- Working on getting the City's budget in order, to "offer great services in tough times."
- Supporting a stronger education system with initiatives such as the Mayor's Mentors program, the Learn to Earn Initiative, and as workshops providing assistance with financial aid.
- Creating the "most military friendly city in America" due to the military's \$14.2 billion impact, with a new Military Affairs cabinet post and "Jobs for Vets" program.
- Providing a day center for the homeless.
- Expanding access to the river and kayak launches.
- Building public / private partnerships like the MLK Parade, Light Parade and fireworks.
- Bringing businesses and new employees downtown. Recent announcements include Everbank and Blue Cross Blue Shield.
- Establishing the Downtown Investment Authority and passing Economic Development Legislation, which he hopes to finalize by the end of June.
- The \$400,000 IBM Smarter Cities grant, which brings IBM executives to Jacksonville to focus on downtown economic development.
- Bringing events and activities downtown, with a renewed focus on sports and entertainment.

The Mayor then responded to questions from CPAC members:

Can you elaborate on the day center?

Mayor Brown advised that the City is working with several non-profits to develop a day center to provide the homeless a place to shower, wash clothes and have access to a telephone and computer.

Has a location been identified?

Mayor Brown advised that various sites are being considered and the goal is to have the center up and running before the end of the year.

Member Radlinski noted that previous mayors had worked to move government from the waterfront for some time, commenting that the Shipyards site is vacant along with the Southside Generating Station, Courthouse, and City Hall Annex. He asked the Mayor about plans to revitalize those areas.

Mayor Brown advised that "The key is having a clear strategic plan and vision for downtown. The first thing is to have a President/CEO for the Downtown Investment Authority to strictly focus solely on downtown. There will be a team and a nine-member board strictly focused on downtown. To have a short and long term plan that everyone can agree to so that no matter who's in office to make sure that it is sustainable and consistent." He noted that in 1986 downtown generated 17% of the tax revenue; today it is only 2% and suggested that growth downtown could create significant additional revenues, leading to a balanced budget with a positive impact on the entire city.

Member Vanderlaan noted that Springfield once held regular monthly meetings with representatives from city departments (the "Springfield Roundtable") and asked if the Mayor could assist with reinstituting those meetings.

Mayor Brown committed to reinstating the meetings and promised to identify a point person in his administration, as well as representatives to attend those meetings

Member Duvall, Preservation Subcommittee Chair, commended the City and especially Historic Planner Lisa Sheppard for Mothballing legislation and its commitment to historic districts.

Member Swain asked about efforts to revitalize troubled neighborhoods.

Mayor Brown noted that we need a comprehensive approach to housing in the City, with education to inform people how to care for their neighborhoods. He commented on the problem with neglected investor owned homes, and noted that Code Enforcement is a big issue. He advised that he takes housing very seriously and recently toured Jacksonville neighborhoods with HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan. Mayor Brown's goal is for all neighborhoods to be safe, clean and walkable.

Member Swain noted that an amusement park near the river could attract travelers on I-95 to Jacksonville and asked for the Mayor's thoughts.

Mayor Brown would like to see something that would attract families to downtown, but noted that funding is required to make downtown a destination. He believes that a public/private partnership is needed, with the private sector willing to invest in a development or a major project.

Chair Parrish asked how CPAC members could become engaged with the new Downtown Investment Authority and IBM Smarter Cities Grant.

Mayor Brown advised that once those initiatives are launched the CPAC will have input and suggested that Downtown Vision Executive Director Terry Lorince might coordinate those efforts.

Questions from the audience:

Mr. Nooney commented that he had for four years been seeking a sponsor for a pocket pier, floating dock or other waterfront projects to enhance the City and asked if the Mayor might assign someone to work with the Florida Inland Navigation District in that regard.

Mayor Brown advised that he would assist Mr. Noone in meeting with staff to discuss his ideas.

Mr. Brinton noted that when he was a young man Jacksonville was nicknamed "The Bold New City of the South", which he considered a great tag line for the City. He believes that "Where Florida Begins" suggest we are just a pass through for I-95, where Florida begins to go somewhere else. He hopes that we could find a motto that tells people why they should come to Jacksonville: "We have the ocean, river and marsh lands. That is unique. We have the best environment in Florida."

Mayor Brown agreed that "we are not selling ourselves and we do not do a good job of marketing our city to the fullest. People need to see our assets. They need to know about them. It's all about marketing and selling our city. There is no other city on planet earth that is positioned the way we are.... We need to promote our city from Wall Street to Main Street. Companies are expanding and moving here. We are being competitive. We have to continue to build on that."

Mr. Fralick asked if it is possible to coordinate with JEA to check the decorative lights downtown to have them replace the lighting once a year, noting that a large number of the lights are out.

Mayor Brown advised that he meets with JEA once a quarter and will have staff member Daphne Colbert follow up.

Are there any cities that Jacksonville is looking at as a model for downtown redevelopment?

Mayor Brown noted that Nashville and Charlotte were very similar to Jacksonville 17 or 18 years ago and that those cities have "taken off" and are good example to follow, along Houston and Cincinnati.

Mayor Brown closed the question and answer session; Chair Parrish thanked Mayor Brown for attending and expressed her hope that he would return for future meetings.

Staff Reports, Continued:

Mayor's Representative – Carolyn Shehee-Williams –no report.
Ms. Williams can be reached at 630-1994 or CSHEHEE@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance – Senior Officer Johnny Johnson reported:

- 2005 active cases in the Urban Core.
- A systematic inspection completed in the Eastside produced 225 cases.

Member questions and concerns:

How is it decided which neighborhood gets a systematic inspection?

The neighborhood with the greatest number of CARE issues is selected.

How can a squatter (at 1910 W 20th Street) be removed?

Code can remove if there is no electricity. Otherwise, if there are no violations Code cannot enter the house without the owner's permission. They will check on this address and report back.

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

Recreation and Parks – Pam Roman reported:

- Summer Camps begin June 25, 2012.
- Pools open June 9, 2012, seven days a week.
- Jax Summer Night Lights begins June 22 and will run for 8 weeks at 5 centers, from 7 p.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday nights. The Urban Core Center is Emmett Reed.
- The maintenance agreement between Springfield Disc Golf and JaxParks is up for renewal in October.

Member questions/concerns:

Is the Kennedy Center one of the sites for the Summer Night Lights?

No. Centers are Emmett Reed, Mitchell, Charles Clark, Henry T. Jones and Mary Lena Gibbs.

Ms. Roman can be reached at 255-7902 or pwilson@coj.net

Duval County Public Schools – Jonathon Bishop introduced his Director Cheryl Riddick from the Community and Family Engagement Office, who reported:

- The last day of school is June 7, 2012.
- Check the website at www.duvalschools.org for early dismissal times.
- The next Duval County School Board meeting will be on June 11, 2012
- Summer school information and reading lists are on line at www.duvalschools.org

Jonathan Bishop can be reached at 390-2511 or bishopj1@duvalschools.org

Cheryl Riddick can be reached at 390-2960 or riddickc@duvalschools.org

Project New Ground – Marvin Dunbar, the Hester Group reported:

- 686 parcels cleaned to-date
- Forest Street Phase 3 is under way and progressing
- 5th and Cleveland Street had problems with the contractor and will be rebid
- OU2, 5th and Cleveland and Forest Street should begin this summer.
- Still contacting property owners to get access agreements.

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

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

- There is no landscaping budget for the replacement bridge at Newnan and Hubbard.
- The surveying at 8th Street near I-95 is for an upcoming resurfacing project.
- A public information meeting for the construction project on MLK/21st Street will be Tuesday, June 19 at 4:30 p.m. at Grace Baptist Church, 1553 E. 21st Street, 32206
- The traffic signal at US 1 and 8th Street is the responsibility of the City, not FDOT.

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

Planning and Development – not present

Neighborhoods - Housing and Community Development Division

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

Chair's Report

- Members received copies of May CPAC Motions regarding the Jacksonville Agricultural Fair and Access to the St. Johns River.
- Chair Parrish reported on the City Beautiful Jax event in Springfield and encouraged other neighborhoods to participate. City Beautiful Jax website: <http://citybeautifuljax.org/>

Elected Officials Report – none present

Subcommittee Reports

- Parks – Chair Radlinski: The next Parks Subcommittee meeting is Aug. 6th. Members have been visiting parks in the Urban Core and at today's subcommittee meeting discussed their impressions of Myra Park, Julius Guinyard Park and Pool, Catherine McNair Park, Kooker Park, and Flossie Brunson Park. All agreed that the parks visited over the previous two weeks were in good condition and ready for the start of summer. At Myra Park there is an exposed grate under the swings that could injure a user. Subcommittee members will individually visit R.F. Kennedy Park, Simonds Johnson Park, Jones St. Park, Grunthal Park and F. C. Dwight Park before the next CPAC meeting on Aug. 6, 2012. Ms. Romans was invited to attend; Chair Radlinski will provide her with Subcommittee minutes.
- Environmental – Chair Vanderlaan – no report
- Preservation – Chair DeVall – no report; next meeting on Aug. 6, 2012 at 5 p.m.

Unfinished Business

- Ordinance 614.138 Urban Core Enhancement Area was discussed. Members would like to see the entire Urban Core be included in the Enhancement Area. Discussion ensued. Neighborhood Coordinator Fenton-Harmer will provide ordinance to members.

New Business – none

Public Comments/Announcements

John Noone is looking for a sponsor for FIND (Florida Inland Navigation District). He is concerned about the lack of safe exits for kayakers on the St. Johns River.

Adjournment

Member Radlinski made a Motion to adjourn and was seconded. The Vote: All were in favor; none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

No Meeting in July. The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on
Monday, **August 6, 2012** at 5:30 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the
Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street

Submitted by:
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer
Neighborhood Coordinator
255-8236
Mfharmer@coj.net

NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



Urban Core CPAC Reminders – June 2012

Upcoming Meetings/Programs/Events/Downtown/Notices

- **Mayor Brown Introduced "JAXREADY" Mobile Device App – May 30, 2012**
Mayor Brown has launched a new mobile device application called JaxReady. It can be downloaded from the iPhone and Android application stores free of charge. JaxReady will help residents monitor weather threats and plan for evacuations in the event of a natural disaster. The app also displays the latest EOC-related threat levels, weather reports and wildfire dangers. Mayor Alvin Brown said the goal of this new technology is to provide up-to-date information regarding all things storm-related. "Safety was my main concern as storm season arrived a few days early this year," said Mayor Brown. "Over the weekend, you no doubt saw a lot of activity on the city's social media pages as we tried to get out useful, timely information. JaxReady is an extension of the City of Jacksonville's priority to serve the public. We want to be sure we are using every available tool to help." JaxReady was created by the City of Jacksonville's Information Technology Department and Emergency Response teams, at no additional cost to the taxpayer, through the use of existing resources. "The application is the product of several months of planning, hard work and expertise," said Mayor Brown. "The application serves as a great example of how our city government is working hard in tough times to increase service without increasing costs."
Mayor Brown also reminded residents that the **official start of Hurricane Season is Friday, June 1, 2012**. On the heels of Tropical Storm Beryl, he is urging all residents to make emergency kits now with items like canned food, can openers, water and blankets. Visit www.JaxReady.org to find out more about weather alerts, special needs shelter registration and how to create a family plan. A PSA about the app is available for online use at <http://www.youtube.com/mayoralvinbrown>.
- **Mayor Brown's preliminary budget is available at: <http://www.coj.net/city-council/docs/budget/2012-budget-tentative-2012-05-01.aspx>** The tentative proposed budget provides initial estimates for revenues and expenditures, and serves as a starting point for the City of Jacksonville's annual budget process. Mayor Brown will present his final proposed budget to the Jacksonville City Council on July 16, 2012. "As Mayor, I am committed to streamlining city government to make it as effective and efficient as possible," said Mayor Brown. "We must ensure that taxpayers get the best possible return on their investment."
- **Mayor Alvin Brown Appoints Public Communications Manager - May 23, 2012** - Mayor Alvin Brown announced today the appointment of Aleizha Batson as public communications manager in the Office of Public Affairs. Batson, 41, has more than 15 years of experience in public relations and community engagement. She is now public outreach manager of DC Water, the water and sewer authority for Washington, D.C. She has provided strategic guidance and public engagement for DC Water, serving as a liaison for the agency among various civic groups, governmental agencies and the community. Previously, she worked with the Dalton Agency and national sports organizations such as the PGA TOUR and The First Tee. Batson earned a bachelor's degree in political science in 1993 and a master's degree in sports administration in 1995 from Temple University. Batson will serve as the second-in-command in the Office of Public Affairs.
- **Memorial Day Observance – Saturday, June 09, 2012** - Pre-ceremony 8:30 a.m. - Ceremony 9 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Wall, 1145 East Adams Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32202. Mayor Alvin Brown requests the pleasure of your company as we honor Jacksonville's Fallen heroes. The ceremony, coordinated by the city's Military Affairs, Veterans and Disabled Services Department, is free and open to the public. It will feature keynote remarks by Rear Adm. Scoby followed by the presentation of wreaths to the families of the three service members who are being added to the Memorial Wall. The ceremony will conclude with a 21-rifle salute and "Taps." The Navy Band Southeast and Jacksonville Pipes and Drums will perform patriotic tributes during the ceremony. Free parking is available in the west lots of EverBank Stadium.
- **Free Training for Homeowner, Townhome and Condo Association Members – Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 6 p.m.** in the Ed Ball Building, Training room 120, lobby, 214 N. Hogan St. with Board Member Certification. Light Refreshments. Please register at 255-8236.
- **First Wednesday Art Walk, June 6, 2012 – rain or shine**
http://downtownjacksonville.org/Marketing/First_Wednesday_Artwalk.aspx
- **The Riverside Arts Market (RAM) is open and located under the Fuller Warren Bridge, Downtown Jacksonville.**
<http://www.riversideartsmarket.com/>
- **The Jacksonville Landing Market – Fridays at The Landing from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** Info: 353-1188

- City Council and Duval County School Board - Joint Meeting – Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 1:00 p.m., City Hall, 117 W. Duval St., 1st Floor, Council Chamber. The Honorable Stephen C. Joost, President of the Jacksonville City Council, along with the Honorable Betty Seabrook-Burney, Chairperson, Duval County School Board will host a Joint Meeting that will discuss issues that will impact the growth, funding, and impact on how individuals live, quality of life, and work within the City of Jacksonville.
- Sheriff's Crime Prevention Walks – Zone 1 – Come join Sheriff Rutherford and Assistant Chief Michelle Cook on:
 - Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 6 p.m. meeting and ending at N. Pearl Street and Birch Street. For more information call the Zone 1 Substation at 924-5361. <http://www.coj.net/departments/sheriffs-office/docs/news-room/government-in-the-sunshine/sheriff-s-walk/sheriff-s-walk-flyer-1-06052012.aspx>
 - Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 6 p.m. meeting and ending at East Walnut Street and 6th Street. For more information call the Zone 1 Substation at 924-5361. <http://www.coj.net/departments/sheriffs-office/docs/news-room/government-in-the-sunshine/sheriff-s-walk/sheriff-s-walk-flyer-1-06122012.aspx>
- **Two Days per Week Watering** – Chapter 366 of the city's ordinance code limits watering to two days a week. Residential properties with an address that ends in an odd number or places without an address may water on Wednesday and Saturday, and those addresses which end in an even number may water on Thursday and Sunday. **Watering is allowed only before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.** year-round. Violators of the irrigation schedule will be issued a warning ticket for the first observed offense. They will be given tickets for \$50 and \$250 for the second and third violations, respectively. Lawn watering will return to one designated day per week beginning Nov. 4, 2012. To learn more, visit the City of Jacksonville Environmental Quality Division at www.coj.net.
- **Project New Ground** is eager to answer your questions. Contact the City of Jacksonville: 630-CITY or the Outreach Center at 357-8077.

Save the Date

Mayor Brown's Special Events for Seniors:

- Senior Prom – Friday, August 24, 2012
 - Jacksonville Senior Games – Oct. 1 – 7, 2012
 - Brain Brawl – Friday, Oct. 12, 2012
 - Mayor Brown's Holiday Festival – Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012
 - The 2012 Senior Directory can be picked up at the Mary Singleton Center, 150 East 1st Street
- For more information call 630-7392

Summer Camp – Information, visit www.jaxparks.com and select the summer camp link, or visit the following links directly: Camp programs, locations and fees:

<http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation-and-Community-Services/Recreation-and-Community-Programming/Recreation-Programs/Summer-Camp-Programs.aspx>

How to register: <http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation-and-Community-Services/Recreation-and-Community-Programming/Recreation-Programs/Summer-Camp-Registration.aspx>

Information is also available at (904) 630-CITY (2489).

Phone Numbers - City Link **630-CITY** (630-2489) Please provide the exact address and obtain a tracking number to follow up.

- City Council meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. City Council Chambers, 117 W. Duval St. 32202. For information contact 630-1377.
- Duval County School Board meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., Board Room, 1701 Prudential Dr., 32207. For information call 390-2000 or Duval County Public Schools www.duvalschools.org
- **Jacksonville Public Library** - 303 N. Laura St, Jacksonville, FL 32202 – 630-2665 or www.jaxpubliclibrary.org
- JSO - Police Non-Emergency 630-0500-First Coast Crime Stoppers – 1-866-845-TIPS (8477) to report a crime anonymously
- JEA – 665-6000 – If a street light is out please get the number on the pole to report it
- Duval Extension Office – 387-8850 or 1010 N. McDuff Ave. www.coj.net (Search Extension Office) June Newsletter - <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/documents/CAJune12.pdf>
- JOBS - WorkSource Career Center at Gateway, 5000 Norwood Ave., Suite 2 open M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. or 924-1710 or www.employflorida.com