

**Urban Core ~ District 1
Citizens Planning and Advisory Committee
FCCJ Urban Resource Center – 601 W. State St. Rm. 411
Meeting Summary
Monday, April 4, 2005**

Members and Alternates

Deloris Swain
Ethel Griffin
Keith McLaughlin
Johnny Swain
Rosemary Anderson

Doug Vanderlaan
Faye Battle
Janetta Norman
Louvenia Tippins

E.M. Johnson
Flore Johnson-McPherson
Jo Ann Smith
Michael Bryant

Guests

Emily Timmons
Patricia Royland

Juanita Powell-Williams
Sally Doherty

Mary Anne Saadeh
Sharon Coon

Staff/Resource

Bill David
Doris Leach
Kenneth Avery
Rick Lewis

Carolyn Shehee Williams
Gary Dickinson
Lauri Ellen Smith
Valerie J. Williams

Danny Perkins
Gary Watters
Milton Locklear
Victor Pacheco

Call to Order

Janetta Norman called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM.

Introductions

Janetta Norman asked that all present introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve minutes from February 7, 2005 was made by Floree McPherson and in second by E.M. Johnson, motion carried.

Subcommittee Reports

Grants and Awards – No report
Membership – No report
Hospitality – No report
Transportation – No report

Speakers

Rick Lewis, Director, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Topic: Taser Use in the School System

Stated that the Sheriff's Office is a nationally accredited agency. Resource officers are placed in the schools for security of lives and property. All sworn officers are equipped with the same way. A task force for non-lethal options was formed. Tasers use was tested then the department moved forward with implementation. Certain threshold requirements must be met before deploying tasers: legal authority to take into custody; resisting arrest and threat to themselves or others. A medical condition called "excited Delirium" as well as illegal substance and psychotropic drug usage contributed to more frequent deaths in custody. Individuals exhibit superhuman strength and wage an exhaustive battle to be taken into custody. Sheriff Rutherford has not yet made a definitive decision to deploy tasers in public schools. He also added that the Sheriff did not confer with the public for the change of prior weapons. A moratorium was placed on taser use until public education and input is completed. The floor was opened for public comment.

Ken Hurley from the American Civil Liberties Union presented and passed out a question and answer handout in opposition of taser use.

Sharon Coon, James Weldon Johnson Festival

Topic: 9th Annual James Weldon Johnson Arts and Culture Festival

Stated that the event will be held June 1-4, 2005. Jacksonville is the only city currently hosting such an event to commemorate Johnson's life and accomplishments. The John Rosamond Johnson piano competition will yield a grand prize of \$1500.00. The historic home of James Weldon Johnson was torn down and is currently being utilized as a parking lot. She also added that the festival has the potential to become an international event but needs more support from the mayor and the residents of Jacksonville.

Joseph Johnson, Concerned Citizens Seeking Improved Passenger Decorum

Topic: Neighborhood Issues

Stated he lives at 1810 West 27th Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32209. Mr. Johnson expressed concern about young people riding through the neighborhood with loud music blasting from their vehicles. He would like noise ordinance signs to be placed throughout the neighborhood, and for the ordinance to be enforced. He also stated that cars often speed along 21st and Pearce Street, which is an endangerment to pedestrians. Mr. Johnson was informed by the CPAC that becoming involved in ShAdCo could best help resolve these issues.

Staff Reports

Code Enforcement – Not present

Consumer Affairs – Valerie J. Williams reported that the 2nd Annual Fair Housing Symposium would be held on April 22, 2005 at the Radisson Riverwalk.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – Milton Locklear presented handouts of information on the I10/I95 interchange and the urban projects under construction for the district.

Duval County School Board – **Not present** – Janetta Norman expressed concern and dissatisfaction in the lack of representation by the school board. Keith McLaughlin stated that FCCJ has a partnership with the School Board and that he would follow up on their participation with the CPAC. Doris Leach also added that the Neighborhoods Department had made several attempts to encourage their participation but compliance has not yet been met.

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office – previously given

Mayor's Representative – Carolyn Shehee-Williams informed the group that the Mayor's Family Summit is scheduled for May 13 and 14 at the Prime Osborne convention Center. She also added that the main library is scheduled to open in September of this year barring any further construction delays.

Neighborhood Services –Doris Leach announced that the Mayor's Neighborhood Summit is scheduled for June 24, 2005 at the Prime Osborne Convention Center. The Right Tree/Right Place workshop sponsored by JEA and Greenscape is scheduled for April 11, 2005 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Cathedral Residences auditorium.

Planning and Development – Ken Avery reported that an application for Waiver of Architectural and Aesthetic Requirements: WAAR-05-11 is scheduled for review on April 14 at 1:00 p.m. The manufactured home located across from St Pius 1511 Miller Lane was placed without a permit and can not meet the aesthetic requirements. There are currently no manufactured homes in the area. Opposition has been received from Myrtle Avenue neighborhood Improvement Association and St Pius Catholic Church. He also stated that a controversial rezoning of Beachwood Rehab facility requesting to have a 24-hour homeless center has been deferred. Neighbors express their opposition to Councilwoman Pat Locket-Felder.

Old Business – None

New Business – Michael Hartman expressed concern about Hogan's Creek. He stated that he is a retired

Environmental Officer has been involved in environmental restoration projects and is interested in the restoration of Hogan's Creek. He also added that great cities have great parks. Janetta Norman appointed Michael Hartman as chair of the Environmental subcommittee, to which he accepted. Doug Vanderlaan agreed to serve on the subcommittee as well.

Doug Vanderlaan stated that SPAR and Springfield Women's Club formed a parks task force.

Janetta Norman asked Doug Vanderlaan to serve as chair of the Membership subcommittee to which he declined.

Announcements – Janetta Norman announced the dedication of the John N. McPherson Park located at 8th Street and Boulevard, on April 14, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

The next CPAC meeting is scheduled for 5:00 PM May 2, 2005 at Florida Community College Jacksonville, Urban Resource Center - Room 411.