

Urban Core ~ District 1 Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

May 23, 2002

Black Business Investment Corporation ~ 2933 North Myrtle Avenue

AMENDED MINUTES

Committee Members/Guests/Staff Present

Sign in sheets attached

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:25 pm.

Approval of Minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. The decision to approve the minutes as written was unanimous.

- Dr. Norman acknowledged guests and asked them to introduce themselves. She also expressed her concern for members who arrive late and ultimately cause the meetings to extend longer than they should.

Speakers

- **Leah Hayes (Outreach Coordinator – City of Jacksonville, Senior Services Department)** – presented and discussed the newly published Senior Services Directory. Informed the members and guests of the availability of Adult Services and the convenience of the directory. Answered questions for members and guests. Distributed a map and project reports.
- **Sue Jantz (Public Relations Coordinator, City of Jacksonville, Clean It Up/Green It Up)** – discussed Clean It Up Jacksonville Day. Informed members and guests of how they can pick up supplies and cleanup equipment for the event. Instructed volunteers on the process for depositing trash and debris collected on that day. Encouraged volunteers to call the Clean It Up/Green It Up office to request special equipment and more information on the project. Answered questions from members and guests.

Reports

Urban Core Bus Tour Committee

The tour will take place on June 12, 2002 beginning at 8:30am. The tour will showcase specific areas in the Urban Core that demonstrate growth and need for improvements.

Mayor's Representative

Jeannie Fewell commended Celia Miller of Good Neighbor M.A.N.I.A. for her extensive work in the Durkeeville/Myrtle Avenue community. She provided general information regarding the Town Center Initiative including its purpose. She suggested that the Urban Core CPAC consider arrange a separate meeting to hear a presentation concerning the Initiative and the application process.

Celia Miller extended an offer to host the Town Center Initiative Workshop at M.A.N.I.A.'s June monthly meeting. CPAC members unanimously accepted the offer and agreed to meet on June 13, 2002 at 5:30pm at the Edward Waters College Schell-Sweet building.

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

No report given at this time.

Neighborhood Services Division

Old Business

Celia Miller reiterated her concerns for the Durkeeville/Myrtle Avenue neighborhood and M.A.N.I.A.'s need of support from CPAC members and guests to address the issues of contamination in the community. The citizens have not received answers regarding soil contamination testing in the area and the impact of the testing results.

It was suggested that Chris Pearson of the Department of Health & Solid Waste be invited to a future CPAC meeting to discuss and address contamination concerns in the area.

New Business

Dr. Norman reiterated the importance of the Urban Core CPAC's involvement in the upcoming Citywide Clean-up initiative. The chair also asked Henrietta Hill-Murray (member) to serve as the liaison and coordinator for the Urban Core in this initiative. Her first task is to identify five schools in the Urban Core that can serve as sites for the dumping of trash and debris collected.

Additional Concerns/Issues

- 1) Ms. Austin (29th & Chase homeowner) expressed a concern about vacant lots in the 29th & Chase community and the intentions of Habijax as it relates to development. Some of the vacant lots acquired by Habijax have gone undeveloped and are now overgrown with weeds, shubbery, and debris. One of the major concerns of many citizens in the community is the lack of style diversity of the homes built by Habijax. The perception is that the presence and potential over-population of Habijax homes will affect property values in the neighborhood.

Tony Nelson suggested that a separate meeting be established and a representative from Habijax be invited to provide information on their intentions and plans for development in the area. The members requested that Joe Honeycutt, President of Habijax, be invited to meet with the citizens.

- 2) Celia Miller expressed a concern for re-surfacing of streets after re-piping in the Urban Core, particularly the Durkeeville/Myrtle Avenue community from Spires Avenue to I-95 between 19th Street and Kings Road.
- 3) Ethel Griffin (29th & Chase homeowner) expressed a concern about the number of apartments located in the 29th & Chase community.

Special Guests

- Pam Reddick spoke on behalf of State Representative E. Denise Lee. Ms. Lee will run for the State Senate seat and requests the support of the citizens of the Urban Core in the upcoming election.

Announcements

- The annual Kuumba Festival hosted by Councilwoman Pat Lockett-Felder will be held on May 25 & 26, 2002 in the A. Philip Randolph Park located in the Eastside community.
- Mayor Delaney's Town Hall meeting is scheduled to be held in the Urban Core on June 17, 2002. Details of the meeting are forthcoming for the Mayor's office.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Urban Core – District #1 CPAC Meeting will be held on Monday, June 24, 2002 at 5:00 pm at the Cathedral Terrace Auditorium - 701 N. Ocean Street.