

# District #1 - Urban Core

## Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

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

**Chair:** Doug Vanderlaan 923-5179 [dougcpac@comcast.net](mailto:dougcpac@comcast.net)

**Vice Chair:** Rex Williams 401-8138 [rexwilliams2006@hotmail.com](mailto:rexwilliams2006@hotmail.com)

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

**Neighborhood Coordinator:** Marilyn Fenton-Harmer 255-8236 [mfharmer@coj.net](mailto:mfharmer@coj.net)



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## Meeting Summary Monday, July 12, 2010

### Members

Doug Vanderlaan, Chair

Celia Miller, M.A.N.I.A.

Greg Radlinski, Parks at the Cathedral

Catherine Morton, 12<sup>th</sup> Street Loyalty

Paul Tutwiler, NWJCDC

Pat LaMountain, Springfield Women's Club

**Excused** – Dr. Norman, Floree Johnson-McPherson, Janice Love, Beverly Toney

### Guests

Greg Bruce, The Hester Group

Alberta Hipps, Hipps Group

Emmett Walker, M.A.N.I.A.

Rosemary Thornton

Maria Hendrix, UNF School of Nursing

Brenda Boydston, SPAR

Levoyous Partlow, M.A.N.I.A.

Allan Clotworthy

Tracie Thornton

### Staff/Resource

Caroline Shehee-Williams, Mayor's Liaison

Milton Locklear, FDOT

Short Robbins, DRCS

Kristina Nelson, COJ Attorney

Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, HAND

JSO Zone 1 Sgt. Danny Perkins

Emery Nauden, Planning

Elaine Lancaster, Code Enforcement

Ron Barton, JEDC Director

### Call to Order

Chairman Vanderlaan called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street with a moment of silence and welcomed everyone.

### Approval of the Minutes

*Member Radlinski made a Motion to accept the meeting summary from the June 7, 2010 Urban Core CPAC meeting. A second was made by Member Tutwiler.*

*The Vote: All in favor; none opposed.*

### Staff Reports

**Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** Zone 1 - Sgt. Perkins had no formal report but would address concerns. Chair Vanderlaan thanked Sgt. Perkins for coming to the meeting.

For JSO Zone 1 information call the Sub Station at 924-5361 or [JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org](mailto:JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org)

### Guest Speaker

**Jacksonville Economic Development Commission (JEDC)** Executive Director Ron Barton presented a handout on the Downtown Action Plan (The Plan) Overview. The Plan was generated two years ago. There is a downtown Master Plan but the following is the condensed version:

- The Vision: Downtown is the place to be
- Objectives:
  1. To improve walkability
  2. To make downtown a destination
  3. To make downtown a neighborhood
  4. To ensure a framework for sustainable success

There were 19 Action Steps to The Plan:

1. Enhance the level of service for "Clean and Safe" programs
2. Develop and implement a comprehensive streetscape plan
3. Convert one-way to two-way streets
4. Create a Riverwalk enhancement plan
5. Improve downtown connectivity by an enhanced trolley system and complementary Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System
6. Enhance event programming
7. Improve wayfarer signage
8. Refine approval process and create a one-stop approach
9. Promote workforce housing
10. Implement innovative parking programs and parking management initiatives
11. Update and implement stormwater management
12. Initiate a Downtown marketing strategy that emphasizes Downtown Districts
13. Engage in Active, targeted retail recruitment
14. Facilitate Brooklyn redevelopment
15. Develop and enact a Master Plan for Metropolitan Park/Kids Kampus
16. Redevelop Friendship Fountain Area
17. Improve connections from the Emerald necklace to the River and upland activity
18. Identify and facilitate large-scale, catalyst projects
19. Create more marine themed activities and improve marine linkages

JEDC by the Office of the Mayor and State Statue and Consolidated Government was formed to combine a number of agencies for economic development county-wide. Along with this there is also the Enterprise and Empowerment zones which provide economic incentives for businesses to develop in those designated areas. Since downtown is currently not considered a neighborhood there is not many that are fighting to see it changed. Currently the focus is on Laura Street. It will be a premier street to connect Hemming Plaza to the Landing. The Andrew Jackson statue has been moved to the new round-a-bout in front of the Landing. It also has cobblestones to slow the traffic down. They are working on the one-way streets to convert back to two-way streets. On number seven they just installed public parking garage signs on the Duval Street Garage (across from the Main Library) and the Ed Ball Building Parking Garage to direct people where to park so that they may walk the area. In the past Downtown has never gotten the basics right. Members had questions/concerns on the following:

- Light poles with broken banner poles that are an eyesore for downtown. The lower banner arms were supposed to have been removed and some are still there. It appears as if there was a manufacturing or defective pole that was purchased. Mr. Barton explained that the poles were not engineered properly for the height of the pole and amount of wind. There is a new pole available that takes the height and wind into consideration but the problem is money. The City of Jacksonville has never had a holiday banner. Members would like to see the City compensated by the light pole manufacturer for a product that was defective.
- Members wanted to know what plans are coming to get residents to come downtown. Mr. Barton does not think downtown has a parking problem but there are no signs to direct you where to park. The idea is to get people out of the cars and walk downtown so that this could attract more businesses. That is why the JEDC paid for the signs at the Main Library Parking garage and the Ed Ball Building garage.
- Members would like to see the benches at Hemming Plaza repositioned. The Plaza has been redesigned a few times over the years. Is there money or trustees available to reposition the benches at Hemming Plaza to make them available to everyone and not just the homeless. They think this is worth trying.
- Members wanted to know what is being done on mixed housing or work force housing. With the residential market at an ebb they are not sure where the market is going.

- Members wanted clarification on the JEDC having oversight and what that meant. Mr. Barton explained that it was a concept that means jurisdiction to administer programs if the City Council dictates that. He talked about the Enterprise and Empowerment Zones. If a business is located in the boundaries they receive a favorable tax credit.
- Chair Vanderlaan on behalf of Subcommittee Chair Toney asked about the development on A. Philip Randolph. JEDC is the recruiting arm for businesses for Duval County. They don't have a specific role in neighborhoods. Mr. Barton will be happy to talk and meet with the A. Philip Randolph Subcommittee.
- The idea of having planners and architect look at the area and come up with plans was talked about. The time is to start implementing plans and not just talk about them.
- Members asked about the idea of a new convention center. Mr. Barton stated that there are all kinds of ideas on this subject.
- They also wanted to know why downtown is not offering incentives to come back downtown than to go to the Southside as well as offering more activities to draw people here. With the current economic environment that we are in we must decide and demand what we want.

Ron Barton can be reached at 630-7115 or [barton@coj.net](mailto:barton@coj.net)

### **Staff Reports**

**Mayor's Representative** – Carolyn Shehee-Williams had no report. She can be reached at 630-1994 or [CSHEHEE@coj.net](mailto:CSHEHEE@coj.net)

### **Mayor's Office**

**Project New Ground** Consultant Greg Bruce and City of Jacksonville Attorney Kristina Nelson spoke about the Urban Core CPAC meeting from last month with the EPA. They are very hopeful that the PRC (Property record card) wording will be worked out. A meeting for lenders: bankers and mortgage companies to discuss the language on the Property Record Card will be on Thursday, July 15, 2010. EPA Attorney Caroline Philson will be attending this meeting as well. They will report back in August on the outcome of the meeting.

- Remediation continues in all 4 areas. It is going very well.
- Some residents are using the temporary housing that is being offered but some prefer to stay home.
- Homes with children are the priority.
- They still have lots of access agreement to obtain and sampling is still on going.

Members had questions and concerns on the following:

- Members wanted to know who was going to be at the table for the meeting with the lenders. It was explained that they wanted to understand what the under writers need or do in regards to the Property Record Card. Members wanted to know if they were able to help people going through a loan or refinancing. That will be some of the questions they will ask.
- There was a guest that lives at 1134 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street said that 10 years ago the city had put some top soil put on top of his grass and now it has been tested clean. He would like his property to be retested to a lower depth. Mr. Bruce will work with him.
- Some neighbors think that the remediation contracting team has been giving preferential treatment to the homes in the Oaks of Durkeeville rather than the older homes in the neighborhood.
- They are even more concerned that daycares are not being given priority when there were told that children would be the first priority. Neighbors want the day cares put on the fast track like the schools. Project New Ground Greg Bruce explained that they do not have access agreements for some daycares. Members would like to see the City of Jacksonville have a legal option to go on daycare properties that have not signed an access agreement especially if they are receiving subsidized funding. They want to see this done in the best interest for the children even without the access agreement. They compared this to DCF and the protection for children of abuse. Attorney Nelson will check into this. They may have to get a Court order.

- Members wanted to know where the remediation stood in relation to the redevelopment of the neighborhood. Attorney Nelson stated that Council Member Lee in 2008 requested that the Planning Department look at the ash boundaries and the redevelopment for the areas. James Reed in the Planning Department is looking at this. Attorney Nelson will check on this as well.

Project New Ground can be reached at 630-CITY or the Outreach Center at 357-8077 or visit the center at 1605 N. Myrtle Ave.

**Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Milton Locklear no formal report but stated that the I-10 and –95 Project is 98% complete and ahead of schedule. Milton Locklear can be reached at 360-5686 or [Milton.Locklear@coj.state.fl.us](mailto:Milton.Locklear@coj.state.fl.us)

**Planning and Development** – Emery Nauden reported on the following: The following Items will be going before the Planning Commission on Thursday, July 29:

- E-10-47 School K-12 1702/1722 N. Davis St. Planner Emery Nauden
- E-10-46 Daycare 23 kids 3 staff 3550 Westlake Ave. Planner Marvin Echols
- E-10-50 Daycare 36 kids 1626 Grunthal St. Planner Allison Giordano
- V-10-15 Daycare 36 kids – Companion to E-10-50 – on less than 2 acres Planner Giordano

For information call 255-7800. Emery Nauden can be reached at 255-7825 or [enauden@coj.net](mailto:enauden@coj.net)

**Municipal Code Compliance** – Zone 1 Supervisor Elaine Lancaster reported on the following:

- The total active cases in the Urban Core are 2,430. In the past those numbers have been more than 5,000.
- This week they have been doing a systematic inspection in Fairfield. They will be going back to Mid-Westside next week. Currently there are 713 active cases in the Mid-Westside. They have been very busy with the growing season.
- Code officers do work on the weekends.

Supervisor Lancaster can be reached at 255-7007. Municipal Code Compliance can be reached at 255-7000 or [psafety@coj.net](mailto:psafety@coj.net)

**Recreation and Community Services** – Shorty Robbins reported on the following:

- Park development and Council man first consultant declined and 4 down lights and lights will be angled for neighbors
- Summer Night Lights program have been going very well all with no incidents. For the past 4 weeks there have been a total of 7875 people attending at the 5 parks. The numbers are growing each week. The team of teens that were hired has been phenomenal. This upcoming weekend there will be a DJ and movie at the Kennedy Center.
- The parks maintenance of cutting the grass every 2 weeks has been going on for a few months. They do maintain the ball fields weekly. With the holiday weekend and with July having 5 weeks there was 3 weeks without mowing. Some parks have been looking shaggy but they have been catching up.

Shorty Robbins can be reached at 255-7915 or [shortyr@coj.net](mailto:shortyr@coj.net)

**HAND – Community Development** Neighborhood Coordinator Marilyn Fenton-Harmer reported on the following: Housing and Neighborhoods Department:

- Stay Home Program - If someone you know is worried about losing their home, call 255-8200 or 630-2489 and ask to register for a free foreclosure prevention program. To learn more, please visit <http://www.coj.net/Departments/Housing+and+Neighborhoods/Stay+Home/Tools/default.htm>.
- Neighborhood Stabilization Program- redevelops abandoned and foreclosed properties and increases the availability of affordable housing for low, moderate and middle income households.
- The Northwest Jacksonville Economic Development Fund (NWJEDF) has public funds used to provide capital for project development. The prospective applicant must be a business located within the Northwest Jacksonville area or a business that is expanding its operations into this targeted area.
- Bids for CommUniverCity (CU) are being reviewed. Classes are tentatively scheduled for August 10.

**Project New Ground** is eager to answer your questions. Please contact the City of Jacksonville: 630-CITY or the Outreach Center at 357-8077. The Project New Ground Outreach Center is located at The Oaks of Durkeeville Plaza at 1605-8 Myrtle Avenue. Outreach specialists are available to talk with residents about the cleanup and impacts to their neighborhoods. Hours are Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. **Jobs** - Project New Ground contractors are hiring ground crews and skilled laborers that are hazmat certified. WorkSource manages the employment process. Those interested in employment opportunities should contact Jerry Box at 798-9229 ext. 2204 or [JBox@worksourcefl.com](mailto:JBox@worksourcefl.com). If you have questions for the TAG (Technical Advisor Grant) groups, please feel free to contact them: **5th & Cleveland** - Wealth Watchers, Carrie Davis, 265-4736; **Forest Street** – North Riverside CDC, Diane Kerr, 387-0332; **Brown's Dump** – NJCDC, Paul Tutwiler, 764-1805; **Lonnie Miller**- Helpful Citizens,

Bernard Wilson, 509-6484. If you have any specific questions about how ash on your property may affect your health, please contact the Duval County Health Department at 253-1000. You may also visit the Web site, [www.dchd.net](http://www.dchd.net) for more info go to: [www.coj.net/Departments/Environmental+and+Compliance/Project+New+Ground/About.htm](http://www.coj.net/Departments/Environmental+and+Compliance/Project+New+Ground/About.htm)

**Jacksonville Journey:** The next Journey meeting will be Thursday, **July 15**, 2010 at 4 p.m. in the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan St., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor. During the month of June we continued to move forward in implementing the *Jacksonville Journey* program. The progress includes (1) The Oversight Committee held its monthly meeting (2) Council of State Governments conducted a technical assistance training (3) Ex-Offender employment opportunities and (4) Proposed budget for 2010-2011. All information can be viewed at [www.coj.net/Mayor/Jacksonville+Journey](http://www.coj.net/Mayor/Jacksonville+Journey) all meetings are broadcast live and recordings are available on the website within 48 Hours of each meeting. For information call Tina Rehmel 630-1273

**Duval County School Board** - Duval County School Board meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m., School Board Building, 1701 Prudential Dr. For information call 390-2000. Duval County Public Schools [www.duvalschools.org](http://www.duvalschools.org) The first day of school for Duval County is Monday, **August 23**, 2010. For other info "Save Duval Schools" - [www.saveduvalschools.org](http://www.saveduvalschools.org)

**Parenting University**, free parenting seminars, Sat. **July 17**, Eugene Butler Middle School, 900 Acorn St., 32209. Early registration is encouraged, requests for free childcare, transportation, and /or language translation. Call the Parent RSVP Line: Phone: 904-633-5356 or Fax: 904-630-6727.

**Recreation and Community Services - Parks** - JaxParks Admin Offices have moved to the Ed Ball Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl. - Main # 255-7900

- **Joseph Lee Day Olympics 2010** - Thursday **July 29**, 2010 - 8 am to 4 pm at Raines High School, 3663 Raines Ave. Please be sure to bring Your lunch, snacks and bolted water.
- **Summer Night Lights** - Movie Night at 7 p.m., (movie starts at dusk) - Come enjoy a free family friendly movie under the stars. For information call 630-CITY:
  - o Saturday, July 17, 2010 Robert Kennedy Park - 1133 Ionia St.
  - o Saturday, July 24, 2010 Charles Clark Park - 8793 Sibbald Rd.
  - o Saturday, July 31, 2010 Mary Lena Gibbs Park - 6974 Wilson Blvd.
- Winn Dixie presents Movies in the Park - Friday, **July 16**, 2010 at 7 pm movie starts at dusk, Memorial Park - 1620 Riverside Ave. It's movie time again at Memorial Park! For information call 630-CITY
- **Riverside Arts Market presents Movies in the Park** - Saturday, August 07, 2010 7 p.m. (movie starts at dusk) 2821 Riverside Ave. - Riverside Arts Market Come watch the stars under the star at the beautiful Riverside Arts Market. With plenty of entertainment before show time. Food vendors will also be on hand. This is a free JaxParks event. Contact: For more information call 904 255-7911 **For more information** on events and activities hosted by the Recreation and Community Services Department, call 630-CITY or visit [www.jaxparks.com](http://www.jaxparks.com). For more information on this and other downtown events and dining options, visit [www.downtownjacksonville.org](http://www.downtownjacksonville.org).

**Seniors** - 29<sup>th</sup> Annual **Senior Prom** - Friday, **August 6** at the Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water St. from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door for 60 years and older. Guests not a senior \$25. Call 630-3690 or [www.makeascenedowntown.com](http://www.makeascenedowntown.com)

**Downtown - Riverside Arts Market** - Every Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Under the Fuller Warren Bridge, Downtown Jacksonville. **When to Water Your Yard** - No irrigation is allowed between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Wednesday and Saturday for residential landscape irrigation at addresses that end in an odd number or have no address and Thursday and Sunday for residential landscape irrigation at addresses that end in an even number.

#### **Upcoming Meetings and Programs**

- DDRB-Downtown Development Review Board Meeting -2 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month in the Police & Fire Pension Building, 1 West Adams St., Suite 200. Contact Jim Klement, Redevelopment Coordinator, at (904) 630-2689 or at [jklement@coj.net](mailto:jklement@coj.net)
- Empowerment/Enterprise Zone Development Agency Board Meeting - Wednesday, July 21, 2010 1:00 p.m. at the Beaver Street Enterprise Center, 1225 W. Beaver Street. For info contact: Karen Underwood, 630-1906, [karenu@coj.net](mailto:karenu@coj.net)
- **Snyder Memorial Church (SMC) Music** Project Extends "Off the Grid" Art Program - Each Friday evening in July local musicians will play at Snyder Memorial Church downtown as the city and Downtown Vision partner to extend "Off the Grid," a program that connects emerging local artists with empty downtown spaces. This project is part of the effort to reinvigorate downtown by providing additional entertainment options.

#### **Save the Date**

- National Night Out - Tuesday, **August 3**, 2010 - to support law enforcement
- Community Empowerment Expo, Saturday, **August 7** from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Main Library.

**Emergency Preparedness** - Make preparations for your family for hurricane season, which is from June 1 through Nov. 30. The COJ Emergency Preparedness Division has information and links to other hurricane preparedness websites. For more information, contact COJ Emergency Preparedness at 630-2472 or visit [bosborne@coj.net](mailto:bosborne@coj.net)

- Make a plan. Please visit <http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/index.html>
- Ask your children to help the family prepare. Visit <http://stormstruck.org/>
- Prepare for your pets. If you need to evacuate - your pet needs to evacuate. Pet Friendly Public Evacuation Shelter Program offers shelters at the following schools: [Landmark Middle School](#), [Mandarin Middle School](#) and [Chimney Lakes Elementary School](#).
  - o The following animals will be accepted: dogs, cats, rodents, rabbits and birds. No reptiles will be allowed. All pets must have proof of vaccination and registration, be properly crated or caged and be maintained by their owners. Animals may be housed in a separate room from their owners.
  - o Owners must provide all necessary supplies to maintain their pet, including a pet emergency kit.
  - o Pet friendly shelters need volunteers. If you would like to volunteer at a pet friendly shelter, please contact Volunteer Services. Call 630-2489 for more information.
  - o Transportation - If a person will need transportation to a shelter during an emergency, they must pre-register by calling 630-7833.

**Jacksonville Fire and Rescue**: Check the batteries in your smoke detectors.

**Library**: Genealogy Workshop, Sat. July 31, 1:00 PM, Main Library, Room 124 E. For info call Karen Jessee at 630-2409.



**Jacksonville Ethics Commission** - Meeting, Wednesday, July 28, at 4:30 p.m., Don Davis Room, 117 W. Duval St. First Floor of City Hall. For more information, contact Susan Stewart, Ethics Coordinator, at (904) 630-1680. Whistleblower's Hotline: (904) 630-1015. For more information, please visit [Ethics Hotline and Whistleblower Protection](#).

**Sheriff's Advisory Council (ShAdCo)** - Welcomes existing and new members. The public is invited to attend. Call Zone 1 – Gateway Mall for more information at 924-5361.

**Military Affairs, Veterans and Disabled Services Division** – Abilities Within – Saturday, July 24th, Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena, Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Admission: FREE

- Featuring Wheelchair Moto X athlete Aaron "Wheelz" Fotheringham ([www.aaronfotheringham.com](http://www.aaronfotheringham.com)).
- Showcasing the USA Wheelchair Rugby Team. The team won the Olympic gold medal in Beijing, China and Sydney, Australia. Highlighting local quad rugby and other adaptive sports that will showcase their talent.

**State Tax Free Holidays:** Aug. 13, 14 & 15 Supplies to books, clothing, footwear (\$50 or less); school supplies (\$10 or less)

#### **Phone Numbers**

- Sign up for e-mail notifications from the Mayor's Office at: <http://mayornotification.coj.net/>
- 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. City Council Chambers, 117 W. Duval St. 32202. For information call 630-1377.
- Duval County School Board meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., First Floor Board Room, 1701 Prudential Dr., 32207. For information call 390-2000
- 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](http://www.coj.net) (Search word Extension Office)  
[Http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu](http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu)
- JOBS - WorkSource Career Center at Gateway, 5000 Norwood Ave., Suite 2 open M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. or 924-1710.
- Elder Source is the State Designated Aging Resource Center for NE Florida. Elder Helpline – 1- 888-242-4464 or [www.myeldersource.org](http://www.myeldersource.org)

#### **Chairperson's Report**

Chair Vanderlaan presented a PowerPoint on a number of concerns:

- Downtown – He presented a picture of the Laura Street round-a-bout at Bay Street in front of the Landing. Since the picture was taken the Andrew Jackson statue has been placed in the center of the round-a-bout.
- Ash Sites – At last month's meeting the Motion was made on the following:
  - The Urban Core CPAC recommends that the Mayor negotiate with the U.S. EPA to revise the required property record card notation to delete cautionary language once a property has been remediated or determined not to be contaminated.
- Library Hour Cutbacks – The newspaper reported on June 17 that there would be Library hour cutbacks - reduced hours at 5 Branches (40 hours to 20 hours)
  - 2 or the 5 branches are in the Urban Core: (40% of the cutback libraries)
    - [Brentwood Branch](#) - 3725 Pearl St [32206] Hours: Mon - Fri: 2:00 p.m. - 6 p.m., Sat & Sun: Closed
    - [Brown Eastside Branch](#) - 1390 Harrison St [32206] Hours: Mon - Fri: 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Sat & Sun: Closed
    - He showed a map with the 5 Libraries – the others are: the Murray Hill Branch and the Westbrook Branch in the Northwest CPAC and the Maxville Branch in the Southwest CPAC.
  - Chair Vanderlaan visited both libraries and attended the Library Board of Director's meeting. There were numerous people there on behalf of the Murray Hill Branch cutbacks. So many in fact that time ran out before everyone had an opportunity to speak.
  - He asked Mayor's Liaison Caroline Shehee Williams how the 5 Libraries were chosen. She explained that they track circulation and visitor data: hourly, daily and monthly at all 21 locations. Members were very concerned on the cutback of hours at the Libraries in the Urban Core that are in low income neighborhoods where they are needed most. There are a lot of people that do not have access to the internet and computers in these areas and this is a great need. The computers help apply for jobs and help children with school projects. Members were concerned if the numbers were truly reflective of the people in the library.

An example would be someone who goes in to use the wi-fi with their laptop and doesn't check anything out. Ms. Williams explained that all libraries have wi-fi and can be accessed outside in the parking lot but they had to reduce the budget. The majority of the money goes to salaries. They have reduced administrative positions and have closed libraries on Sundays with the exception of the Main Branch.

- o Chair Vanderlaan presented the following information:

***The Urban Core CPAC asks the Mayor to consult with the CPACs before making changes in library services. We understand that the city faces budget challenges but we would like to see the issue of library services addressed as part of broader budget discussions. Until that happens we ask that the much needed library services in the Urban Core be restored to their previous levels. Member LaMountain made this a Motion and Member Miller properly seconded the Motion.***

***Discussion:*** Members had lots of questions and concerns in particular the last sentence. They also were concerned if the libraries have advertised the new hours of operation. Residents need to know the new hours of operation *at all branches*. They also want the libraries available to students in the Urban Core to be sure that we prepare our students in school for the workforce and the future. Some Members spoke about the need for more libraries especially more computers at the branches. ***The Vote: 3 in favor; 2 opposed. The Motion carries.*** Members also spoke about getting the word out to the community that the libraries are available for lots of different things.

Members asked about the renovations at the Regency Square Branch. This was a private donation from someone who passed away and left the money specifically to this branch.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

- A. Philip Randolph Corridor – Chair Vanderlaan reported that Chair Beverly Toney was in a car accident and wished her well. He will contact her to see when the next meeting can be set up and invite JEDC Executive Director Ron Barton.
- Homelessness and Panhandling – Chair Greg Radlinski reported that he is not receiving communications from the Resource Center Committee but that it will be at the I.M. Sulzbacher Center. It will open at the end of the year. He has met with others on Safety Downtown and their proposal is to reconfigure the benches at Hemming Plaza. Currently there is no money available but would like to see trustees reposition the benches to make them available to everyone. They are also looking at requirements for legal identification cards to track all services provided throughout town. The I.D. card is being pursued further with the Office of General Council.
- Transportation – Chair Celia Miller had no formal report but announced that there would be a public hearing on Friday, July 23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 - 6 p.m. at the JTA administrative offices at 100 N. Myrtle Avenue. The purpose of the hearing is to present proposed changes to the transit system (including Riverside Trolley) that go into effect September 6, 2010, and get public feedback. Ms. Miller is still looking for a replacement for the TPO.
- Vacant Properties – Chair Doug Vanderlaan had no report.

### **Public Comments**

- *Alberta Hipps reminded Members that Ordinance 2010-326 on Internet Cafes is scheduled for Committee Meetings on July 19 at 10 a.m. for the Rules Committee and 4 p.m. for the Recreation Committee. On July 20 at 10 a.m. for the Finance Committee and 2 p.m. for the Public Safety Committee. She passed out a sheet of talking point.*
- *Ms. Hipps complimented Marilyn Fenton-harmer on receiving the Robert O. Johnson Good Government Award. This award is the highest award the City Council presents to an employee. It is in recognition for "Outstanding public service and exemplary reputation for integrity and honesty to the City Council and the people of Jacksonville."* Marilyn Fenton-Harmer stated that this was the highlight of her professional career.

**Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.*

The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on Monday, **August 2, 2010**  
at 5 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](mailto:Mfharmer@coj.net)