URBAN CORE CITIZENS
PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1998
DALLAS GRAHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Members Present

Phil Neary, Chair
Dr. Janetta Norman
Bill Stewart
Clarissa Genwright
Rita Reagan
Donna Rath-Sawyer
Henrietta Hill-Murray
Carlon Robinson
Louvenia Tippins
Celia Miller
Michael Bryant
Rev. R. F. Langford

City Staff/Public/Media

Dan Haskell
Lorrie DeFrank
Asst. Chief Robert Drummond
Thelma Jackson
Pete Sutherland
Bonnie Knight
Willie Murray
Ken Avery
John Kearsey
Willie Green
Lorenzo Denmark

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. with a quorum.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes were approved subject to a correction raised by Bill Stewart.

Presentations
1. Lorrie DeFrank, Outreach Manager for Neighborhood Services Division, explained the Mayor's Neighborhood Matching Grant program. Mayor Delaney has doubled the amount from last year to $200,000 available for grants and basically any organization active for the past six months may apply for projects to promote stronger and healthier community. She also announced that Jacksonville is hosting the Florida Neighborhood Conference. The local summit will be on Thursday, September 24th and go into the state summit on the 25th and 26th. Ms. DeFrank also announced the need for a location for the Canvas Project in the district.

2. William Sweet, Auction Coordinator for the Planning Department, discussed the Springfield Auction sponsored by the City of Jacksonville which will be held in the southwest quadrant of Historic Springfield. Twenty-one properties are currently registered for the auction which will take place on Saturday, June 27th, 11:00 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel. The properties for auction have to be abandoned and have clear title. Mr. Sweet gave his office number, 630-7000, for more information.

3. Presentation by John Kearsey, Assistant Improvement Officer and Pete Sutherland, Supervisor,

of Code Enforcement, explaining the Springfield Initiative. Sutherland discussed how the use of the GIS computer program and maps allow them to systematically inspect the houses in the targeted area of Springfield and the inspection process. He also discussed the use of prison and volunteer labor for cleanups. Twenty-nine structures have been targeted by DART in the Historic Springfield area. Henrietta Hill-Murray inquired as to the boundaries of Springfield. John Kearsey and Phil Neary explained the boundaries. Kearsey discussed the identification of about 40 houses to come down and thirty-three have been submitted to the Abatement Section of Clean It Up, Green It Up for demolition. He also discussed a request for legislative change or code which clearly defines the responsibilities and the disposal method of junk cars. This code will be similar to the one is use by the Sheriff's Office and will compliment what the Sheriff's Office is doing on right-of-ways.

4. Bonnie Knight, Director of Community Development with Jacksonville Legal Aid and co-mediator for Meals in the Parks, discussed the status of the mediation process regarding the feeding in the parks. Ms. Knight suggested the agenda item be to changed to Meals in the Park or Provisions of Meals. She reported that JCCI in conjunction with the Mayor's Office is conducting a Neighborhood Conflict Resolution project with the pilot being The Provision of Meals in Hemming Plaza and Confederate Park. Bill Potter, Director of Parks Recreation, brought a draft of a new standard operating procedures for obtaining permits. The purpose of the new draft is to better define the procedure for obtaining permits and provides better protection of the parks and speaks to events held in the parks relating to non-conforming uses. She noted there is significant improvement in the seven day trash and maintenance in the park. Dr. Janetta Norman reported that at the Capital Improvement Committee Workshop of the Planning and Zoning Commission it was mentioned that all the parks, including the one in question, will be cleaned and stationary restrooms would be installed. Bill Stewart said a lot of people have worked very hard for a long time and he appreciates the hard work.

New Business/Announcements

Carlon Robinson announced the 20th Annual Tour of Homes and Gardens, sponsored by the Springfield Improvement Association Women's Club along with the Springfield Preservation and Restoration, would be held that weekend at Confederate Park.

Phil Neary motioned that the status of the Urban Core CPAC committee reports and recommendations be added to the next agenda. The motion was passed.

Donna Rath-Sawyer raised the issue of her disappointment with the results of the handling of the Jacksonville Children's Commission grant applications. Several applicants were not been notified that the grants had been decided on and the Butterfly Society had not been called back to have questions answered on the grants.

Celia Miller announced the Mayor's Economic Development Summit will be on May 28th. She also mentioned that economic development and education goals be kept on the forefront of the agenda. Ms. Miller motioned for an amendment to the motion to include education and have a representative or committee to insure the Urban Core be represented at the summit. Phil Neary stated a separate motion would be necessary as his motion included an emergency management

committee, a beautification committee and an economic development committee and there was not an education committee. Dr. Norman raised the issue as to the attendance of the school board's representative assigned to the CPAC, Ed Pratt-Daniels, and the need for him to be notified the CPAC is lagging behind in what is going on in education and to provide the CPAC with an update.

Phil Neary asked Celia Miller to restate her motion. Ms. Miller asked since there is no committee on education, going along with Dr. Norman, a reminder be sent to the education representative to come to the meetings and provide timely updates.

Phil Neary mentioned Mr. Mousa would be on the agenda next month and motioned to adjourn. The question was raised as to where the next meeting would be held. Mr. Neary asked for volunteers. None responding, Mr. Neary said we would have to find a place and everybody would be notified. He again motioned to adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.