URBAN CORE CITIZENS PLANNING AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1999
EDWARD WATERS COLLEGE SCHELL-SWEET BUILDING

Members
Dr. Janetta Norman, Chair
Patricia Till
Carlon Robinson
JoAnn Smith
Lisa Neary
Phil Neary
Michael Bryant
Flossie Brunson

City Staff/Public/Media
Thelma Jackson
Marie Heath
Ken Avery
Jerry Uselman
Flo Johnson
Charity Jackson
Joan Haskell
LaCree Carswell
Lorrie DeFrank
Asst. Chief Pete Mittleman
Alliniece Taylor
Dr. Jimmy Jenkins

Call to Order
Chairperson Janetta Norman called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m. without a quorum.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes were not approved due to the lack of a quorum and approval was deferred.

Presentations
Joan Haskell, representing the Jacksonville Human Rights Commission, made a presentation regarding Unity 2000: Working Together As One. Mrs. Haskell told the group that they wanted to address the areas of concern from police, neighborhoods, schools, churches and business perspectives. Mrs. Haskell told the group that her organization wants to bring the "community together" in each neighborhood, particularly in those neighborhoods that are intensive care. She stated that this can be accomplished by residents informing Unity 2000 what their needs are so they can assist. Mrs. Haskell distributed questionnaires for the CPAC members to complete during the meeting and return to her for processing. Carlon Robinson inquired as to whether the "coming together" is for one particular project. Mrs. Haskell responded that the results of the questionnaires will be utilized to make Jacksonville the best community possible. The chair added the focus of "Working Together As One" is to bring the races together and work to eliminate some of the major problems and create racial harmony.

The chair introduced Dr. Jimmy Jenkins, President of Edward Waters College, and thanked him for allowing the CPAC to use the facility. Dr. Jenkins welcomed the attendees and acknowledged how the Schell-Sweet Building is making a difference in the community. He stated their community service program is working to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood. Dr. Jenkins offered the full support of the college.

The chair noted that a quorum was present and requested approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved.

LaCree Carswell of the City of Jacksonville's Community Development Division represented Roslyn Phillips, Chief of Community Development Division. She discussed the Consolidated Plan Action Plan for 1999-2000 which outlines programs for the next fiscal year as required by Federal HUD. She explained that the plan was prepared through public hearings and public input. The funding priorities emanating from the public's input were: (1) neighborhood revitalization and beautification, (2) housing rehab and development and (3) economic development. Ms. Carswell stated that the four programs receiving funds are: (1) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), (2) Housing Opportunities Made Easy (HOME), (3) Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) and (4) Housing Opportunities For Persons With Aids (HOPWA). Ms. Carswell informed the group that copies of the plan were available at all public libraries throughout Duval County and the Community Development Division Office. She also explained that a Grantee Performance Report (GPR) had been prepared to show their results for the end of the year and copies were available on the table. Michael Bryant inquired as to when the priorities were set. Ms. Carswell responded they were set during the public hearing process. Phil Neary asked for a breakdown of CDBG funding.

Flo Johnson, a Springfield resident, addressed the group. Mrs. Johnson expressed her concern as to the hours of operation at the Springfield Post Office rental box area located at 1601 N. Main Street. She stated the availability from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. M-F and 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturday is not convenient for some who work those hours. She asked if we could contact the Postmaster to request additional hours. Phil Neary suggested we ask what the hours are for the rest of the post offices around town. The chair indicated that an inquiry would be made into the hours of operation.

Jerry Uselman, a Springfield resident, expressed his concern regarding the city budget. He asked for the group to write or fax a letter to Councilman Matt Carlucci, Chairman of the Finance Committee, to encourage the City Council to keep the same level of funding as last year for the demolition of unsafe and condemned structures. He stated that last year the city had $1.6 million allocated. He further stated that 3,037 unsafe structures in the city and that CPACs 1 and 5 had over two-thirds of unsafe structures. After discussion, the CPAC moved for correspondence to be sent regarding maintaining the same level of demolition funding.

Old Business
The chair acknowledged committee member Patricia Till's participation and coordination efforts for the July 4th parade. The chair asked for contributions to reimburse Ms. Till for $124.00 she spent on behalf of the Urban Core CPAC.

New Business
The chair informed the group that she had received correspondence from Councilwoman Elaine Brown requesting the date, time and location for the remaining Urban Core CPAC meetings for the year.

The chair announced that Bill Stewart, vice-chair, and his family had been transferred and that Mr. Stewart wanted his major to still be involved with the CPAC.

The chair informed the group of her observations that the other CPACs which have a stationary meeting location have increased participation. JoAnn Smith offered Cathedral Terrace for future CPAC meetings. The members moved that future meetings be held at Cathedral Terrace located at 701 N. Ocean Street.

The next meeting date will be on Monday, September 27, 1999, at Cathedral Terrace.

JoAnn Smith informed the group that parking at Cathedral Terrace is available across the street at the parking lot on Beaver Street.

Marie Heath, of Edward Waters College, offered their facility for any needs the group may have. Chairperson Norman thanked Ms. Heath for her offer.

Announcements
Lorrie DeFrank, Outreach Manager for Neighborhood Services Division, announced the 3rd Annual Florida Neighborhood Conference will be held in St. Petersburg on October 1st and 2nd. She also left registration information booklets for those interested in attending the conference.

Michael Bryant, committee member, informed the group that the grand opening of The Oaks at Durkeeville will be held on Monday, August 30th at 10:00 a.m. and urged the group to support the opening.

Dr. Norman, chair, informed the members that Michael Bryant was the recipient of an award at the Mayor's Neighborhood Summit and acknowledged Lorrie DeFrank's participation in the summit. Thelma Jackson, Neighborhood Coordinator for Neighborhood Services Division, told the group that HSCC was also an award recipient at the summit. Carlon Robinson, committee member, announced that the Springfield Womens Club received a grant for $3,000 at the summit.

The meeting was adjorned at 6:09 p.m.