URBAN CORE
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1999
CATHEDRAL TERRACE AUDITORIUM

Members Present
Phil Neary, Chair
JoAnn Smith
Padrica Mendez
Bill Stewart
Celia Miller
Flossie Brunson
Michael Bryant
Janetta G. Norman
Henrietta Hill-Murray
Rev. R. F. Langford
Carlon Robinson
Donna Rash-Sawyer

City Staff/Public/Media
Thelma Jackson
Pete Sutherland
Ken Avery
Brad Stanley
Asst. Chief Gordon Bass
John Draper
Ed Pratt-Dannals
Dennis J. Price
Silva Mitchell

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by the Chair Phil Neary at 5:10 p.m.

Verification of Quorum
A quorum was present

Presentations
Assistant Chief Gordon Bass, representing Chief Michael P. Edwards of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, discussed the Zone 5 COPS Unit and answered concerns expressed by many committee members as to why the COPS Units were sent to the Regency and Avenues Malls during the Christmas Holidays. Chairman Neary inquired as to the federal funding of the COPS Units and whether the malls fell within the federal guidelines for the COPS services. Asst. Chief Bass responded that they have to do what is best and service the majority. There was more criminal activity in the mall areas during that time. He also stated that one grant had expired and the officers can be utilized for calls for service. Asst. Chief Bass also stated that all the officers were not assigned to the malls and in Zone 5 the officers visited over 300 churches and informed them pf heightened crime activity and passed out crime prevention material.

Fred Forbes the Solid Waste Supervising Manager for Collection, Recycling, Yard Waste, Residential and Business Waste discussed services in the Urban Core. Celia Miller asked about the collection changes in the Myrtle Avenue area. Forbes responded that changes are taking place beginning January 25th. He explained that recycling and yard waste collection will be on the same day and that garbage collection will follow. Forbes indicated that flyers explaining the changes

would be distributed in the Myrtle Avenue area the next day. Padrica Mendez commended Mr. Forbes on the job they're doing but said she had been asking for concrete receptacles for years in LaVilla without success. Forbes responded that a decision was made about six years ago to stop purchasing concrete trash cans. He said they do still provide service for the receptacles and if residents wanted to purchase the concrete receptacles from a vendor the City would provide service. Carlon Robinson commended Mr. Forbes and his department for the fine job they are doing. Henrietta Hill-Murray and Dr. Janetta Norman expressed concerns over the handling of garbage cans in their respective areas. Mr. Forbes asked them to call the hotline and report problems. He also gave his phone number 387-8934 to call.

New Business

Chairman Neary introduced John Draper and Brad Stanley as candidates running for City Council and allowed them to make a few comments.

Henrietta Hill-Murray informed the committee her daughter, CPAC member Donna Rash-Sawyer, is running for City Council District 7.

Chairman Neary asked the group to review the minutes for approval. The minutes were approved.

Chairman Neary introduced Dennis Price of Angelo's Aggregate Material to discuss their proposed concrete crushing site on Talleyrand Avenue. Mr. Price said his company operates three crushers in the state of Florida. There was considerable discussion by the committee regarding the number of people to be employed and whether they would be hired from the area as well as how much dust and noise would affect the residents as a result of the company being located there. John Draper suggested barriers should be used for sound. Mr. Price indicated his company would plant trees and have a stockpile so the noise would bounce back to the company. Flossie Brunson stated the residents were concerned about noise and pollution impacting the area and that residents were not being hired from the area. Mr. Price said their intentions were to look in the area to hire people. John Draper suggested to Mr. Price that his employer take a proactive role and talk to the neighbors. He said they are afraid you'll "pencilwhip" it and it will be noisy. Michael Bryant asked if a sketch was available of what the facility looked like. Mr. Price responded that the engineer is working on it. When asked by Chairman Neary if he thought there was a problem proving need, Mr. Price said his company was putting a lot of money in it and the company has been pressing concrete since the 1960s in Michigan and they are in the road paving business.

Chairman Neary introduced William Dorsey of the Jacksonville Sports and Entertainment Board who discussed "Soccerfest 99" will be held at Altell Stadium on February 6, 1999. The United States versus Germany and the event will be televised live nationwide by ABC. The Germans will also be televising and have a "worldwide feed". Mr. Dorsey said when he asked the promoter why bring the event to Jacksonville, he was told the City of Jacksonville has a state-of-the art stadium. Mr. Dorsey announced a Sports Forum would be held on the 15th Floor of the Old City Hall Annex on February 18th and the community was invited to attend.

John Fleming, Division Chief of the Neighborhood Services Division, made presentations to Chairman Phil Neary and Vice-Chairperson Janetta Norman in appreciation for their outstanding service and contributions to the Urban Core CPAC.

Pete Sutherland, of Code Enforcement, reported statistics on the DART Program in the Urban Core. He stated that the Urban Core Team is the top producing team of the six and the inspectors average 1,000 inspections a month.

Carlon Robinson provided a report from the Nominating Committee. The committee recommended Dr. Janetta G. Norman for Chairperson and Bill Stewart for Vice-Chairperson. Michael Bryant moved to accept the recommendation from the committee. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.