URBAN CORE

CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary - Monday, January 22, 2001
5:00 PM - Cathedral Terrace Auditorium

Committee Members Present

Dr. Janetta Norman, Chairman
Donna Rash-Sawyer, Vice Chairman
JoAnn Smith
Ann Thompson
Carlon Robinson
Padrica Mendez
Louvenia Tippins
Flossie Brunson
Michael Bryant

Staff/Guests Present

Dr. Jeff Goldhagen
Jim Green
Ken Avery
Mike Miller
Jeffrey L. Smith
Selinda J. Keyes
Tony Salvatore
Karen Blutcher
Robert Connor
Ed Catellani
John Curtin
William D. Sweet

Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:15.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting summary from the November 27th meeting was approved with the necessary corrections.

Speakers

Jim Green of the Florida Department of Transportation reported to the committee on the five (5) year Tentative Work Program for the Urban Core (see attached). He reported that the I-10/I-95 Interchange will be approximately a two hundred million dollar ($ 200,000,000) project beginning construction in fiscal year 2005. He reported the following:

Main Street is a combination between the City and FDOT
Beaver Street Viaduct is underway
Riverside Avenue will begin in 2002
State and Union Street will be completed in about a year

He also reported that funding sources for several of the projects are still being identified and the Main Street paving will begin in 2002

Ed Castellani, Rapid Transit Project Manager, Jacksonville Transportation Authority reported on the Region Wide Corridor Selection. The corridor consists of the area 2 largest employment centers, the largest transportation for the disadvantage and will connect to regional centers.

The Corridor Study will be identifying problems and establishing goals and objectives with the assistance of the following committees:

Corridor Coordinating Committee (CCC)
Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
Citizen Planning Advisory Committees (CPACs)

Dr. Norman asked for volunteers from the CPAC to participate with the process. They are Louvenia Tippins, Ann Thompson and Vice-chair, Donna Rash-Saywer. Dr. Norman thanked the quest speakers for their presentations.

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Dr. Norman recognized the various Divisions/Departments and Agencies represented:

Reports

Jacksonville Economic Development Commission (JEDC), Mike Miller - Neighborhood Resources, reported that the JEDC will be administering the twenty-five million dollar ($ 25,000,000) Northwest Trust Fund. He stated that the Trust Fund would establish an Advisory Committee and public hearings will be held.

Duval County Health Department, Dr. Jeff Goldhagen - Director, advised the committee that he or a member of his staff would regularly attend the meetings and make presentations at the appropriate times.

Building Code Enforcement, Jeff Smith - Assistant Supervisor, reported that he has been assigned to attend the Urban Core CPAC meetings and would be available to make reports when necessary.

Riverside Avondale Preservation (RAP), Tony Salvatore, reported that he will be representing RAP at the Urban Core CPAC meetings.

Planning and Development Department (PDD), Ken Avery - Senior Planner, reported that the Neighborhood Action Plan for East Jacksonville is underway and the consultant, Jesse Wiles of Asset Property Disposition, Inc. had been retained and will make a future presentation to the committee.

Duval County School Board, Selinda Keyes - Regional Director, reported that the FCAT tests are coming up and that literacy is being encouraged throughout the District. William Sweet added that the Longbranch Elementary School has been adopted by Florida Rock Industries to develop a Community Center.

Jacksonville Sheriff Office (JSO), Lt. Robert Connor, advised that the walk beat officers and the bicycle officers were under his command and they were continuing their efforts to reduce crime in the area.

Nominating Committee

Ms. Flossie Brunson, Nominating Chair reported that the committee met and the recommendation was to reelect the current officers. She stated that the committee was confident that the officers would continue to work to improve the CPAC and they were also knowledgeable about the Better Jacksonville Plan.

The election results were unanimous. Dr. Janetta Norman, Chairman and Donna Rash-Saywer, Vice Chairman.

New Business

Joanne Thayer representing the Cancer Society reported that the "Relay for Life" event to raise funds and celebrate survivors of cancer has been scheduled for May 11th – 12th at Jean Ribault Sr. High School. She asked the CPAC to consider participating in this effort. Louvenia Tippins also encouraged all of the members to participate with this event.

Michael Bryant asked the Chairman to have the Downtown Development Authority to make a presentation regarding the update on the LaVilla projects. He also reported that the renovations on the Klutho Apartment building are ongoing and scheduled for completion during the fall of this year.

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Dr. Norman reminded the members of the change of location for the February meeting. It will be held at the Schell/Sweet Community Resource Center on the Edward Waters College Campus.

Old Business

The Celebration for Flossie Brunson. Dr. Norman expressed a concern regarding the inability to send a letter requesting contributions for the event.

John Curtin explained that the CPACs act as an arm of the Mayor's office and therefore it would not be appropriate to ask for donations via a letter from the CPAC. He also stated that the Mayor and the entire Neighborhoods Department supports the celebration and would be happy to assist in identifying a sponsor or sponsors to put on the event. He asked for a detailed budget of the expenses.

Michael Bryant also responded that FRESH Ministries would be available to assist.

Dr. Norman expressed her gratitude and asked the committee to meet on Wednesday to complete the budget and move forward with the event.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned 6:39 P.M.