

District #1 - Urban Core

Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

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

Chair: Christina Parrish 434-0959 ceparrish.CPAC@yahoo.com

Vice Chair: Gerre Walker 355-9757

Mayor's Representative: Carolyn Shehee-Williams 630-1636 cshehe@coj.net

Neighborhood Coordinator: Marilyn Fenton-Harmer 255-8236 mfharmer@coj.net



Meeting Summary Monday, January 9, 2012

Members

Christina Parrish, Chair	Gerre Walker, Vice Chair
Louvenia Tippins, Charter Member, Dist. 8 Rep.	Michelle Hughes, FreshMinistries
Greg Radlinski, The Parks at the Cathedral	Erica Trent, Pathways Charter High School
Gloria DeVall, Preservation SOS	Doug Vanderlaan, SPAR
Susan Noonan, Springfield Women's Club	Robert Ian Ownby, Sustainable Springfield

Excused - William & Victoria Hamilton, Yvonne Lane, Jim Green

Guests

Dan Copeland, JEA	Marvin Dunbar, The Hester Group
ECA for Council Member Lumb, Group 5 At-Large	Donna Barrow
Debra Tinsley	Dimitri Demopoulos
D. Merrick	John Nooney, RFA

Staff/Resource

Carolyn Shehee-Williams, Mayor's Liaison	Jonathan Bishop, DCPS
Emery Nauden, Planning	Nelson Beard, Municipal Code
Pam Roman, Recreation	Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, HAND - NIT

Call to Order

Chair Christina Parrish called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, established that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone.

Approval of the Minutes

Member Radlinski made a Motion to accept the minutes from the November 7, 2011 meeting. A second was made by Member DeVall. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed.

Guest Speaker

JEA - Dan Copeland. Conservation Specialist gave a PowerPoint presentation on JEA's ShopSmart Program that Judy Urback was supposed to present. Here are the details:

- It provides financial incentives for customers to:
 - Get a home energy audit, and
 - Make upgrades that will improve their home's energy efficiency.
- 100% rebate on diagnostic energy audit if homeowner makes upgrades that are projected to reduce energy consumption by 15%
- Low- or no-interest financing for upgrades through partner lending institutions
- Rebates on: window tinting, insulation, efficient heating and cooling systems, duct repair, solar water heaters, efficient lighting and bulbs and efficient appliances

JEA reps would like to speak at HOA meetings to:

- Identify residents who are interested in learning about ShopSmart
- Recruit a host and attendees for a "Home Energy Makeover Block Party"
- Host has home energy audit performed
- Then hosts a "party" with about 10 neighbors (homes may be similar)
- At party, auditor demonstrates audit process and shares results

JEA's goal is for residents to get energy audits (25% discount up front) and improve energy efficiency of homes (with the remaining cost of audit reimbursed after upgrades are made). Members had questions on the following:

- Who does the block parties and how many people do you need? A 3rd party private auditor does the parties and a minimum of 8 to 10 people.
- What is the cost of the Energy Audit, not the free one that JEA does? It can cost anywhere from \$300 to \$600. The initial Audit will be reduced by 25% (\$150 maximum). You can qualify to have the remaining 75% (\$600 maximum) refunded if you: decide to perform upgrades within 90 days of the energy audit and increase the efficiency of your home by 15% or more and have the installed efficiency improvements inspected by the auditor. If you meet all the above criteria and qualify, an additional refund will include costs associated with the auditor's inspection, testing and reporting up to total maximum rebate of \$1,000 per household. Please allow 6-8 weeks from the date of the audit or the Energy Efficiency Improvements installation to receive the Energy Audit refund from JEA. <http://www.jea.com/community/conservcenter/home/energyaudits.asp>
- How long has the ShopSmart program been in effect? Since November 2010.
- How many people in the Urban Core have signed up for this program? Not sure but thousands all over Jacksonville.
- A member asked about the cost of the Neighborhood Energy Efficiency Program on weatherization. It is free. Some members were familiar with the program.

Staff Reports:

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) Zone 1 – not present. For information call the JSO Zone 1 Sub Station at 924-5361 or JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org

Mayor's Representative – Carolyn Shehee-Williams had no report. She can be reached at 630-1994 or CSHEHEE@coj.net

Project New Ground - Marvin Dunbar, the Hester Group was not in attendance when the reports were requested. Project New Ground can be reached at 630-CITY (2489) or the Outreach Center at 357-8077.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – *Jim Green was excused since our meeting date was moved because of the New Year's holiday and he was at the Arlington CPAC meeting. Members expressed concerns related to closing of the Matthews Bridge for maintenance:*

- They would like more signs in the neighborhood to determine which way to travel and more signs before you come up on the detour.
- There have been a lot of traffic bottlenecks with the detour and they would like to see an Officer directing traffic in a way to avoid long traffic jams.

Jim Green can be reached at 360-5684 or James.green@dot.state.fl.us

Planning and Development – Emery Nauden reported on the following:

- The Planning Department has a new Director Calvin Burney.
- There is new legislation for night clubs and street cafes. Would you like to hear what this looks like at the next meeting? Yes.

Members asked about the follow up on a liquor license near a church. Planner Nauden talked about one on Baymeadows Road and the one in reference was on A. Philip Randolph – Celeb's. He was not sure but would check on this and set up the speaker for the next meeting. Emery Nauden can be reached at 255-7825 or enauden@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance – Zone 1 Supervisor Nelson Beard reported on the following:

- There are a total of 1894 active cases. This has dropped down since this time of year is not the growing season. At the last meeting members wanted to have the numbers by neighborhoods:
 - 29th & Chase 139
 - Brooklyn 18
 - Downtown 20
 - East Jacksonville 192

o Fairfield	49
o Hogan's Creek	49
o LaVilla	11
o Longbranch	135
o Midwest Side	468
o Moncrief	297
o Phoenix	70
o Springfield	437
o Tallyrand	6
o Springfield systematic	240

Members had questions and concerns on the following:

- Is there a way to get a list of all open cases by addresses to know where the concerns are as well as new condemnations? He was not sure but would check on this.
- They wanted to know how a location for a systematic inspection was decided – if an area is getting a lot of complaints he will take all his officers for 2 or 3 days to that area and go house by house to get all the violations and not just the ones called in. He reminded members that code enforcement officers cannot go past the front door and not in the back yard at all. They can walk around a vacant lot.
- Members were concerned with condemnations in Springfield. Currently only recent fires have been condemned but they have been condemning secondary structures like garages for roofs that are caving in but not main structures.
- There are a number of different streets named "Longbranch". Does the one mentioned with 135 cases border Gateway Mall? No, that is in another supervisor's area.
- They had concerns that inspectors were using ladders in order to see over fences. Supervisor Nelson stated that his officers had a few trucks or ladders and were not allowed to look over fences at all.

Please call in issues to 630-CITY (2489). Supervisor Beard can be reached at 255-7041. Municipal Code can be reached at 255-7000.

Parks – Pam Roman reported on the following:

- Two projects completed: Klutho Park's disc golf and the contract for New Town Success Zone Park. EWC donated the land for the park and will maintain it once it is complete.
- In December the Mayor introduced new non-motorized launches for kayaks. More are planned for Duval County since they take very little budget – about \$500.

Members had questions and concerns on the following:

- Members stated that there was a need for more motorized boat launches. Ms. Roman stated that they want to develop more motorized launches but parking is the problem. It takes a lot of space for cars with boat trailers.
- Members wanted to know the status of Confederate Park Playground. They have been told for the past 2 to 3 years that construction will start and the funding was in place.
Ms. Roman researched this and found that it was a CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funded project and the last 5 RFPs (Request For Proposals) the contractors did not fill out the required paper work and had to be re-bid. These are federal dollars and it is currently out for bid now and should be open for the next couple of weeks.
- With the reorganization the parks maintenance will be coming back under Parks instead of Public Works and hopefully that will help. Members wanted to know if a new director was hired. No, Parks is currently operating under Acting Director Kelley Boree.
- The question of other new kayak launches came up and who is in charge of this – Dave Roman is in charge but Waterfront Manager Tera Meeks is working on possible new kayak locations by checking them for safety and access. Others sites suggested were the Northbank, Southbank, Chelsea Street in Brooklyn and the RAM site. RAM will require permits and partnerships. Ms. Meeks has a list of possible locations. Members

wanted to know if a list of safe zones was being considered since the river can be dangerous and there should be access to get out of the river safely.

Pam Wilson Roman can be reached at pwilson@coj.net or 255-7902

Duval County Public Schools – Jonathon Bishop, Faith-based Initiatives and Mentoring Management in the Community & Family Engagement Office. He reported on the following:

- The high school grades have come out. A number of schools have improved.
- He talked about the importance of volunteering. He encouraged people to become a volunteer. Anyone who wants to volunteer in a school can apply on line at www.duvalschools.org; it takes about 3 days for a background check. Mayor Brown's Mentors requires a level 2 background check with a finger scan and training sessions.

Members had questions on the following:

- What other schools are graded with an F? Only the high school grades came out and Andrew Jackson's grade did not go up.
- What schools in the Urban Core/downtown are closed? He will check and let us know.
- Has anything changed with the Magnet application? No, and February 29th is the deadline. Magnet Mania will be Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Prime Osborn Convention Center.

Jonathan Bishop can be reached at 390-2511 or bishopj1@duvalschools.org

Neighborhoods - Neighborhood Coordinator Marilyn Fenton-Harmer reported on the following: Items not listed on the handout:

- The Ethics in a Nutshell by City Ethics Attorney Carla Miller is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012 but will keep you posted.

Upcoming Meetings/Programs/Events/Downtown

- **Mayor Brown's Reform Plan Approved by City Council** – the bill ([2011-0732](#)) was passed by a 16-1 Council vote on Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2011. The bill passed after much review by City Council and a citizens' review panel. The mayor signed the bill into ordinance on Dec. 22. This marks phase-one of the mayor's reform plan. In the second phase, the mayor will work closely with department heads to examine the new structure of government for maximum savings and efficiency measures. Mayor Brown introduced legislation in November as a major step towards saving taxpayer money and reorganizing the city's workforce to deliver public services more effectively and efficiently. Target savings range from 10 to 15 percent of the city's General Fund. These will come from a variety of areas such as energy costs, better fleet management and employee health care costs. For more information about the reform plan, visit the mayor's [reform plan page](#) at <http://www.coj.net/Mayor/Reform-Plan.aspx>
- **Neighborhoods Department** – Housing and Community Development Division – New name
- **MLK Parade** – Monday, January 16, 2012 – 10 a.m., road closures from 8 a.m. to noon. The parade will assemble at Jefferson Street and Water Street between 7 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Proposed Parade route and temporary road closures: The parade will go east on Water Street to Independent Drive. The parade will turn left on Newnan Street and proceed one block north to Bay Street. The procession will make a right turn on Bay Street and proceed east to Gator Bowl Way. The parade will end at EverBank Field's parking lot "J".
- As part of Mayor Alvin Brown's commitment to take Jacksonville to the next level, he is enhancing access to area waterways. The Mayor recently announced 12 newly-designated **kayak launch sites** along the St. Johns River and its tributaries, with plans to announce additional sites as they are developed. With the increased access, JaxParks now has 44 launch sites for motorized and/or non-motorized watercraft. The newly-designated sites are: Mandarin Park, 14780 Mandarin Road, County Dock, Nathan Krestul Park, 2001 LaVaca Road, Stinson Park, 4050 San Juan Ave., St. Johns Marina, 901 Museum Circle, Metro Park Marina, 4110 Gator Bowl Drive, Blue Cypress Park, 4012 University Blvd. N., Arlington Lions Club Park, 4233 Richard D. Gatlin Road, Reddie Point Preserve, 4499 Yachtsman Way, North Shore Park, 7901 Pearl St., Ribault River Preserve, 2617 Ribault Scenic Drive, Riverview Park, 9620 E. Water Street
- **First Wednesday Art Walk, February 1, 2012 – rain or shine**
http://downtownjacksonville.org/Marketing/First_Wednesday_Artwalk.aspx
- Farmer's Market at RAM (**FRAM**) will be open January 7th – Feb. 25, 2012. The **Riverside Arts Market** Will re-open March 3, 2012, located under the Fuller Warren Bridge, Downtown Jacksonville.
<http://www.riversideartsmarket.com/>
- **The Jacksonville Landing Market** – Fridays at The Landing from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Info: 353-1188
- **Project New Ground** is eager to answer your questions. Contact the City of Jacksonville: 630-CITY or the Outreach Center at 357-8077.

Phone Numbers - 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 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. City Council Chambers, 117 W. Duval St. 32202. For information contact 630-1377.

- Duval County School Board meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., Board Room, 1701 Prudential Dr., 32207. For information call 390-2000 or Duval County Public Schools www.duvalschools.org
- **Jacksonville Public Library** - 303 N. Laura St * Jacksonville, FL 32202 – 630-2665 or www.jaxpubliclibrary.org
- 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 (Search word Extension Office)
- JOBS - WorkSource Career Center at Gateway, 5000 Norwood Ave., Suite 2 open M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. or 924-1710 or www.employflorida.com

2012 Urban Core CPAC Meeting Dates

Monday, January 9, 2012 (Date change due to holiday)
Monday, February 6, 2012
Monday, March 5, 2012
Monday, April 2, 2012
Monday, May 7, 2012
Monday, June 4, 2012
July – No Meeting
Monday, August 6, 2012
Monday, September 10, 2012 (Date change due to holiday)
Monday, October 1, 2012
Monday, November 5, 2012
December – No Meeting

Marilyn Fenton-Harmer can be reached at 255-8236 or Mfharmer@coj.net

Chair's Report

Chair Parrish went over goals and subcommittees for 2012.

- Ethics training is tentatively scheduled for February.
- Chair Parrish asked members for feedback on what they would like CPAC to accomplish in 2012. Suggestions from members included:
 - Pollution in the St. Johns River, water quality, kayaking, safety on the river and fishing and contamination. The paper plant that is further south is a concern; CPAC will need more information in order to take a position.
 - Health – in a December Folio article there was a story on the spread of tuberculosis by a homeless person. The person was hospitalized with TB and state laws regarding follow up care were not followed. Members would like to get a guest speaker to talk about this and go one step further with information on what health resources are available for the homeless in the Urban Core, what problems may be a present in homeless centers and what health care is available for the homeless population. Neighborhood Coordinator Fenton-Harmer will set this up.
 - The CPAC needs a stronger political voice and by attending the City Council meetings the CPAC can be heard and taken more seriously.
 - Preservation of historic buildings
 - Members are concerned with the condition of Hemming Plaza, age of trees and how to get input on the renovation. They want to attract families and merchants to downtown and the park.

Members were reminded that everything goes through the Chair. If they are going to represent the CPAC the Chair needs to appoint the member to do so. Members discussed how they could get placed on a certain distribution lists for upcoming meetings like new legislation and other topics that the members want to work on. They talked about the 2011 subcommittees. Chair Parrish shared her thoughts on the same topics and setting up the following 2012 subcommittees.

2012 Urban Core CPAC Subcommittees

- Parks/Hemming Plaza – Chair Radlinski
- Urban Agriculture (Community gardens) – Chair Ownby – Members Tippins and Noonan
- Environment/Water Quality (including the St. Johns River and creeks) – Chair Vanderlaan
- Preservation – Chair DeVall
- TRUE Commission – Member Radlinski

Chair Parrish would like to be part of all the subcommittees.

Please remember that all subcommittee meetings have to be noticed, held in a public building and minutes taken. Having the subcommittee meetings at 5 p.m. before the meeting was a possibility. Contact Neighborhood Coordinator Fenton-Harmer for assistance with this.

Unfinished Business

- Member DeVall reported that the Mothballing legislation is still in committee and was deferred again on Tuesday. The Urban Core CPAC had sent a letter on Oct. 4, 2011 stating "CPAC unanimously passed a motion opposing Ordinance 2011-577, which would provide a sunset provision for the proposed "mothballing". We feel that the proposed mothballing process would help to protect historic buildings in our district."

New Business – none

Announcements - none

Public Comments

- Dorothy Merrick from The Plaza Condominiums wanted to bring to the CPACs attention that in May once the Courthouse moves and the City Hall Annex are vacant this will have a great effect on the merchants on Bay Street and the neighbors around them. Chair Parrish asked Ms. Merrick to consider becoming a CPAC member as well as Mr. Demopoulos from the Churchwell Lofts. It was stated that it is good that EverBank is coming to downtown but more residents and businesses are needed.

Chair Parrish thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on Monday, **February 6, 2012**
at 5:30 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street

Submitted by:

Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhood Coordinator
255-8236 or Mfharmer@coj.net