# Greater Arlington / Beaches ~ Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

# Regency Branch Library – 9900 Regency Square Boulevard 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 14, 2011

# Meeting Summary

## Members and Alternates

Michael Anania
James Blanche
Maria Condaxis
Michele Davis
Kacy Evans
Dave Evans
Lad Hawkins
Marcella Lowe
Ed Maxted

# Members Excused

Larry Belge Al Cherry Sandi Hibbard Florence Holcomb Johnny Holden Sherrie Jarnutowski Helen Ludwig Dewey Marshall Tami Moe

# <u>Guests</u>

Tamera Branam Tracey Arpen Lindsey Brock

# Staff/Resources

Shorty Robbins, Mayors Liaison Paul Davis, Planning and Development Jim Green, FDOT Debbie Menard, DCPS Elaine Lancaster, Code Compliance Supervisor Rosemary Wesolowski, Community Development Sgt. Robert Beers, JSO Zone 2

# Call to Order

Roger Sharp called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., the meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. It was established that a quorum was present.

Patty McPeek Jay Olchak Eddi Parsons David Peck Jerry Petoskey Patricia Schorr Roger Sharp Ben Tucker Kathy Walker

# Chairs Report

No report

## Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the February 2011 meeting summary was made. The motion was properly seconded and approved by the group.

## **Speakers**

Superintendent Ed Pratt-Dannals was scheduled to present to the D2 CPAC, but an emergency meeting in Tallahassee prevented the superintendent from attending. In his absence 3 key staff members presented to the group and addressed the following issues:

Doug Ayers, Chief of Operations, Duval County Public Schools – discussed the 5 top vendors from fiscal year 2010 of Duval County Public Schools, the vendors are: Blue Cross Blue Shield - \$90 million Chartwell Food Service - \$28 million (to feed the children) GCA (custodial services) - \$21 million (they maintain 16 million square feet under roof), Durham School Services (buses) - \$19.7 million with the various small bus services the total is \$40 million JEA - \$19.7 million IRS / Payroll Taxes - \$150 million Retirement Benefits - \$54 million Student books - \$8 million Atlantic Coast High School (to finish the school) - \$30 million EMTec (IT firm) - \$21 million

Fall 2011, there will be a district wide boundary review to further evaluate the available seats, inventory and surplus of classroom seats in Jacksonvile. There are at least 24 schools (mostly elementary schools) that the boundaries may change; 6 or 7 of the schools may be closed. DCPS is looking at the best way to use the seats that are available to students, get rid of the portable classrooms and establish boundaries for the schools as needed. There is only one new construction project that will be completed (for at least 5 years) that is the construction of a new K-8 in the Southeast District. DCPS does recognize that there is a need for renovation and maintenance in many of the schools. Most of the maintenance and renovations are all being completed using capital funds. Capital funds cannot be transferred (pursuant to Florida Statute) to operating funds to offset the shortfall. Beside the capital funds are needed to keep the aging schools safe and up to code. The average age of our school buildings is 45 years old, which is older than any other school district in Florida. We are currently moving forward with these projects in order to continue to provide a safe learning environment for our students.

Kathy Leroy, Chief Academic Officer, Duval County Public Schools – the CPAC asked Ms. Leroy to discuss neighborhood schools; we have neighborhoods that are declining and within those neighborhoods there tends to be poor academic performance, especially with adolescent males. This leads to lower high school graduation rates which leads to fewer employment opportunities which contributes to further deterioration of the economic status of the community & city. To reverse this trend the schools need the help of the entire city to rebound. One of the major problems that is occurring in Jacksonville (nationally and statewide too) is the ability for students to effectively read. In the fall, a new reading program will be rolled out. Educators recognize if children can read they can learn & do any thing. A part of this new program will include a mandatory 6 week summer school program for children that are not reading at their appropriate reading levels. This will be a city wide effort to improve the reading levels for all students.

There is also a need to stay competitive with teacher's salaries so Duval County can attract quality teachers to Northeast Florida. Currently, Duval County Public Schools has a contract with Teach for America; this contract allows DCPS to work with teachers that come from large universities and have trained to work with urban children.

DCPS recognizes that there are 3 high schools that are "F" schools, but stated that they also looked past the grading system and plan to address the problem from the beginning. DCPS has suggested to the state to allow them more time so DCPS can look at the feeder pattern and start working on the elementary and middle school students to bring up the grades. Also, now that all the high schools in the district have the acceleration programs the "brain drain" from many schools will decrease which will increase the grades at the neighborhood high schools. Over the past 3 years, DCPS has had the "Turn Around Model" in place in selected schools based on the challenges the schools face. At the selected schools this program has extended the length of the school day, provided additional training for teachers and extended the school year with a summer program called the "Superintendent Academy". Results have found the elementary schools in this program have improved significantly. As the elementary students progress into middle school, DCPS will continue to monitor their progress and the effectiveness of the program. DCPS has also recognized that they have a higher need for teachers that have a background working with urban children. Urban children tend to have deficiency in reading and math; these students often don't have the same background knowledge and support. DCPS will continue to evaluate the skills of the teachers and needs of the various students.

The CPAC also had an extended conversation in regard to spelling as a stand alone class. It was confirmed that DCPS no longer has spelling classes, but spelling is imbedded in the curriculum. To learn how spelling is imbedded into the curriculum, please visit the DCPS website and read about the comprehensive reading program.

The group also discussed national testing and DCPS is in favor of national testing. DCPS feels that national testing is the only way to fairly and accurately test, evaluate and compare education and students nation wide. At this time Florida's testing program is very rigorous compared to other states, so the abilities of our children aren't reflected accurately. We need to have the state remove the various state requirements on testing before we add a national testing system or else there will be too many layers of testing and this would create a new set of problems.

Merit pay was also covered. It was stated that currently the merit system of pay provides the most money to the top teacher in terms of performance. The teacher merit pay evaluation system is under review to make sure the merit pay is spread in a fair manner. Many of the challenged schools do not appear to be performing as high as other schools, but often times those school have significant increase in performance and those students tend to be more demanding on the teachers.

Career Academies are in all school and DCPS still offer a limited amount of vocational programs at high schools with certification. DCPS feels that all students (magnet,

college bound or vocational) need to have strong levels of math and science. Nationally all of our children need to do better in science and math in order to compete globally. Currently, the State of Florida has given Duval County Public Schools a B- as an overall grade.

**Mike Perrone**, **Chief Financial Officer**, **Duval County Public Schools** – informed the group that the DCPS receives 4 different major federal funding sources (ex. I.D.E.A. and Title 1) and state stabilization funds.

It was recognized that the largest expenditure for DCPS is Blue Cross Blue Shield (insurance). At this time all employees have their insurance paid for by DCPS, but to offset some of the expense. All staff members are required to pay out of pocket for their dependents, programs were decreased and out of pocket expenses were increased. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row DCPS will negotiate with the insurance carrier for additional co-pays to be added for the staff to help offset the expense of insurance. Alt this time the Retirement Fund is covered 100% by the school board. There is new legislation in the Governors budget that will require that the employee will start to contribute to their retirement fund.

This year DCPS will be faced with a \$97 million deficit and the school board is taking pro-active steps to resolve this issue. One of the options discussed is eliminating athletic programs and extra curricular activities. The expense for the athletic programs is \$4 million and expense for athletics and all extra curricular activities is \$6.5 million annually. The CPAC members voiced their concern for DCPS to keep athletic programs and extra curricular activities intact.

To learn more about the DCPS budget and express your concerns about possible future cuts, an invitation to attend one of the future Community Budget Meetings. The meetings will be held at:

Atlantic Coast High School on April 4<sup>th</sup>, Andrew Jackson High School on April 7<sup>th</sup> and Ed White High School on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Please visit Duval County School's website to learn more about the Community Budget Meetings or any school or program. <u>www.duvalschools.org</u>

## Subcommittee Reports

PARKS & RECREATION - Co-Chairs Dewey Marshall & Tami Moe - not present

**BEAUTIFICATION** – Chair Larry Belge – not present

**LAND USE & ZONING** – Chair Mike Anania – the subcommittee presented 5 motions to the full CPAC. The motions are:

- 1. Support for ordinance 2011-0155 (2011C-003) that would rezone approximately 5.4 acres on the east side of Mayport Road from RMD-A to CCG-2 to allow for consolidation of the parcels for redevelopment for intense commercial uses. Unanimous vote
- 2. Objection to AD-11-12 to allow a fence six feet tall in a residential area. Unanimous vote

- 3. Denial of Exception E-11-011 to allow a service garage for minor repairs on the shopping center outparcel. There was a lengthy discussion and the vote reflected 5 votes to support the application to allow the garage and 8 votes that opposed.
- 4. Denial of Exception E-11-015 to allow a one chair hair salon on the subject property. There was some discussion and the vote reflected 13 supported the motion to deny the application and 1 voted in support.
- 5. The group also voted to send another letter that mirrored the Southwest CPAC in regard to 2010-900. Unanimous vote

Copies of the LUZ letters are attached at the end of this summary.

**MEMBERSHIP** – Chair Pat Schorr – no report

**TRANSPORTATION** – Co-Chairs Roger Sharp and Richard Witzel – no report

**ENVIRONMENT** – Chair Lad Hawkins – informed the group that the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens will host A "Plein Air" Painting Event, April 7-9, 2011, Thursday and Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ~ Saturday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The admission is free to visit the Arboretum & Gardens and interact with 35 Florida landscape artists. The artists will be painting various scenes from the Arboretum. All of the paintings will be available for purchase at the Gala Reception and Sale on April 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. For complete details visit <u>www.abrushwithnature.org</u>

**T.R.U.E Commission** – Marcella Lowe – informed the group that the commission is reviewing vendor contracts to ensure that are being followed as closely as possible. The commission will make recommendations on how to enforce the contracts. The commission is also still looking at the banking fund. They are still waiting on a lot of information from SMG; if the information is not supplied soon the commission will turn to the Inspector General's report on SMG. The commission will also meet with the department heads and hear their budget proposals.

Craig Airport Advisory Committee – Dave Evans – no report

## Staff Reports:

**Mayor's Liaison** – Shorty Robbins, Recreation & Community Services – encouraged the group to attend one of the Mayor's Community Budget Meetings. The next budget meeting will be held at Jacksonville Beach on Wednesday, March 22, 2011. Duestch Bank presents Arts on the Go on March 18, 6-8 p.m. at the Balis Center; Great Outdoor Adventure's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Great Jacksonville Campout will be held March 26-27<sup>th</sup> at Losco Park. The Great Campout is an opportunity to learn how to camp. Tent rental is available and food will be provided for the first 500 individuals that sign up. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual JaxParks ... Get Out There Festival will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Hanna Park, Movies in the Park will kick off on Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at Jessie Dupont Park. Spring Break Camp will be held March 28 to April 1; to register for camp or view any of the events visit <u>www.jaxparkds.com</u>

**JSO-** Sgt. Beers – no report ~ available for questions

**DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS** – Debbie Menard – confirmed that she supervises 73 elementary schools and one universal academic challenge that all elementary schools face is getting the children to read.

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT** – Paul Davis – provided an update on the Planning and Development Departments link on the COJ website. The Planning and development Department is responding to new technology and all Zoning and Land Use applications must be completed on line. Starting in February the website will be open to the public; anyone will be able to review the applications that were submitted for Zoning and land Use.

**FDOT – Jim Green** – informed the group that re-installing the lights on the Hart Bridge is almost finished. Road construction on Beach Blvd. should be completed sometime this summer. The repairs on the Dames Point Bridge repair project will continue to the end of this calendar year. Arlington Expressway/Mathews Expressway (by Florida Rock Industries) the beam replacement will be completed later in the spring. Contracts are signed for the re-designation/signage change from 9A to 295. Paining of the Mathews Bridge will begin this fall and will continue to 2013.

**MUNICIPAL CODE** – Elaine Lancaster – completed a Sheriff's Walk with Assistant Chief Connor. Code compliance did a systematic inspection through the Woodland Acres and this neighborhood had 107 properties that were sited for violations. The Woodlands Apartment Community on 2600 Art Museum Drive has been purchased and Elaine has been working with the new owners. At this time the new owners are planning to completely restore and update the Woodlands; no buildings will be destroyed. After Elaine presented there was a request from the CPAC; they asked if Elaine could share the systematic inspection numbers in writing at future meeting. Elaine agreed and stated that she would work on getting this information to us.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** –Neighborhood Coordinator Rosemary Wesolowski – announced that the Housing and Neighborhoods Department would like to host free training class for Condo Associations on April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Ed ball Building, 214 N. Hogan St. and there will be free HOA training March 26 at the Southpoint Marriott – flyers are available in the back of the room. Pre-registration is required. COJ is working to update the website; the website should contain more information and be more interactive. If anyone has any suggestions or request for a guest speaker; please share your request with Roger, Pat or Rosemary. At the April meeting, Jeff Sheffield from NFTPO will present and Craig Morris from the Fort Caroline National Parks will be our guest speaker in May.

## Announcements

Marcella Lowe thanked all the CPAC members that attended the Alderman Park Civic Association political forum on February 17<sup>th</sup>. 24 of the 30 candidates attended the forum; which was a great success.

## **Public Comments**

(Comments are limited to 2 minutes)

Adjournment - There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

## The next meeting will take place on Monday, April 11, 2011 6:30 pm at the Regency Branch Library – 9900 Regency Square Blvd.

# GREATER ARLINGTON/BEACHES Citizens Planning Advisory Committee Chair: H. Roger Sharp Vice Chair: Patricia Schorr

March 14, 2011

To: W. Marc Hardesty, Chair; Planning Commission The Honorable John Crescimbeni, Chair; Land Use and Zoning Committee

#### Re: Support for Ordinance 2011-0155 (2011C-003)

The District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) supports the above ordinance that would rezone approximately 5.4 acres on the east side of Mayport Road from RMD-A to CCG-2 to allow for consolidation of the parcels and redevelopment for intense commercial uses.

Sincerely,

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H. Roger Sharp, Chair Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

cc: Hon. John Peyton, Mayor

William Killingsworth, Director, Planning and Development Department Sandy Simmons, Planning and Development Department

> City of Jacksonville HOUSING and NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT 214 N. Hogan St., 8ª Floor Jacksonville, Florida 32202 Rosemary Wesolowski District 2 Coordinator rosemary@coj.net (904) 255-8261 fax (904) 255-8264



GREATER ARLINGTON/BEACHES Citizens Planning Advisory Committee Chair: H. Roger Sharp Vice Chair: Patricla Schorr

March 14, 2011

To: W. Marc Hardesty, Chair; Planning Commission

#### Re: Denial of Exception E-11-015

The District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) recommends denial of the request to allow a one chair hair solon on the subject property.

While the CPAC wishes to support business activity in appropriate locations, there are overwhelming counter concerns about adverse impacts to the neighborhood in regard to traffic and appropriateness of the facility at this location.

Sincerely,

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H. Roger Sharp, P.E. Chair			
Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee			

cc: Hon. John Peyton, Mayor

William Killingsworth, Director, Planning and Development Department Sandy Simmons, Planning and Development Department



March 14, 2011

To: W. Marc Hardesty, Chair; Planning Commission

#### Re: Denial of Exception E-11-011

The District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) recommends denial of the request to allow a service garage for minor repairs on the shopping center outparcel.

While the CPAC wishes to support business activity in appropriate locations, there are overwhelming counter concerns about adverse impacts in regard to truck traffic and appropriateness of the facility next to a restaurant.

#### Sincerely,

H. Roger	Digitally signed by H. Roger S DN: cn=H. Roger Sharp, P.E., Sharp, Inc., ou=Vice Presiden	
Sharp, P.E.	email=roger.sharp@sharpfole Date: 2011.03.15 20:13:45 -04	

H. Roger Sharp, P.E. Chair Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

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cc: Hon. John Peyton, Mayor

William Killingsworth, Director, Planning and Development Department Sandy Simmons, Planning and Development Department

> City of Jacksonville HOUSING and NEIGHBORHOODS DEPERTMENT 214 N. Hogan St., 8<sup>a</sup> Floor Jacksonville, Florida 32202 Rosemary Wesolowski District 2 Coordinator rosemary@coj.met (904) 255-8251 fax (904) 255-8244



#### GREATER ARLINGTON/BEACHES Citizens Planning Advisory Committee Chair: H. Roger Sharp Vice Chair: Patricia Schorr

March 14, 2011

To: Folks Huxford, Zoning Administrator

Re: Objection to AD-11-12.

The District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) does not support the above Administrative Deviation to allow a fence six feet tall in a residential area.

The CPAC recommends that the request be denied and supports the staff recommendation to deny because the request is not consistent with the residential character of the neighborhood.

Sincerely,

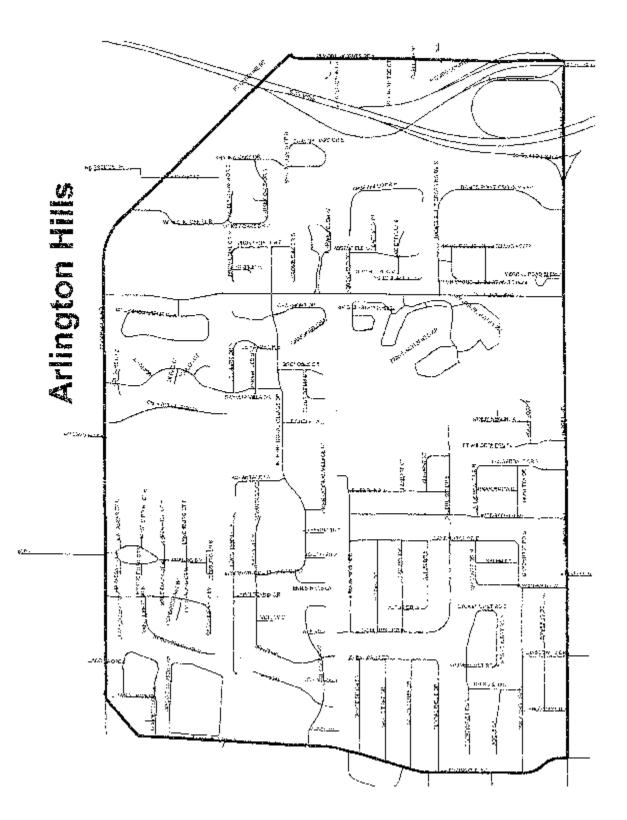
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H. Roger Sharp, P.E. Chair Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

cc: Hon. John Peyton, Mayor

William Killingsworth, Director, Planning and Development Department Sandy Simmons, Planning and Development Department

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#### Municipal Code Compliance Division Systematic Insps. Cases from 03/31/2011 to 04/08/2011

Code Section	Number of Active Cases	Number of Completed Cases
Neighborhood:	Arlington Hills	
Junk Vehicle	34	2
Nuisance	34	1
Residential	12	0
Zoning-Residential	1	1

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