

SOUTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 FCCJ Kent Campus - 3939 Roosevelt Blvd. – Jacksonville, FL
 Monday, April 13, 2009

MEETING SUMMARY

Members and Representatives

Chair Bruce Tyson, Trinity Ministries
Vice Chair Roseanne Vernon, Oak Hills
Cedar Hills Estates – Johnny Carter
Confederate Point – James Nolting
Crystal Creek HOA - Marilyn Lehman
FCCJ Cecil North – Paul McNamara

Members and Representatives

Gleaners Dispatch – Jim Kelly
Murray Hill Preservation – Len Burroughs
SMG Equestrian Center – Lesa Williams
Springtree Village HOA - Dewey Walker
Watermill Master Association – Thomas Martin
Westside Area Residents – Charles Kelley

Guests

Harold Peterson
Greg Rachal
Alberta Hipps
Rita Humphries
Media/Staff/Officials
Mayor's Liaison – Wight Greger
Housing & Neighborhoods – Mary Beth Ridderman
JSO - Sgt. Christopher Jackson
JSO – Officer Mary Davis
Recreation & Community – Shorty Robbins
Municipal Code Compliance – Jim Libroero
Municipal Code Compliance - Mike Chao

Excused

Charter Member – Don Ingram
Charter Member – Chuck Mann
Charter Member Jerry Spinks
Family Investment - Robert Smith
Lexington Square – Steve Shaffer
N. E. FL Equestrian Society – Olwen Busch
Timuquana Manor North – Alice Turknett
Timuquana Manor North – Polly Walker
Westwood - Jim Ross
Planning – Andy Hetzel

Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Bruce Tyson called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.. He thanked everyone for coming out weather conditions of heavy rain and tornado watches/warnings. Vice Chair Rosanne Vernon welcomed guests Harold Peterson from the West Jax Civic Association and Greg Rachal from Westside Business Leaders. A quorum was verified by Mary Beth Ridderman, Coordinator, Community Development, Housing and Neighborhoods.

Approval of the Meeting Summary:

Chair Tyson asked for approval of the March summary. A motion was made and seconded to accept the summary. The vote: all in favor, none opposed.

JSO Report: no report. A JSO officer was invited as a presenter.

Introductions and Acknowledgments: Chair Tyson introduced JSO Officer Mary Davis.

Presentation: JSO Officer Mary Davis presented information about the JSO Crime Free Multi-Family Housing Program. The program consists of three phases: an eight hour class for management and an inspection of the property by JSO with recommendations about lighting, landscaping, entrances, exits, window/door hardware, etc.. When property meets JSO's criteria, the third phase involves resident participation – JSO provides safety tips and tries to instill a sense of ownership. Eureka Gardens was the first in the city to certify. A total of 6 properties have been certified in the Westside, out of about 90 apartment properties in the Westside. A guest commented that Eureka Gardens is not safe even in the daytime and he is working to shut it down. A question was raised about the crime rate at Forest Apartments and Malibu Gardens. Officer Davis said they are not certified, and the managers do not communicate with her – she did not have the

information. A question was raised about the crime rate at Springtree, a subdivision. Officer Davis did not have the information available. Chair Tyson thanked Officer Davis for her presentation.

Public Comments:

- Marilyn Lehman announced that preliminary work has begun for the 2010 census. Census workers will be going door-to-door to verify addresses for the census which will be mailed out at a later date. Census workers will have identity badges and computers. If residents are not at home the address will be verified by an electronic system.
- Harold Peterson announced he is a member of the West Jax Civic Association, Inc.. They meet the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Julia Barr Crystal Springs Park. In June and July they will meet the second Monday. Interesting and information speakers are scheduled.
- Alberta Hipps announced an e-mail was distributed today about a no bid contract for the Trail Ridge Landfill. She said she appreciated the opportunity at last month's CPAC meeting to present the other side of the issue.
- Jim Kelly announced that on April 9, Mayor John Peyton attended the Gleaners Dispatch free food distribution site located at the Ramona Flea Market. The mayor spent a lot of time greeting volunteers and food recipients and they really enjoyed his visit.

• **Staff Reports and Announcements:**

- Mayor's Liaison: Wight Greger reported:
 - The COJ is launching an information portal, "Stay Home Jacksonville", with topics and links related to foreclosure prevention. Please visit the portal at www.coj.net and share the information with others who may need assistance.
 - Mayor John Peyton and Council Member Kevin Hyde are scheduled to make the announcement about "Stay At Home Jacksonville" at a press conference on Saturday, April 18.
 - The Economic Stimulus, The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, makes available \$800 billion to state and local governments, existing businesses, not-for-profits, faith-based and community organizations. Federal funds for individuals are available through tax credits, rebate programs and temporary assistance. For information visit www.coj.net , call 630-CITY (904-630-2489) or send e-mail to stimulus@coj.net.
 - The Economic Stimulus Package made funding available for energy efficiency and green initiative programs.
 - Kerri Stewart is in charge of the city's stimulus programs.
- Council Members' Reports: No representative in attendance. No reports.
- Duval County School Board – No representative in attendance. No report.
- Planning and Development – Andy Hetzel asked to be excused from the meeting. Member Len Burroughs commented that is the first time he can remember that Andy has missed a meeting and commended him for his attendance.
- Municipal Code Compliance – Jim Libero reported the Zone 4 team receives 350-468 cases each month. They have completed 15 systematic inspections this year – they are only required to complete 14. If you know of any area that needs a systematic inspection or to report concerns about possible code violations, please call 630-CITY.
- Recreation and Community Services – Shorty Robbins announced
 - Copies are available of the Spring Activities Guides for parks and the JaxParks Aquatics Programs brochures.

- Vouchers (600) are available for summer camp, on a first come-first served basis. To receive a voucher, children must qualify for the free or reduced lunch program. The application for the voucher is available at www.jaxparks.com.
- Several pools are being retrofitted to prepare for summer.
- Movies in the Park begins the Spring Series on Friday, May 1, 6:30p.m. at 1123 Prudential Dr., Treaty Oak Park. The movie begins at dusk. Bring your own blankets, chairs and food or purchase pizza and shave-ice from vendors. Call 630-3570 for more information.
- Duval County Health Dep't. – No representative. No report. Jocelyn Turner may be contacted at 253-2037.
- FCCJ Cecil North – Paul McNamara reported
 - FCCJ Cecil North is in the design phase for a LDL skills pad as well as an aviation coding and maintenance overhaul hangar.
 - The Cecil Field Air Show is April 18-19 from 10 a.m. -5 p.m.. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children.
- Jacksonville Aviation Authority – No representative was in attendance. No report.
- Florida Dep't. of Transportation – No representative. No report. Milton Locklear may be reached at 360-5686.
- Community Development – Mary Beth Ridderman announced
 - National Community Development Week is April 12 – 18. The kick off was today and the Community Development Division is involved in activities each day, including the Fair Housing Symposium on April 18.
 - Her written report is available and each month includes information with COJ announcements, free movies and a variety of other activities offered by the COJ. Ms. Ridderman may be reached at 255-8260.

Subcommittee Reports:

- Education, Youth and Recreation – Chuck Mann was excused. Bruce Tyson reported Mr. Mann had called with information to be announced at the meeting.
 - A hearing is planned on April 14 to review a request to increase the size of the Keaton Center. The Keaton Corrections' Jacksonville Community Service Center is a a non-secure drug treatment facility/halfway house located at 2020 Dahlia Rd. (near 12th Street and Edgewood Avenue). The proposed plan will increase the number of residents/clients from 200 to 600 and will add four buildings on the same site. Plans for expansion, if approved, will affect the quality of life in the neighborhood. Concerns for too many buildings on the existing site, insufficient parking for staff and guests, increased traffic due to vendors, guests and staff; and increased numbers of unsupervised inmates in the neighborhood.
 - Nursing homes are lobbying to discontinue the Florida Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, a volunteer program that advocates for those living in long term care. The ombudsman program operates at no cost is involved for taxpayers or the nursing homes. Mr. Mann asked members and guests to contact their State Representatives and advocate to keep the ombudsman program.
 - Mr. Mann may be reached at 387-0636.
- Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission – Tom Martin reported
 - He has not received an appointment to the TRUE Commission, but he has continued to attend meetings.
 - At the last meeting, information was presented and discussed about the Trail Ridge Landfill. TRUE has not yet decided to take a position – the meeting was one person short of a quorum, so the issue could not be voted upon.

- The TRUE Commission is working on issues related to contract procurement, contract management and contract compliance. They also discussed the use of a bank fund to purchase items with a life expectancy of five years or less.
- They will be reviewing the SMG contract in the near future.
- Economic Development – volunteers are needed.
- Beautification, Community Facilities and Services – Johnny Carter reported
 - Activities for Paint the Town are scheduled for April 22 -25 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day. Volunteers are needed to paint 30 homes. Volunteers report to Paint the Town Headquarters located at the corner of Phoenix Street and 21st Street. Mr. Carter may be reached at 786-2535.
- Land Use, Zoning and Transportation – Rosanne Vernon provided copies of the St. Johns River Water Management District *Recreation Guide to District Lands*.
- ShAdCo - Alice Turknett was excused.
 - Rosanne Vernon announced copies of the ShAdCo K report are available.
 - ShAdCo Sector J meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Ortega Methodist Church.
 - Sector K meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Lane Wiley Center.
 - ShAdCo Sector L meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Maxville Community Center.
- Membership - Rosanne Vernon had welcomed guests earlier in the meeting. She thanked them for attending and encouraged members to bring a guest to the next meeting.
- Safety – Bruce Tyson announced volunteers are needed for the subcommittee. Hurricane season is approaching and he asked everyone to begin preparing by picking up loose items in their yards. Presentations are scheduled for the SW CPAC in May and June to discuss hurricane preparedness from financial and safety aspects.
- Chair's Report - Chair Tyson thanked everyone for coming out in such bad weather.
 - The issue of where Assisted Living Facilities may be located needs to be researched by members in order to vote and make a recommendation to the City Council Members.
 - The Trail Ridge Landfill is a huge issue and City Council Members want to hear from you. Research the information and let City Council Members know your position – they need your input. Tom Martin said the City Council had a special meeting on April 9 and another is scheduled for April 23 to address the land fill.

Old Business/New Business

- Len Burroughs said a well-attended meeting was held last week about the privatization of COJ tennis facilities. He said the proposed change would mean an increase in fees from about \$100 per year to \$500 or more each year. Boone Park was originally sold to COJ and the requirement was to make it available for the public but the increased price would price most people off of the courts. Mr. Burroughs said about 200 people attended the meeting and most do not want privatization and feel if the properties, particularly Boone Park, were managed better, the COJ could make money using COJ employees instead of privatizing. He may ask the CPAC to write a letter opposing the privatization of the courts. Shorty Robbins said she is available to answer questions – none were asked.
- Lesa Williams announced The Equestrian Center hosts national and regional events. The Equestrian Center was named second best in the country. A guest said no information is ever available/no television/radio announcement for events at the Equestrian Center. Lesa Williams replied SMG is not allowed to advertise, but she has invited the press but no one shows up. Alberta Hipps said The Westside Chamber of

- **Adjournment**

A motion was properly made by Charles Kelley and seconded by Len Burroughs. Chair Bruce Tyson adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m..

The next SW CPAC meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 11 at FCCJ Kent Campus, 3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Building E-112F. For more information, please contact Bruce Tyson at 771-4924 or Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260. CPAC meetings are open to the public.

Summary prepared by Mary Beth Ridderman, Coordinator, Community Development Division, Housing and Neighborhoods Department.

The following provision is required by Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Housing and Neighborhoods

April 13, 2009 Report

Prepared by Mary Beth Ridderman

April is ASPCA's Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month

- **Fun with the Suns April 15, 2009 Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville** – Seniors are treated to a baseball game at the beautiful Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville. For more information call 630-7392
- **Florida Dept. of Transportation** – A Public Meeting about the SR 200/US301 Bypass will be held on Tuesday, April 28 at the Baldwin Senior Center, 850 N. Center St., Baldwin. Exhibits 4:30 – 6:30, presentation will be held at 5:30 with opportunity for public comment. For more information, please contact David Anderson at 1-800-749-2967 or david.anderson@dot.state.fl.us
- **Senior Brain Bowl April 29, 10 a.m. UNF University Center**
- **World of Nations Celebration April 30 – May 3, 2009 Metropolitan Park**
<http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation+and+Community+Services/Special+Events/World+of+Nations/Default.htm> Join your friends and neighbors on an exciting trip around the globe at the 17th Annual World of Nations Celebration. Admission is \$5 (One-Day Ticket to the World) and \$7 (Two-Day pass). Children ages 3 and under are free. The Friday night International Party is also free. For more information e-mail events@coj.net or call 630-3690.
- **JazzFest** May 21-24, 2009 The 2009 Jacksonville Jazz Festival will feature renowned jazz performances in the heart of downtown Jacksonville on Laura Street, various downtown businesses and historic buildings. Laura Street will be transformed into a jazz club atmosphere with multiple stages of entertainment, Art in the Heart Art Show & Sale, Wine Down Tasting Experience, jazz exhibits, children's educational activities and more.

Housing and Neighborhoods Department:

- The Housing and Neighborhoods Department sponsors free Foreclosures Prevention workshops. To register, call 630-2489.
- The Neighborhood Stabilization Program, authorized by the [Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 \(HERA\)](#), will assist state and local governments in the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed properties and increase the availability of affordable housing for low, moderate and middle income households.
- Community Development - Events are planned for every day of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Week (April 12 – 18.) The Kick Off will be held at ARC Duval at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 13. Other events will be held at the Community Thrift Store, Jacksonville Housing Authority, Metro Kids and the Independent Living Center at the Emmett Reed Center. For more information, please contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260.

Jacksonville Journey: February Report Summary to City Council: (1) The Oversight Committee met with 7 members present and there were two sub-committee meetings (2) TEAM UP programs had over 1800 children attend on a daily basis (3) Early Learning programs have identified the 25 locations (4) Intramural Sports Leagues began operating programs at eight sites (5) Twenty-eight organizations were given final approval to operate Summer Camp (6) Ex-offender contracts were executed (7) A map has been created illustrating journey programs and is located on the website (8) JSO presented specific data at the JJOC meeting (9) Ft. Caroline Club Community Center was removed from the Journey process based on public input. The next meeting of the Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee Meeting is Thursday, April 30, 2009 at 3 p.m. at the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan St., Room 851. This meeting will be a budget workshop. Contact: Tina Rehmel (904) 630-1273. For more about the Jacksonville Journey, information, please visit <http://www.coj.net/Mayor/Jacksonville+Journey>.

For interactive JSO crime maps <http://maps5.coj.net/crimestatsdiscl.asp?sJAxGIS=Y>

To volunteer

<http://apps.coj.net/MayorsCrimeInitiative/VolunteerApp/AddVolunteerAppPage1.aspx>

Free things to do in Jacksonville:

Check out the Jacksonville Symphony – Jacksonville’s libraries offer musical selections

<http://jpl.coj.net/coll/jso/jso.html>

Plan a day trip? The SE Regional Library at 10599 Deerwood Park, houses the Freedom Shrine, a collection of 30 of the most important and historic American documents, including the [Declaration of Independence](#), the [Constitution of the United States](#) and the [Gettysburg Address](#) and Martin Luther King’s [I Have a Dream](#) speech. <http://jpl.coj.net/coll/fs/index.html>

Enter the library’s Dog Photo Contest for kids ages 12-18, Deadline April 1 – 30. For more information call 630-0673.

See a free movie

- o April 15, 6:30 – 9 PM, Book Discussion & Movie [Call of the Wild](#) at Webb Wesconnett Branch Library Auditorium
- o April 17, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Movie - [White Fang](#) at Webb Wesconnett Branch Library
- o April 17, 6 – 10 p.m. (movie starts at dusk), Treaty Oak Park, 1123 Prudential Dr. Come and enjoy a family movie under the stars at Treaty Oak Park. For more information call 904 630-4100
- o April 21, 6:00 – 8:30 PM, Movie - [Snow Dogs](#) at Webb Wesconnett Branch Library Auditorium
- o April 24, 2009 6pm - 10pm (movie starts at dusk) Movies in the Park, Treaty Oak Park. 1123 Prudential Dr.. For more information call 904 630-4100.
- o May 01, 6:30 p.m. (movie starts at dusk) Movies in the Park, Treaty Oak Park, 1123 Prudential Dr. For more information call 904 630-4100
- o May 08, 6:30p.m. (movie starts at dusk) Movies in the Park, Treaty Oak Park, 1123 Prudential Dr. For more information call 904 630-4100

Other free things to do:

- o Swim at the Cecil Aquatics Center - an indoor facility open year-round.
- o Walk at Tillie K. Fowler Regional Park (Formerly Westside Regional Park), 7000 Roosevelt Blvd. Dogs on leashes are welcome.
- o Stroll at Ortega Stream Valley @ Ringhaver Park, 5198 118th St. If you have a canoe – you can launch it there! Dogs on leashes welcome!
- o Bike or hike along Jacksonville-Baldwin Rails to Trails, East Entrance: two-tenth mile north of Commonwealth Ave. on Imeson Road. Dogs on leashes welcome!
- o Get sand in your shoes at Huguenot Memorial Park, 10980 Heckscher Drive

Phone Numbers

- City Link- 630-CITY (630-2489) Please provide the exact address and obtain a tracking number with estimated date of completion.
- 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 call 630-1377
- Duval County School Board meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., First Floor Board Room, 1701 Prudential Dr., 32207. For information call 390-2000
- 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) [Http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu](http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu)
- Real Sense Prosperity Campaign - www.realsensejax.org – 632-0600 (United Way 2-1-1) – Help with money matters and tax returns
- JOBS - WorkSource Career Center at Gateway, 5000 Norwood Ave., Suite 2 open M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 924-1710. Each Thursday morning the Southside WorkSource Center, 6800 Southpoint Pkwy., #950 has the “Perfect Job Seminar” Do you have the tools to find it? For information call 997-3100 or www.employflorida.com or www.worksourcefl.com or 356-JOBS (5627) and the City of Jacksonville Jobs recording at 630-1144 or www.coj.net

If you have questions please contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or Marybeth@coj.net