

District #1 - Urban Core

Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

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

Chairperson: Rex Williams 401-8138 rexwilliams2006@hotmail.com

Vice Chairperson: Louvenia Tippins 355-8841

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

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



Meeting Summary Monday, August 4, 2009

Members

Rex Williams, Chairman

Catherine Morton, 12th Street Loyalty

Dr. Janetta Norman, Charter Member

Beverly Toney, Fresh Ministries

Betty Chance, Planet Watch

Louvenia Tippins, Vice Chair

Yvonne Lane, Bridge the Gap

Janice Love, Eastside Assn.

Johnny Swain, Grand Boulevard

Doug Vanderlaan, SPAR Council

Guests

Mark D. Holmes

Greg Bruce, The Hester Group

Joanne Kazmierski, JAXPORT

Russell Libira, WRS Compass

Anthony McGlone, The Hester Group

Rex Williams Jr.

Staff/Resource

Carolyn Shehee-Williams, Mayor's Liaison

JSO Zone 1 Sgt. Yul

Milton Locklear, FDOT

Emery Nauden, Planning

Shorty Robbins, DRCS

Jocelyn Turner, DOH

Jack Swiadek, DOH

Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, HAND - CDD

Wight Greger, Director HAND

Kenny Logsdon, HAND - CDD

Ken Avery, Planning

Adrienne Lathrop, Planning

Elaine Lancaster, Municipal Code

Antonio Nichols, DOH

Mike Miller, JTA

Excused

Flore Johnson-McPherson, Councilman Brown, District 10 and Councilman Corrigan, District 14

Call to Order

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street with a moment of silence and welcomed everyone.

Approval of the Minutes

Member Dr. Norman made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 1, 2009 meeting. A second was made by Member Vanderlaan. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed.

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Sgt. Yul reported that they were currently working on a deployment for pan handling. Zone 1 has received numerous complaints on panhandling and in just a few hours 10 arrests have been made. It is a nuisance crime. There have been a lot of crimes involving robberies. Be aware of your surroundings with your car and house. There have also been robberies to businesses and home invasions. Do not leave anything in the car. GPS devices sitting on the dash are in invitation and welcome sign to smash and grab. Place them in the trunk of your car. Members asked about National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009. SPAR will hold their event at 3rd and Main Street at 6 p.m. Please come and join them. The other events for National Night Out in the Urban Core are at the Parks at the Cathedral with an Ice cream social and Northshore turning their lights on. Chairman Williams stated his car was stolen at the NW Library but was able to get it back with only the spare tire stolen. For information call the JSO Zone 1 Sub Station at 924-5361 or JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org

Guest Speakers:

Chairman Williams introduced **Councilman Don Redman**, District 4, who can be reached at 630-1394 or Redman@coj.net, **Councilman Dr. Johnny Gaffney**, District 7, who can be reached at 630-1384 or Gaffney@coj.net and **Councilman Warren Jones**, District 9, who can be reached at 630-1395 or Wajones@coj.net. They all went over their District boundaries and were all pleased to be at the UC CPAC meeting. Councilman Redman spoke on downtown panhandlers. He gives the pan handlers a green card which states where to go to get help and something to eat. Do not give them money. It is against the law to panhandle. JSO will give them a warning the first time and the second time a ticket. Councilman Dr. Gaffney spoke on being accountable to you the constituents, his boss. If there is no neighborhood association one needs to be formed. He wants to see his constituents empowered. If there is a problem he will call on the right department or agency to get it fixed. He is very aggressive to clean up District 7. Councilman Jones spoke about the upcoming Ordinance 2009-401 on bus shelters that Mike Miller from JTA will be discussing. He hopes that it will be approved by the City Council in a couple of months. They all acknowledged receiving Member Vanderlaan's e-mail on the cave-in and old infrastructure in Springfield. Members thanked the Councilmen for attending the meeting. They all then heard and answered questions by the UC CPAC Membership:

1. Member Vanderlaan thanked them for their words on the pot holes but the Urban Core infrastructure is old and decaying and short term patches are spending more tax payer dollars instead of actually restoring or building infrastructure. Is there any stimulus money to invest in infrastructure?
2. Member Vanderlaan also wanted to know about gambling parlors or internet cafes. Is it a state issue? Legally couldn't the State clarify the law? They are showing up all over the city with a legal loop hole that won't allow JSO to shut them down. This seems to be a poor way to run government. If shops are not paying anything why would the state want this? Do they have the proper license to operate? Does it follow the rules? They just move in equipment, open up the doors and get the profit without giving anything to the city? What about zoning rules and regulations? We need to bring this to our state legislators if nothing can be done locally. The newspaper article says there are 36 of them.
3. In the Planet Watch neighborhood near Brentwood, they have dug up roads inconsistently throughout the neighborhood all the way to 20th Street. They have not seen one yellow line, curb or continuous sidewalk in 30 years. How can they get this done? The BJP (Better Jax. Plan) should have taken care of this.
4. With the toughest budget in recent memory why hasn't the courthouse been put on hold considering it's a \$300 million dollar project? BJP and other funds have to be set aside for this project only. They also want to get the courthouse off the riverfront and put that property back on the tax roles if they are able to sell the building.
5. With the courthouse contracts how many jobs will go to local people?
6. Is there a way to get an amusement park or some tourist attraction to have something for children to do and have more jobs?
7. Mark Holmes, 1640 Tyler Street asked Councilman Jones how he can get his yard fixed. They dug in front of his house and there is still no grass and nothing has happened for weeks. Councilman Jones said the contractor is required to fix it. He asked Mr. Holmes to call him.
8. Members mentioned that School Board Member Stan Jordan wants to sell the DCPS building on Prudential Dr. It is a 7-member Board and they will have to vote on it. Now is not the time to try and sell the Duval County School Board Building while values are depressed.
9. Contractors that the City of Jacksonville is hiring to cut and clean nuisance lots are not following through with the jobs that they are getting paid for. This needs to be looked into and the contractors need to be held accountable.
10. Members do not want to see the Eastside Library close since it is utilized by the youth and community especially in the summer months when school is closed.
11. Members remarked that no-one wants to pay high taxes but residents don't want to give up services. The budget is a very complicated issue. There are concerns for services in the Urban Core and to raise the millage takes courage.

12. Is there any stimulus money to invest in infrastructure?
13. The CPACs need the neighborhood coordinators to run keep them in place and to have things run smoothly. It is essential to keep them to keep the CPACs viable.

Staff Reports

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

JTA – Mike Miller, Director of External Affairs, showed a video on Legislation 2009-401 that Councilman Jones introduced in his remarks on bus shelters. The video can be seen on the JTA website www.jtafla.com Council members Jones, Redman and Gaffney are all cosponsors of this bill. The lack of bus shelters is among the top six suggestions by riders and non riders from a JTA survey and thus bus shelters are needed. Jacksonville averages 115 days of rain and 53 days with temperatures at or above 90 degrees. This bill will allow JTA to add 750 new solar powered shelters during the next 15 years with no money from taxpayers. It will save nearly \$10 million in capital and maintenance during the 15 years. Voice your comments to all the City Council members by calling 630-1377. Members had questions on the following: The time line on the vote by City Council – Planning is looking at zoning for the advertised shelters and it expects to be on Aug. 13 then to LUZ on the first Tuesday in September and possibly to the full Council the second week in September. The time line is short. Where will the shelters be placed and are there priority areas? JTA rapid system had 4 main corridors: North: from the Rosa Parks station to Gateway, Southwest: Roosevelt to Orange Park Southeast: I-95 or US 1 and East: Beach and Atlantic Blvd. and that's where they will be located. There will be no advertised shelters in residential areas. Some of the shelters will replace some of the older ones but this will allow JTA to free up existing budget dollars and put more shelters up. There is a back log of 75 shelters but in order to qualify for a shelter there has to be 24 passengers per day at that stop. The Eastside Looper was cut to Gateway and this is needed for the neighborhood. There will be a meeting on Sep. 5 on the new round of efficiencies to balance the budget by making changes to the routes. Come and voice your concerns. For more information call 630-3100 or www.jtafla.com

Mayor's Office – Project New Ground – The Hester Group Consultant Greg Bruce introduced Anthony McGlone and reported on the following:

- The clean up is expected to start in November.
- At the end of August or the beginning of September the Community Office will open.
- They still need 3200 access agreements.
- They just finished Neighborhood Fairs in the community.
- They are conducting samplings near the Brown's Dump and Springfield area.
- There will be meetings in the fall on what remediation will look like and answer questions with the EPA. For more information call 630-CITY,

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – Milton Locklear reported on the follow up from last month's meeting:

- At MLK and Wilson Ave there is a left turn with concerns. The crashes were not as high and currently there are no funds for directional signals but will put up a temporary barrier.
- Maintenance concerns are being looked at on Bay Street, Myrtle Ave. and I-95 as well as a few other areas with lighting on Park Street.
- The Planet Watch Neighborhood tree concerns were sent to the City of Jacksonville Urban Forester.
- The Vision 2035 Long Range Plan meeting will be Aug. 25 will begin at 5:30 p.m. and at 7p.m. for public input on future plans, transit, highways and connections at the FDOT Office.

Milton Locklear can be reached at 360-5686 or Milton.Locklear@coj.state.fl.us

Planning and Development – Ken Avery reported on a rezoning application:

- 2009-523 PUD – Phelps Street - with companion land use amendment 2008C-030
Owner Sargents Seat Cover Company currently has 2 divisions one located at 44 East 1st Street and the other at 1036 Hubbard St and the new property which was the former Eastern Star Temple will need to be rezoned. The purpose of this PUD is to combine all three properties under one Land Use and PUD zoning which will allow for the continuation and expansion of Sargents Seat Covers, Inc. The properties are contiguous.
- Planning Technician Adrienne Lathrop gave an update on the Urban Core Visioning Plan:
 - The Steering committee was formed over a year ago and the recommendations from the Plan will be going to City Council for a resolution.
 - The City of Jacksonville Planning Departments Website is: <http://www.coj.net/Departments/Planning+and+Development/Community+Planning/Visioning.htm>
 - To place comments on the plan go to <http://www.zyscovich.com/>
 - They hope to have the Plan to City Council by December with notices of upcoming meetings posted at City Hall.
 - Adrienne Lathrop can be reached at 630-1446 or alathrop@coj.net
- Planner Emery Nauden requested members to contact the Planning Department about questions or concerns on boarding and rooming houses. Planner Nauden can be reached at 630-0258 or enauden@coj.net

Municipal Code Compliance – Zone 1 Supervisor Elaine Lancaster had no report. Supervisor Lancaster can be reached at 391-3520. Property Safety can be reached at 391-3600 or psafety@coj.net

Recreation and Community Services – Shorty Robbins reported on the following:

- Joseph E. Lee Day the Father of Parks was started when Mr. Lee looked at the Boston Commons green space for a park for children and this event celebrates his birthday. There will be 1750 campers with all day events at Ed White High School on Saturday August 6, 2009. Member Vanderlaan asked if there was some way that the City of Jacksonville could do what ever the Boston Commons Park does about goose droppings. Shorty said they had signs that state do not to feed the animals and birds.
- Sat. Aug 8 there will be 1800 kids at Cecil Pool for a Summer Swim meet.
- The First and Goal Event for Pop Warner teams will be at Metro Park on Aug. 8
- Recruiting for the Intramural Leagues 3 on 3 basketball and dance teams is starting.
- Registration for Club Rec after school program starts next week. It is a program from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. that is free at staffed community centers. For more information go to www.jaxparks.com

Shorty Robbins can be reached at 630-3570 or shortyr@coj.net

Department of Health – Jocelyn Turner, Director of Community Relations & Health Promotion, reported on the following:

- There will be a Diabetes Workshop on Saturday, September 19 at the Moncrief Senior Center. There will be cooking tips, gift bags, breakfast and lunch and it is free but please register by calling 253-1800.
- At Edward Waters College on Saturday, September 19 there will also be an Infant Mortality Awareness event with Tonya Lewis Lee.
- On Saturday, September 26 there will be a 5K Walk for Black Infant Health at Randolph Park.

Jocelyn Turner can be reached at 253-2037 or Jocelyn_Turner@doh.state.fl.us

Environmental Health – Antonio Nichols and Jack Swiackek handed out a survey for members to rank on environmental, social and service concerns. The City received the grant for the areas in the Urban Core and Northwest CPAC boundaries. The grant was for EPA Environmental Justice. In order to make sure that the grant meets the needs of the community they were asked to turn them in at the end of the meeting. They will be putting together an Advisory Board If anyone would like to become a member please let them know. They want to work on solutions. They plan to work with EWC, Florida State College (formally FCCJ) and churches. The project will include a healthy home assessment. They will be working with an environmental specialist to

identify hazards and how to eliminate them like older homes with drinking water wells. With the survey they asked members how many voted on home concerns - 7 votes and service concerns - 7 votes. To learn more call 253-1285. There will be a sign up sheet if you are interested in a healthy home assessment for the first 25. Members asked if they were available to speak to neighborhood groups. Yes, please call Antonio Nichols at 253-2401.

HAND – Community Development Neighborhood Coordinator Marilyn Fenton-Harmer reported on the following:

Mayor Peyton's Budget information can be viewed at www.fixitnow.cc

The **City Council** has set up an e-mail address to send in **budget suggestions** at budgetsuggestions@coj.net

Housing and Neighborhoods Department:

- The Housing and Neighborhoods Department sponsors free Foreclosures Prevention workshops. To register, call 630-2489.
- A new website is available: Stay Home: Jacksonville Foreclosure Prevention. *This website is designed as a resource to help connect you with the appropriate agencies for assistance. The City of Jacksonville does not directly provide counseling or legal assistance but will help put you in touch with someone who can help with your mortgage situation.*
<http://www.coj.net/Departments/Housing+and+Neighborhoods/Stay+Home/default.htm>
- 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. For information on Jacksonville's economic stimulus efforts, please send an e-mail to stimulus@coj.net or call 630-CITY

Project New Ground is eager to answer your questions and help you in any way during the course of the project. Please contact the City of Jacksonville: 630-CITY (2489)

<http://www.coj.net/Departments/Environmental+and+Compliance/Project+New+Ground/About.htm>

If you have any specific questions about how ash on your property may affect your health, please contact the Duval County Health Department at (904) 253-1000. You may also visit the Web site,

<http://www.dchd.net>

Jacksonville Journey: The next Journey meeting will be Thursday, August 20, 2009 at 4 p.m. at the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan St., 8th Floor, 32202. During the month of June progress includes: Oversight meeting in June, Jacksonville Commitment awarded 84 scholarships to UNF, FCCJ, JU and EWC, Summer Camp had 23 camps with 2900 scholarships to participants and expanded from 6 to 8 weeks, Jacksonville Re-Entry Center is fully operational, JSO has deployed new officers and Juvenile Assessment Center continues to process over 600 youths per month. For more info contact: Tina Rehmel (904) 630-1273 or <http://www.coj.net/Mayor/Jacksonville+Journey>.

JSO - 2009 **National Night Out** will be Tuesday, **August 4**, 2009 – Turn on your porch light to support our law enforcement.

Parks - Arts On the Go - Friday, **August 07**, 2009 6pm - 8pm at Simonds Johnson Park, 3730 Moncrief Rd. Release your artistic talents and come draw, paint and make take home crafts and more. Art instructors will be on hand to assist. For more information call 630-4100.

- JaxParks Present "First & Goal" Saturday, **August 08**, 2009 3:30pm - 6:30pm at Metropolitan Park. It's a season kick-off celebration!!! Calling all football teams, cheerleaders, coaches, and parents. Here's your chance to mix and mingle with other league participants before it's time to get down and dirty! Come out for an evening of fun, games, challenges, food, and see the Jaguar scrimmage, inside the stadium! For more information call 630-3541

Schools - Duval County Public Schools classes for students will begin on August 24, 2009 www.duvalschools.org

Save Duval Schools - www.saveduvalschools.org – One click to contact your legislators.

Library – To learn about classes and events at the library please visit www.jpl.coj.net or www.coj.net

Seniors - For information on senior centers call 630-7392 – 28th Annual Senior Prom "Diamonds and Pearls" Friday, **August 14**, 6pm -10 p.m. at the Prime Osborn Convention Center Admission is \$10 for seniors 60 years and over. Tickets will be sold at the Mary Singleton Senior Center and the Office of Special Events, 117 W. Duval St., Ste 280. For info call 630-3690 or events@coj.net

www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation+and+Community+Services/Special+Events/Mayor%27s+Special+Events+for+Senior+Citizens

Downtown Events – For a listing of events happening in August in downtown Jacksonville, pick up an August calendar of events at the City of Jacksonville Office of Special Events, 117 W. Duval St., Ste. 280, Jacksonville, Florida 32202, at [Downtown Vision, Inc.](#) and area kiosks, the [Visit Jacksonville](#) office and welcome centers along with various downtown hotels, restaurants and businesses. Also, visit www.experiencejax.com for your one-stop resource for events throughout Jacksonville.

SAVE the DATE:

- Community Empowerment Expo – Saturday, September 12, 2009, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Downtown Main Library
- 2009 Neighborhood Day – Sunday, September 20, 2009

Phone Numbers – City Link - where to go when you need to know 630-CITY (630-2489) www.coj.net

*Please have the exact address and get a tracking number and estimated date of completion.

- ShAdCo (Sheriff's Advisory Council) Zone 1 call 924-5361 at Gateway Shopping Center
- 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
- JTA –For customer service call 630-3100 or www.jtafla.com
- City Council meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m., City Council Chambers, City Hall, 117 W. Duval St. [32201] For info 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 info call 390-2000
- Duval Extension Office is located at 1010 N. McDuff Ave or for more info call 387-8850
- **JOBS – WorkSource** Career Center at Gateway, 5000 Norwood Ave., Suite 2 open M-F, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. For info call 924-1710 or www.employflorida.com or www.worksourcefl.com or 356-JOBS (5627)

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

Chairperson's Report

- Chairman Williams had to leave early and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Tippins. She brought up the topic of budget cuts and not losing Coordinator Marilyn Fenton-Harmer. Her duties have doubled and there are only 3 coordinators for the entire city and they can not be cut from the budget. *Member Vanderlaan made a Motion for the Chair to write a letter to all City Council members in support of keeping our neighborhood coordinator with a second by Member Dr. Norman. The Vote: All in favor; none opposed.*

Subcommittees

- Membership Chair Doug Vanderlaan wanted to welcome new member Richard Moore from San Marco Preservation Society is happy to have him and expects him at the next meeting.

Announcements – None

Public Comments - None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11p.m.

DAY CHANGE due to Labor Day holiday

The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on **Thursday, September 3, 2009**
at 5 p.m. in Training Room 110 of the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street

Submitted by:
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer
Neighborhood Coordinator
255-8236
Mfharmer@coj.net