

MEETING SUMMARY
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NW CPAC
Thursday, August 11, 2005
Cisco Gardens Community Center
4238 Jones Road

Committee Members Present

Diane Kerr, Chair

Ruth Arnold, 2nd Mile

Faye Richardson, Cisco Gardens

James Gloster, Kinlock

T. R. Hudson, Magnolia Gardens N

Joseph Anderson, Pickettville

Oliver Muldrow, Ribault Hills

Elaine Burnett, RAP

Janice Kelley, Willowbranch

Randy Mallory, Vice Chair

L. T. Solomon, Carver Manor

Vada Davis, Cisco Gardens

Gadson & Orzola Burgess, Magnolia Gardens N

Danny Thomas, Paxon/Biltmore

Arthur Nettles, Pickettville

Rev. Anthony Wyche, Ribault HOA

Thomas May, Thomas Jefferson

Diana Richardson, Harborview

City/Staff/Public/Media

Devin Reed, Mayor's Liaison

Paul Crawford, Interim Director Parks & Recreation

Lanny Russell, parks Task Force

Lt. K.S. Goff, JSO Zone 5

Lara Diettrich, Planning & Development

Nettie Cook, Jax. Human Rights Commission

Milton Locklear, FDOT

Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhood Services

Alma Hudson

Charles Dandel, Cisco Gardens

Myrtice Ellison, Cisco Gardens

Professor Bill Ahrens, UNF Nursing Program

Leila Mousa, Region II Superintendent DCSB

Kelley Boree, Parks, Recreation & Entertainment

Carol Miller, Jax. Area Legal Aid

Kenny Logsdon, Planning & Development

Joe Bailey, Jax. Human Rights Commission

Del Miley, Supervisor Zone 5 Property Safety

Officers Calvin Lee and Ray Cobb, Property Safety

Elizabeth Mallory

Pat Murzynski, RSVP

Wayne & Louise Dixon, Cisco Gardens

James & Janice Green, Northshore

Excused: Ernest Clayton, William Taylor, Carrie Washington, Doretha Tompkins, Bertha Richardson

Call to Order

Chairperson Diane Kerr called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in the Cisco Gardens Community Center and welcomed everyone.

Invocation: Led by Member Gadson Burgess

Approval of the Meeting Summary

A motion to approve the July 14, 2005 meeting as written was made by Joseph Anderson and a second by Gadson Burgess. The Vote: All in favor. None Opposed.

Guest Speakers

- Paul Crawford, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation and Lanny Russell from Mayor Peyton's Task Force on Parks presented the Recommendations and Implementation plan to the CPAC. Jacksonville now has the largest urban park system in the country and want to make it the best. The Parks Task Force recommendations (150 page summary) are on the City of Jacksonville's web site. Some of the recommendations are to have the name of the Parks Employee listed as the Park Keeper and they will be responsible for that park. They are working closely with JSO to have safer parks. They created a matrix of every park listing the amenities and the condition of the equipment. They are hopeful that the recommendations will be utilized to be equitable on the amount of park dollars and to spend them according to priorities from the matrix. Members were concerned with older parks not being kept up and dangerous equipment. There were also questions on Stockton Park and the amount of money that was used for this one park. That was a previous Council project that took time to complete. Members mentioned the fence that was put up to prevent fishing at that park. Currently they are putting together recommendations on Park Rules and will be coming to CPAC meetings to let us know what they are. For more information you can check www.jaxparks.com
- Pat Murazksy "RSVP Tale Teller Program" explained that RSVP are volunteers age 55 and over that read to Pre-

k, Kindergarten and 1st grade reading recovery children. They read 2 books to a couple of classes each week focusing on the art of listening. If you are interested or know someone that is please call 630-0998. They will have an orientation 8-12-05 and another one in September. Brochures were passed out.

STAFF Reports

Mayor's Liaison Devin Reed, Director of Procurement – asked to leave early. He contacted the Planning Department to have a representative speak on the Town Center Projects. Devin can be reached at 630-1184 Dreed@coj.net

Planning & Development Lara Dietrich had an emergency and had to leave early but reported on the following before she left:

At the meeting with Crush Crete in Robinson's Addition with Ms. Cole, Councilman Fullwood and Diane Kerr the Air Quality had never been monitored or had an official complaint. Lara did put a request in for the monitoring. If you look at the shrubbery it is covered with dust. She is still researching the information on the Paxon/Biltmore Half-way House for inmates. During the 2002 PUD amendment for Keeton Corrections there was no application for an environmental study. She is also checking to see if they lease out the contract and if that would still have legal standing. The level of offenders can't be a sexual offender. That is another concern of the neighbors since this surrounds 6 schools. They are to open the facility on August 22nd. Paxon/Biltmore and Pickettville would like to get a copy of the list of conditions so they know what they have to adhere to. The prisoners are not guarded. Lara can be reached at 630-4999 or Larad@coj.net Senior Planner Kenny Logsdon gave an update on the **Town Center Projects**. He is not new to the City of Jacksonville but new in his current position. The

Town Center Projects have 4 Phases: I – Visioning. Phase II – Design, Phase III – Construction, Phase IV – Implementation.

NW has 4 projects: Stockton Street – RADO, Edgewood Avenue – Murray Hill, King Street - Park & King and McDuff – North Riverside.

- The Stockton Phase II on 7-26-05 was awarded a contract with approximately 9 months away with construction. Phase III Dave Schneider at Public Works said that construction should begin in May 2006 – there has been bid process delays on what will get done and with what money to do it with.
- The McDuff Project is working with JTA/BJP which should be finished in the 4th quarter of 2007 – schedule right of way 4th quarter 2005, Construction 1st quarter 2006 - \$11.mil BJP/JTA - \$34,000 P and D and then big money after Phase III
- Park and King didn't need Phase I or II so far \$400,000
- Edgewood Phase II contract was awarded to Withs and Moyer on 7-26-05 and should be finished in 9 months and then 6 months for Phase III.

Member Elaine Burnett, RAP and RADO commented on how important the Town Center Projects are to neighborhoods. We need to make sure that we get the projects completed. The Planning Department will be involved with Blue Print for Prosperity – for Visioning for the 2010 Plan. Kenny Logsdon can be reached at 630-1606 or logsdon@coj.net

Quarterly Update - Duval County School Board - Leila Mousa, Region II Superintendent Quarterly Update: She wanted to thank the NW CPAC for reading to our students before our regularly scheduled meetings. Next month you will be at Carter G. Woodson and they have a new Principal Steve DiMattia. He had a hot air balloon at the school for "Dreaming of the Possibilities" and the students were so excited to see one in person. They also have Arthur Sermon as the Vice Principal from Terry Parker High School.

- There was a bomb threat at Biltmore Elementary and the Hammond Park/Community Center came to rescue of the students and staff by having the students come into the center. Then the parents could pick them up from there. They have special needs children and this was so valuable to the community. We thank them and now have a plan to incorporate this partnership in an emergency.
- Today was the 4th day of school and they have 129,000 students and more still coming.
- The Region has some other new Principals: Rufus Payne - Pearl Roziers Ortega Elementary – Jennifer Brown
- Region II made the strongest gains in FCAT 443 points along with school grades increasing
- At John E. Ford Elementary Magnet School they now have grades – K-8 with 950 students.
- West Jacksonville Elementary School's new kitchen is almost complete.
- All Open House dates are on the web www.educationcentral.org and Crystal Springs Elementary is tonight.
- At the high school level they are trying a pilot program at 6 schools having the students in teams with the same teachers. This way they will get to know the needs of the students and the classrooms are right next to each other.

Members had questions on the validity of the FCAT test in regards to experience and cultural based questions.

Recommendations have been sent to the State to have some of these concerns addressed. There were other questions on teaching to the test, FCAT money for teachers, field trips and flexibility of moving students from the Teams if there is a conflict. If you have questions please call 693-7938 or e-mail at Mousal@educationcentral.org

JSO

Lt. Goff from Zone 5 reported that crime was down 8% in the zone. Last month Mr. May asked to have DART houses posted on the web. JSO is taking that under consideration. Member Joseph Anderson commended JSO for apprehending the person that broke into the Pickettville Civic Club in less than 4 days.

Zone 5 Sub Station 384-8028 – 210 S McDuff - Zone 4 Sub Station 573-3165 Cedar Hills Center - Zone 1 Sub Station 924-5361 Gateway Mall

FDOT - Milton Locklear reported that there would be a meeting on the Matthews Bridge steel grading on Sept. 12th at FDOT

Auditorium on Irene Street.

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

Neighborhoods Department

Property Safety – Zone 5 Supervisor Del Miley reported that they lost an officer due to health reasons. With one person short they will do their best since there is a hiring freeze for the City of Jacksonville. They will work harder and smarter. They can be reached at 391-3600.

Neighborhood Services - Marilyn Fenton-Harmer made the following announcements:

- Florida Neighborhoods Conference will be in Lakeland from Oct. 20th to 22nd if you need a registration packet please let Marilyn know.
- You can now apply on line fro Medicaid and food stamps at www.myflorida.com/accessflorida
- The New Main Library will be needing volunteers to give tours from Sat. Nov. 12th through Sun. Nov. 20th if you are interested please go to the following web site to complete a volunteer application: jpl.coj.net/library/mainlibvolapp.htm
- There are flyers/brochures for Florida/Georgia and the Sea/Sky from our Special Events Office
- We have a number of ill members – please sign the Get Well cards

If you need to contact Marilyn please call 630-7024 or Mfharmer@coj.net

Sub Committee Reports

Transportation - Chair Thomas May reported that Jacksonville Rapid Transit proposal money would be coming out of Washington.

Chairperson Kerr thanked Professor Ahrens from UNF for attending the meetings and having the students attend each semester. She also asked members to start thinking of ideas for our Annual Bus Tour's Route – Suggestion: New Library on Chaffee Road, Riverside, and Town Centers

Announcements

- Member Elaine Burnett wanted to compliment Officer Jestin for the idea of turning Post and College streets back to 2-way and that should be happening in the next few months. We appreciate the fore sight and positive impact this will have on the neighborhood.
- Member Thomas May reported that on Sep 2nd commodities would be available at the Leroy Clemmons Community Center.
- Elizabeth Mallory asked members to start thinking about the Holiday Social and what items they would like to bring. She will make a list and bring it to the next meeting for members to sign up.
- Member Faye Richardson wanted to thank the CPAC for coming to Cisco Gardens and having the Parks Dept. clean up the Community Center. They continue to have a problem when their meeting is scheduled to get a Parks employee to open up the center on time like the CPAC experienced this evening.
- Member Gadson Burgess wanted to thank members for voting for Mrs. Burgess for the Mayor's Award from the NW CPAC. It meant so much!

Motion to Adjourn

A Motion to adjourn was made by Gadson Burgess and a second by Thomas May. The Vote: All were in favor, none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, September 8, 2005**
Carter G. Woodson Elementary – Media Center 5 pm Reading 6 pm Meeting