

Greater Arlington/Beaches ~ Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Regency Square Branch Library
6:00 P.M. October 13, 2003

Minutes

Members and Alternates

Terry Akins	Marcella Lowe	Ray Salman
Skip Benolken	Bill Marshall	Carol Schirido
Albert Cherry	Gail Melton	Tom Shouvin
Gary Dickinson	Larry Nelson	Rick Smith
Dorothy Fant	Jay Olchak	Sandra Spencer-Shabla
Beverly Garvin	Tom Olney	Roberta Thomas
Johnny Holden	Janet Ostler	Clay Yarborough
Joseph Lek	Bradley Richards	Lynn Yastrzemski

Guests

Steve Gutos (Florida Kid Care in Woodland Acres)	Councilman Lake Ray	Other guests were present but did not sign in.
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Staff/Resource

Karen Blutcher, NS	Hon. Lake Ray III, CC	Judy Truett, Mayor's
Gene Dubberly, JSO	Dist. 1	Rep.
Jim Green, FDOT	William Livingood,	Dawn Wood, NSD
Selinda Keyes, DCSB	DCHD	
Steve Lawing, PW	Margo Moehring, PDD	Garry L. Denson, NSD
	Bob Prado, PS	

Call to Order

Marcella Lowe called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance, moment of silence, those serving in the military and the President of the United States.

Speakers

Steve Gutos of Florida KidCare came specifically to talk about what's taking place in the Woodland Acres area.

Guests welcomed: Councilman Lake Ray CC District 1

- Spoke concerning water issues & legislation
- Opinion concerning the new court house and the latest on funding
- Spoke about council members and their travel to Texas to look at other Transportation Systems (IST).
- Discussed intersection, interchange improvements, overpasses, and getting everyone together to make adjustments to the Better Jacksonville Plan
- Agreement reached concerning the final purchase of Florida Water & Sewage.

A question and answer period followed.

Motions made: That District 2 will send letter to Mayor supporting Healthy Kid Care in the Woodland Acres area. The motion was seconded.

Events: Terry Akins spoke about the Fall Festival at Woodland Acres and invited everyone to attend. Fliers were distributed.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the September 8, 2003 meeting had one change from Roberta Thomas then minutes were approved.

Sub-Committee Reports

PARKS AND RECREATION – This Committee had no reports, however it was asked if anyone had any concerns.

Chairman Gary Dickinson mentioned the city's closing on Lee Road property, which is now under Parks and Recreation for a 10-acre park.

BEAUTIFICATION – Gail Melton reported that there were three recipients of the Communi-Tree grants. Forrest Hills, Lonestar Elementary and Regency Woods.

GRANTS AND AWARDS – Helen Ludwig was not present and there were no report given.

LAND USE AND ZONING – Al Cherry had no report. Roberta Thomas had concerns with litter and debris on Merrill and Rogero Roads.

MEMBERSHIP – Application was approved for Walkers Glenn Homeowners Association.

SCHOOLS – Tom Shouvin reported that Sandra Spencer worked out with the Police Department the traffic light issue on Kernan Trail and Kernan Middle Roads.

Questions: Carol Schirado asked question concerning Terry Parker Road and construction.

TRANSPORTATION – Marcella Lowe reported on Wednesday October 15th at 6:30 at Landmark Middle School, the final meeting for the intersections for Atlantic & Kernan and Atlantic & Hodges. She also reported that Thursday October 16th at the PAL Building at District 2 Park, the Better Jacksonville Plan will meet concerning the widening of Kernan Boulevard. She urged everyone who lived in these areas that had any concerns or questions to attend these meetings

TOWN CENTER TASK FORCE – Marcella had no report for Phase2. Marcella asked that Roberta Thomas report on Phase1, and what is happening with Ft. Caroline Club Estates South and their request for the funding of Phase1.

Roberta reported that they had some problems with their request (corridor enhancement on all public lands), they met to resolve some issues and now they are moving forward. She reported that Visioning Workshops will be October 30, 2003, and November 18, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at the St Matthews Lutheran Church. These workshops are open to the public for ideas and suggestions on future plans for Rogero Road. Phase1 is complete and they have the \$25,000 to pay contractor. Roberta stated that there is no guarantee for funding on Phase2 and Phase3.

Staff Reports

NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT – Property Safety – Bob Prado had no report, however he asked if there were any concerns.

Roberta reported issues concerning trash and debris at day care properties on Merrill Road.

Karen Blutcher reported information concerning the Neighborhood Summit, and the importance of registration.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – Margo Moehring had no report.

BUILDING INSPECTION/LANDSCAPING – Steve Lawing was available for questions.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – Jim Green had no reports, but asked for questions and concerns.

Dead Oak Trees on Merrill and Southside Boulevard, light poles and 9A Interchange were concerns. Chairman Gary Dickinson had contacted DOT concerning debris on Cesery Boulevard. He also made mention on policy change on the removing of junk vehicles.

Judy Truitt mentioned accidents on Arlington Expressway and the trees that were uprooted can be replanted if acted upon immediately.

DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD – Selinda Keyes reported that the school board audit report on finding ways to save money will be released to the public on Thursday October 16, 2003 at the school board building. The school board is working on its school development plan to gather information on testing.

JACKSONVILLE SHERIFF'S OFFICE – Chairman Gary Dickinson introduced Lt. Gene Doubberly who reported for Assistant Chief Rick Graham. Lt. Dubberly reported:

- Loss of 80 officers with the Drop Plan
- Loosing more experienced officers over the next year
- Morale of the Department is high and that many officers feel that this administration really cares.
- Higher standards
- New employment changes and procedures
- Low tolerance policies for officers who break the law
- Full time academy and new training procedures

A question and answer period followed.

Carol asked about standards and response times for officers to emergency situations and should any attempt be made to the city council or Mayor to be aware of growth in our city so we will be able to handle all emergencies. She also was looking in the future to have a presentation from the sheriffs office for comparisons of response times with other cities.

Bill Marshall, Manager of Human Resource Department, spoke concerning plans that were already in place to handle the drop plan and that we currently have 60 officers more than in the past.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – No representative present.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Dr. Bill Livingood reported information on the health report on substance abuse and respiratory diseases and comparisons of Jacksonville with other cities and the rest of the country.

A question and answer period followed.

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE (COMMUNITY SERVICES) – Judy Truett had no report but asked if there were any concerns. Chairman Dickinson gave high regards to Walt Bussells and what a great job he was doing with the budget.

Other Business

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR – He wished all their best and Johnny Holden a Happy 88th Birthday, and thanked him for his service.

Chairman Dikinson formed a nominating committee to select new officers.

The Nominating Committee:

Clay Yarborough

Terry Akins

Dorothy Fant

Johnny Holden

NEIGHBORHOOD ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ISSUES – Gail Melton said the library on University Boulevard North is up and on the way, and opening in 2004.

Also that the police need to keep watch on the Old Thunderbird, that did not sell, and that JSO is going to place unmarked police cars in the neighborhood to catch speeders. Ray Salman noted Gail and her diligence toward Kensington Homeowners Association in receiving its matching grant, they are delighted and the money will be put to good use. ground breaking for new library on Beach Boulevard is up coming. Roberta noted that they really appreciate the Mayors Matching Grant Program and that they have been able to accomplish a lot through this program.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Carol mentioned that she would like to hear something about a study on the Fire Department (like that of JSO) on new standards and procedures. Gary mentioned about inviting the new Fire Chief to speak on new plans.

GUEST COMMENTS – None

Motion to Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 10, 2003 at the Regency Square Branch Library at 6:00pm.