



Mayor Alvin Brown's Meeting with the CPAC Chairs

City Hall at St. James, Mayor's Conference Room
117 W. Duval St., Jacksonville, FL 32202
Monday, November 18, 2013

Meeting Summary

- Welcome and Introductions
- Mayor Brown welcomed all of the guests and emphasized that this meeting is meant to encourage open discussions between the citizens and his office. Mayor Brown stated that recruiting for CPACs is very important and we should look to the colleges, and young professionals to increase attendance and participation. He stated that his administration is very dedicated to the environment and working hard to eliminate the illegal dumping that occurs in all parts of the city.

Mayor Brown wanted to hear specifically each CPACs concerns and let each Chair inform him of their priorities.

- Planning District Concerns:
 - Planning District #1 – Urban Core – Chair Christina Parrish
 - Downtown Development – Chair Parrish has been to numerous Downtown Development (DIA, JAX2025, Co-Work Jax) meetings and is excited for the Urban Core to be rejuvenated. She hopes the momentum continues.
 - Blight – Not just the Urban Core but too much blight, trash, unkempt properties everywhere in Jax. Vacant houses and bad landlords.
 - Fears that there is a lack of a Civic Voice. We need better processes to communicate with elected officials and their staffs.
 - Inquired about filling the staff vacancy created when Marilyn Fenton-Harmer left for DCPS. Concerned that 2 staff for 6 CPACs is not sufficient and the communities' needs are not being met.
 - Planning District #2 – Greater Arlington/Beaches – Chair Pat Schorr
 - Blight – Same concerns as Urban Core
 - Mayport Ferry – Wants to make sure it will continue to be funded.
 - For PSAs – Need to demonstrate how useful and effective CPACs are to responding to citizen and elected officials requests.
 - Planning District #3 – Southeast – Chair Jim Hill
 - Zoning – constantly fighting the developers
 - Suggested time limit on rezonings if nothing is developed
 - Fear of Adult Entertainment spreading to places many of the CPAC members feel are inappropriate

NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT



- Planning District #4 – Southwest – Chair Bruce Tyson
 - Code Enforcement needs more staffing
 - Snipe signs and mobile home parks need enforcement
 - Worried about the Cecil toll road and uncontrolled growth on the west side
- Planning District #5 – Northwest – Chair Larry Solomon
 - Youth involved with CPAC – Chair worked with Sup. Vitti to get more high school youth involved in civics and the Superintendent is starting a pilot program in District 5
 - Concern about industrial uses too close to residential
 - Semi-trucks parking in residential areas
 - Better lighting overall in NW. Some lights are out and not replaced while others are too dark.
 - There is too much apathy in the city.
- Planning District #6 – North – Chair Bobby Taylor
 - Access to Huguenot Park – working with David DeCamp and Parks concerning access to Huguenot Park time limits
 - Would like the North CPAC to remain more rural and the 40 and 50-foot wide lots are not in character with the area
 - Adjust the Executive Order so term limits are changed to allow the Chairs and Vice Chairs to serve longer than 2 consecutive one-year terms
 - Wants the Town Center Initiative completed at the ferry dock on Heckscher Drive. Need land from a private property owner to complete the project.
 - Landlords should be held responsible for the trash in and around their properties. “Be part of the solution and not just the problem.”
- From Staff:
 - Terrance Ashanta-Barker:
 - Does ask for “Hot Topics” every week and at the end of the month that summarizes concerns from the CPAC s and neighborhoods to better address the citizen’s needs.
 - Hiring new staff is a top priority
 - David DeCamp: will start to work on a PSA campaign. Kenny Logsdon asked to include input from JCCI-Jax2025 and the Consolidated Task Force.
 - Michelle Barth: pointed out the Mayor’s Newsletter and the Chairs stated that they do receive it from staff.
- Next Meeting Dates:
 - 6 months in May or June 2014
- Adjourn