

**Greater Arlington / Beaches ~ Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

**Regency Branch Library – 9900 Regency Square Boulevard  
6:30 p.m. Monday, January 9, 2012**

**Meeting Summary**

**Members and Alternates**

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Michael Anania | David Peck       |
| Larry Belge    | Jerry Petoskey   |
| James Blanche  | Mary Anne Saadeh |
| Al Cherry      | Patricia Schorr  |
| Michele Davis  | Lamar Swanner    |
| Gary Dickinson | Ben Tucker       |
| Marcella Lowe  | Kathy Walker     |
| Helen Ludwig   |                  |
| Eddi Parsons   |                  |

**Members Excused**

Kacy Evans  
Lad Hawkins  
Sandi Hibbard  
Ed Maxted  
Tami Moe

**Guest**

Tamara Branam  
Sally Doherty  
Carole Frank  
Jean Serna  
Betzy Santiago

**Staff/Resources**

Kelley Boree, Mayor's Liaison  
Paul Davis, Planning and Development  
Jim Green, FDOT  
Dennis Steele, Code Compliance  
Rosemary Wesolowski, Community Development

**Call to Order**

Patricia Schorr called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., the meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. It was established that a quorum was present.

**Chairs Report**

Pat presented Volunteer Appreciation Certificates to the Subcommittee Chairs that were unable to attend the December holiday gathering.

### Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the November 2011 meeting summary was made. The motion was properly seconded and approved by the group.

### Speakers

**Assistant Chief Larry Schmitt, JSO, City of Jacksonville:** introduced himself to the group and shared his professional experience with us. Assistant Chief Schmitt did discuss some of the security measures that will be in place at the new Poker Room (former Garden Ridge). At this time JSO is working very closely with the Director of Security for Jacksonville Kennel Club / Poker Room. There will be a significant amount of money spent on security with emphasis on vast improvements to the lighting in / around the building and parking lot and a significant amount of security personnel will be in the building as well as in the parking lot. They will not tolerate loitering in the parking lot. JSO has also spoken to St. John's County Sheriff's Department and Orange Park Police Department to discuss any type of crime that is associated with the Poker Room and/or the Dog Track. At this time, both law enforcement agencies state that they have minimal crime problems associated with either facility nor as has their presence in the community increase crime. JSO will stay on top of events at the new poker room.

There are a couple of other pressing problems occurring in Zone 2; currently copper theft has had a sharp increase in commercial and residential air conditioners. The thieves are very skilled at stripping the copper; many of the units have stripped in 15 minutes. The thieves seem to casing commercial and residential properties alike. Many of the thefts have occurred at vacant properties, but several of the thefts have occurred at occupied homes and businesses.

Also, with the amount of vacant properties/ foreclosed homes, there has been an increase in individuals creating false leases and renting foreclosure property (that they do not own) to unsuspecting people. Even though the leases are signed illegally, the owner/bank does have to do a legal eviction. Please be observant of all activity and changes in your neighborhood and community. It is beneficial to be the curious and report any suspicious activity (with as much detail as possible) to JSO.

### Subcommittee Reports

**PARKS & RECREATION** – Chair – Pat informed the group that Tami Moe has resigned from CPAC due to a conflict of schedule. Anyone interesting in chairing or co-chairing this subcommittee, please contact Rosemary or Pat.

**BEAUTIFICATION** – Chair Larry Belge – currently shrubbery and trees are being replaced in Mayport in/around the Mayport Town Center area.

**LAND USE & ZONING** – Chair Mike Anania – The Land Use and Zoning Subcommittee met at 5:30 p.m. The subcommittee reviewed 4 applications and made 2 motions:

**Approval with conditions for E-11-76,** the request to allow retail sales (truck accessories) at 2088 St. Johns Bluff Road South.

**Denial of E-11-72,** the request to allow gunsmithing as a home occupation at 1949 Gamewell Road for the following reasons: increased traffic to residential area, the

activity is not consistent with the Old Arlington Inc. Neighborhood Action Plan (discourages intensification of commercial activities in residential areas) and there is already ample supply of long vacant commercial space in the Arlington area that is more appropriate for this activity.

Copies of the letters are attached at the end of this summary.

**MEMBERSHIP** – Chair Pat Schorr – informed the group that subcommittee has 3 members that plan to start work on a new membership campaign. The goal is to increase CPAC membership. If you are interested in helping, please contact Pat or Rosemary.

**TRANSPORTATION** – Co-Chairs Roger Sharp and Richard Witzel – not present

**ENVIRONMENT** – Chair Lad Hawkins – on behalf of Lad Hawkins, Pat informed the group that Lisa Rinaman was selected to succeed Neil Armingeon as the next Riverkeeper. Lisa will assume the role as St. Johns Riverkeeper after Neil steps down at the end of January.

**T.R.U.E. Commission** – Marcella Lowe – stated that the commission is actively involved in the audit of JEDC. The City Council Auditor's finding on the sports trust fund is part of an audit released in December about the Jacksonville Economic Development Commission. The audit criticized JEDC for failing to enforce financial incentive deals between 2007 and 2010. A task force was created to evaluate JEDC's structure and budget after the audit came out. At this time the commission is also concerned about the lack of oversight on the contracts and no one is watching to see how the money is being spent. On January 18, 2012, the commission will be addressing the audit.

**Craig Airport Advisory Committee** – Dave Evans – not present.

**Staff Reports:**

**Mayor's Liaison** – Kelley Boree, Recreation & Community Services – informed the group that Mayor Brown is also concerned about the audit report on JEDC and they will now be reporting to him. As phase 2 of Mayor Brown's reform get underway, the Department of Recreation and Parks is once again responsible for maintenance to park. Lastly, January is National Mentoring Month and Mayor Brown wants citizens to become Mayor's Mentors. Mayor Brown launched the Mayor's Mentors, a public-private partnership to train a place 500 new school based mentors with Duval County Public School students by April 1 at no cost to the tax payers. The Mayor's goal is to recruit, train and match mentors with Duval County Public students to increase on-time, next grade promotion and graduation rates. For more information on becoming a Mayor's Mentor, please call United Way's 2-1-1 or visit the COJ website. Kelly also introduced Betzy Santiago to the group.

Betzy Santiago informed the group that she is from Mayor Brown's office and she would like to hear feedback from the community. Betzy left contact information for the group on the back table.

**JSO**- no report due to Assistant Chief Schmitt's presentation.

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT** – Paul Davis – no report; but informed the group that the Planning and Development Department has a new director, Calvin Burney.

**FDOT – Jim Green** – informed the group that painting project on the Mathews Bridge continues. Tonight and tomorrow night the west bound lanes will be closed and Wednesday – Sunday the eastbound lanes will be closed. Tomorrow there will be a closure on Cesery from 9:30 – 3:00 p.m.; this will be clearly marked. The re-signage of 9A to 295 is underway; the project is starting in the southernmost portion of 9A and working its way north.

**MUNICIPAL CODE** – Dennis Steele – informed the group that they are actively working to enforce the sign ordinance and they will be focusing on Atlantic Blvd. and Beach Blvd. heading east to San Pablo Road. Their focus will be snipe sign, nuisance signs and damaged signs.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** – Neighborhood Coordinator Rosemary Wesolowski – reminded everyone about the vacant property registry to help assist identify the agency responsible for maintaining foreclosed properties in your neighborhoods. Informed the group that the Housing & Neighborhoods Department will be hosting community training class on Ethics, the Sunshine Law and Roberts Rules of Order on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Detail will be provided via email. She also requested if the group had any topics they would like to have a training class on. She also recognized that Helen Ludwig celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday over the holidays.

#### **Announcements**

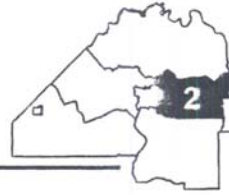
#### **Public Comments**

(Comments are limited to 2 minutes)

**Adjournment** - There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**The next meeting will take place on  
Monday, February 13, 2011  
6:30 pm at the Regency Branch Library – 9900 Regency Square Blvd.**

**GREATER ARLINGTON/BEACHES**  
**Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**  
*Chair: Patricia Schorr Vice Chair: Mike Anania*



January 10, 2012

To: Dow Peters, Chair; Planning Commission

**Re: Approval as conditioned of Exception E-11-76**

The District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) recommends approval with conditions of the request to allow retail sales (truck accessories) at 2088 St. Johns Bluff Road South for the following reason:

- The proposed activity is consistent with the current character and intensity of activity of the neighborhood.

Upon discussion of the request it was felt that there are no significant negative side effects. The parcel and adjoining parcels were impacted by the construction of SR 9A and in fact the CPAC might support further intensification of both the subject and surrounding properties.

The CPAC wishes to support business activity in appropriate locations. It is hoped that the business will find success at this location.

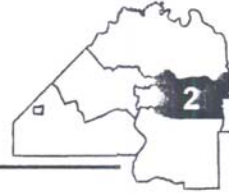
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Schorr".

Patricia Schorr, Chair  
Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

cc: The Honorable Alvin Brown, Mayor  
Cheryl Brown, Council Secretary/Director  
Merriane Lahmeur, City Council Legislative Assistant  
Calvin Burney, Director, Planning and Development Department  
Randi Saunders, Planning and Development Department

**GREATER ARLINGTON/BEACHES**  
**Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**  
*Chair: Patricia Schorr Vice Chair: Mike Anania*



January 10, 2012

To: Dow Peters, Chair; Planning Commission

Re: Denial of Exception E-11-72

The District 2 Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) recommends denial of the request to allow gunsmithing as a home occupation at 1949 Gamewell Road for the following reasons:

- o The activity will induce increased traffic to a residential area. The location should stay single family only.
- o The activity is not consistent with the Old Arlington Inc. Neighborhood Action Plan that discourages intensification of commercial activities in residential areas.
- o There is already an ample supply of long-vacant commercial space in the Arlington area that is more appropriate for this activity.

The CPAC wishes to support business activity in appropriate locations. It is hoped that the business will find success in many of the other available and more appropriate options in the Arlington area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Schorr".

Patricia Schorr, Chair  
Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

cc: The Honorable Alvin Brown, Mayor  
Cheryl Brown, Council Secretary/Director  
Merriane Lahmeur, City Council Legislative Assistant  
Calvin Burney, Director, Planning and Development Department  
Randi Saunders, Planning and Development Department