

District # 3

Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Jim Hill

Vice Chair: Danny Becton

MEETING SUMMARY

Location: St. Vincent's Southside
Main Hospital, Auditorium C
4201 Belfort Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216
Date: Monday, October 28, 2013

Attendance:

Organizations/Representatives

Members:

Akers, Jim – Royal Lakes Civic Association
Banks, George – Secret Cove Civic Association
Barry, Nancy – Briarwood Neighborhood Association
Becton, Daniel - Deercreek Homeowners Association
Bollinger, George – City Council Appointment – District 4
Cardell, Richard – The Lakewood Community
Cornehl, Ernst – Deerwood Improvement Association
Corrado, Patrick – Mandarin Community Club
Dee, Dave – Lake Mandarin HOA
D'Onofrio, Carol – Deercreek Owners Association
Heesch-Gilman, Karen - Briarwood Neighborhood Association
Henderson Sr, Chris – The Villages of Bartram Springs Owners Association
Hodges, Ralph – Englewood Full Service School
Inman, Roger – Windy Hills Civic Association
Kirkman, Chris – The Villages of Bartram Springs Owners Association
Lyons, Gamal - Tall Cypress Cove Homeowner Association
Nichols, Theo – Greater Sans Souci Neighborhood Association
Perera, Kathleen – Alumni Civic Association
Ramaglia, Robert - Sweetwater
Rogers, Henry – Rose Creek Condo Association
Rothstein, Marj – Villa San Jose Civic
Shoaei, Taghie – Greater Englewood Neighborhood Association
Stephens, Gloria – Saddlebrook Homeowner Association
Waddell, John – East Hampton Homeowners Association
Weise, Gary – Secret Cove Civic Association
Wolfe, Elizabeth – Pickwick Park Civic Association

Excused:

Cuff, Coree – East Hampton Homeowner's Association
Hill, James - Greater Hood Road Community Association
Johnson, Debbie – The Gables Homeowners Association
Johnson, Kirby – Wyndam Forest Homeowners

Elected Officials:

Boyer, Lori- City Council District 5, Lumb, Robin – City Council at Large, Fischer, Jason – Duval County School Board

Staff:

Crawford, Robert – Code Compliance, COJ
Glick, Aaron – Planning & Development Department
Green, James – FDOT
Shellhorn, John – Mayor’s Liaison
Wesolowski, Rosemary - Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development Division
Wilson, Sherry - JaxParks

Guests:

Cassidy, Robert – Edgewater at Sunbeam Condos
Yost, Mel – Edgewater at Sunbeam Condos
Skule, Richard
Sullivan, Michael – COJ – Jacksonville Public Library

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

- Vice -Chair Becton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

- Vice-Chair Becton inquired if everyone had the opportunity to read the meeting summary and if there were any corrections, deletions or additions; there were none. George Banks made a motion to approve the meeting summary and Ralph Hodges seconded the motion. The September 2013 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Staff Reports

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office) – Lt. Callahan**

Reminded the group with the holidays approaching we need to be vigilant about keeping our car doors locked. Don’t leave packages and valuables locked in view in your car while shopping; put these items in your locked trunk or somewhere out of sight. A warning to women that put their purses into shopping carts while they walk around and shop. Beware of purse thieves that walk around stores looking for distracted shoppers and snatch their purses out of the shopping cart and keep walking out the store. If you use a shopping cart to hold your purse while shopping, it is recommended that you use the child restraint/seatbelt to tie your purse into the cart.

There was a question in regard to the FHP and the response time for automobile accidents, has the response time improved? It was stated that FHP is working on that and they have increased their budget and plan to hire some community service officers to assist in working vehicular accidents.

- **Mayor’s Liaison – John Shellhorn**

Mr. Shellhorn announced that the Task Force on Consolidated Government would like to hear from the public on their thoughts on how the City has fared with Consolidation. The Task Force is holding several Town Hall meetings. There are 3 meetings remaining: Today, October 28th, 6:00 pm, FSCJ Kent Campus auditorium, Tuesday, October 29th, 6:00 pm, Mandarin High School auditorium, 4831 Greenland Road, 32258 and Monday, November 4th, FSCJ Downtown campus, 101 W. State Street, 32202. He also encouraged everyone to participate in America Recycles Day on November 15th. This is a community-wide recycling collection event sponsored by the City of Jacksonville and Keep Jacksonville Beautiful. The collection sites will be the Prime Osborn Convention center (1000 Water Street) and Kmart in Neptune Beach (500 Atlantic Blvd) from 12 pm to 5 pm. Also, there will be a local clean-up project – the 5th Annual Right Whale Festival will take place on Saturday, November 23. Volunteers are needed for this litter cleanup event. Keep Jacksonville Beautiful is partnering with the Sea To Shore Alliance, Keepers of the Coast and other organizations for the 5th Annual Right Whale Festival at the Jacksonville Beach

Seawalk Pavilion. The festival is a celebration for the critically endangered North Atlantic right whales annual return to the southeast coast of the United States. Join us on the shores of the only known right whale calving area at the beginning of their calving season.

- **Duval County Public Schools –**

The CPAC recognized DCPS School Board member Jason Fischer; no report.

- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) – Jim Green**

Mr. Green announced that the Mathews Bridge will open on Tuesday. Superior Construction has worked diligently to repair the damaged member of the bridge. The bridge will not open until it has been inspected and passes inspection. An additional safety factor is that the bridge has 136 sensors that monitor and watch the stress of the bridge at all times.

The CPAC asked a couple of questions about who will pay for the repairs and any measures that can be implemented to prevent this from happening again. Mr. Green informed the group that an investigation is underway to determine the cause of the accident. After this is completed additional steps may be implemented.

There was a question in regard to getting a light installed in front of the Sweetwater community on Baymeadows Road. It was verified that this is a City of Jacksonville road, not a FDOT road and that Councilmember Gulliford has been contacted on this issue.

- **Neighborhoods Department:**

- **Housing and Community Development Division – Rosemary Wesolowski**

Ms. Wesolowski reminded the group that the Nomination Subcommittee has formed and they are ready to take nominations for the 2014 Chair and Vice Chair position. If you would like to make a nomination, please email or call Rosemary with your nomination(s). Please send any nominations that you would like to make to Rosemary at rosemary@coj.net or 255-8261. In the month of December, the SE CPAC has traditionally met for a social gathering in lieu of a meeting. Over the next few days, an email will be sent out to get feedback from the group to determine how we want to address our December meeting. Please respond your email is important.

- **Municipal Code Compliance Division – Robert Crawford**

Mr. Crawford stated that Code Compliance was lucky to get their budget increase and they are actively hiring and training new officers. They are still working with 3 officers and they have completed 991 inspections in the last month.

- **Planning & Development – Aaron Glick** informed the group that the Planning and Development Department has a Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator, Denise Chaplick.

Aaron confirmed that 2013-0415, a.k.a. the Hen Bill has been approved with conditions, such as permitting and you must sign a waiver for inspections of the coops.

- **Parks & Recreation – Sherry Wilson**

Informed the group that construction on the Southside Tennis Courts (San Marco Blvd. & La Salle St.) is scheduled to begin in February; completion by July is expected. JaxParks has a lot of staff out there that has been preparing for the Florida/Georgia game this weekend. The past several months we have gone district to district replacing the playground area mulch. Sherry can be reached at: SherryW@coj.net or 255-7917.

- 4. **Presentations – Fel Lee, Duval County School Board member, District 2** informed the group that there are 4 new board members serving on the school board which kick off their careers looking for a new Superintendent. They have enjoyed working with Superintendent

Vitti and they approve of his new vision, mission and strategic plan.

Duval County Public Schools is the 16th largest school district in the country with more than 8,100 teachers serving 125,000 students in over 160 schools.

The school board members have been aggressively working to collapse many layers of bureaucracy. This will be the 3rd reorganization for DCPS and will impact 300 district administrators. Many of the administrators are returning to schools as principals, counselors or teachers. This re-org was necessary to help keep the school board in line with their \$1.7 billion budget.

The Duval County School Board has approved the teacher salary allocation plan, an agreement ratified with Duval Teachers United in a special board meeting. The board action adds Duval County Public Schools to the list of districts throughout the state who have reached an agreement with the funds provided in 2012-13 by the legislature as part of the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). Duval County Public Schools received \$21.2 million to be used for salary increases for employee groups.

More than \$21 million in FEFP funds will be shared among eligible Duval County educators, resulting in an increase of \$2,090 for instructional personnel and \$700 for support personnel. This raise will be effective before the winter holidays and is to be an annually recurring supplement that counts toward employees' retirement.

Duval County Public Schools is to begin its school renaming process. The renaming process, identified in Duval County School Board Policy, requires the superintendent to solicit community input from various groups including the school's students and faculty members, the School Advisory Council (SAC), school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA), community members within the school's attendance zone, and alumni.

Mr. Lee recognized fellow board member Jason Fischer and City Councilmembers Boyer and Lumb.

Mr. Lee did answer a few questions/comments, such as:

Duval County School needs more vocational education ~ Mr. Lee acknowledge that DCPS does have 2 high schools in place that provide a wide variety of vocational programs. He feels that DCPS needs to do a better job of informing the community about all the schools and the programs that they offer.

DCPS doesn't have a nurse in every school; is providing nursing services a priority to DCPS? It was acknowledged that this subject has been discussed and they have also discussed increasing counselors at schools as well.

5. **Chairs report** – Vice Chair becton informed the group that Chair Hill was unable to attend the meeting tonight due to his wife having a medical procedure earlier in the day.

6. **Elected Officials Reports** –

Councilmember Lumb expressed his pleasure to serve the city as a council member. He also recognized that the budget season was a challenge and that they (City Council) felt that the millage increase was necessary to keep the city operating as it should. After they reviewed the controllable costs and it was determined that those costs are in check. The problems can be associated with the pension and healthcare cost. Councilmember Lumb also encouraged the CPAC members to become involved in the various committees and

appointments that are available throughout the city. He stated that he had paperwork in the back for all the open positions.

Councilmember Boyer informed the group that the Task Force on Consolidated Government has 30 members and has been meeting since August. The meetings are held on Thursday mornings from 9:00 am – Noon, weekly. Right now, the Task Force is looking for public comment and they want as much feedback as possible. Anyone can sit in on the meetings. If you go to the City Council websites you can see the link for a survey and you are encouraged to express your thoughts.

7. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports -

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs- On behalf of Jim Hill, Subcommittee Chair, Danny Becton chaired the LUZ Subcommittee and they focused on 2 applications.

The subcommittee unanimously recommends that they send an opposition letter in regard to application E-13-44 for a dancing entertainment – adult entertainment rezoning at 8669 Baymeadows Road. This is the location of the old Burger King. The CPAC voted unanimously to oppose this application and to send a letter.

The Planning Department will release their staff report on this application on November 8th, and this application will go before the Planning Commission on November 14th. The Planning Commission meeting will begin at 1:00 pm at City Hall.

2013-642, the San Pablo Marina, the subcommittee had 2 presentations on this application and did not make a motion on this application.

Vice Chair Becton brought up the fact that in August 2013, we unanimously opposed 2013-634 and a letter did not get written. Becton asked the group if anyone opposed if he wrote the letter now. There were no objections.

Beautification/Parks/Environment – Dick Cardell, Subcommittee Chair

Reminded the group that due to the warm weather there is an algae bloom in the river. Mr. Cardell asked everyone to be careful around the water and to keep children and pets away from the water. Member Hodges added that there are 100 tributaries in the area and about 75 of them are impaired with fecal coliform.

Economic Development – Gloria Stephens, Subcommittee Chair

It has been officially announced that Traders Joe's will be opening a store in Jacksonville Beach at A1A and JTB; the store is expected to open in late 2014. In San Marco, there is a new project approved, it was originally started before the recession and it is now back on track to be developed. The project will be anchored by a 30,000 sq. ft. Publix. There will also be 14,000 sq. ft. of boutique space. Over the retail space there will be 4 or 5 stories of residential space too. Hallmark Partners just purchase property for \$2.1 million and they are developing a large project (16 stories) water front condo in the Riverside area; this will house retail and condos. Last week the Jacksonville Jaguars played in London. Even though the Jags lost the game, there were 20 individuals that went as economic development ambassadors and they met with over 20 large companies and represented Jacksonville

Education – George Banks

Mr. Lee gave an excellent presentation; no further report.

Membership – Open position, Subcommittee Chair

2 new members from The Villages of Bartram Springs Owners Association:

Chris Henderson Sr will serve as the Primary Member and Chris Kirkman will serve as the Vice Chair.

Nomination – Jim Akers, informed the group that the subcommittee will meet on November 5th at his office in Southpoint. If anyone would like to make a nomination, please submit it.

Transportation – Growth Management -Danny Becton, Subcommittee Chair

Mr. Becton asked George Bollinger to provide the report. Mr. Bollinger informed the group that starting 3 years ago they started working on preserving the ACL1504 locomotive at the Prime Osborn Convention Center. The locomotive preservation group has been awarded \$20,000 for restoration. \$10,000 was awarded from Trains Magazine and \$10,000 from CSX. The restoration will begin soon.

Safety – Betty Wolfe and Roger Inman, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

ShAdCo will hold their Annual Meeting, Tuesday, November 19th at First Baptist Church Downtown. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm and Bar-B-Q will be served prior to the meeting.

Ad-Hoc:

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Danny Becton

Mr. Becton stated that the T.R.U.E. Commission has finalized their report on Pension Report out of committee and it goes before the T.R.U.E. Commission on November 11/7/2013 to be approved. Once it is approved Mr. Becton will get a copy for the group.

8. Unfinished Business – None

9. New Business – Is there any way that we can identify the new trash cans (automated collection)? There wasn't a defined answer.

10. Public Comments/Announcements (3-minute time limit)

John Waddell made a motion to adjourn and Ralph Hodges seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 25, 2013 ~ 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: St. Vincent's Southside
Main Hospital, Auditorium C
4201 Belfort Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216