

**SOUTHEAST
CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY
January 23, 2011**

6:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Hospital, 4201 Belfort Rd., Main Hospital, Auditorium C, Jacksonville, FL.
32216

Call to Order

Pat Corrado, SE CPAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Speaker

Curtis Kincaid, IRS, Stakeholder Relationship Tax Consultant, informed the group that the IRS has partnered with a local program, RealSense Prosperity Campaign to help the community with their tax preparation and filing. There are 57 sites throughout Jacksonville: the VITA sites are available for individuals that make \$50,000 or less a year and the AARP sites are available for anyone (regardless of age) that makes \$50,000 or over annually. The taxes and filing are done for free. This year the 2011 filing due date will be April 17th; the extension is due to the 15th falling on a Sunday and the 16th is Emancipation Day. This year there are very few credits or rebates; there is a residential energy credit (\$300) and a credit for electric vehicles. Other than that, please discuss with your tax preparer or visit the IRS website.

Staff Reports

- **Mayor Liaison:** TBA
- **Duval County Public Schools:** Beverly Strickland informed the group that she worked with the various high school programs (ACE, Early College, AP Honors, etc.) and 8 of the area high schools received an A, B, C or D grade; only 1 high school received an F. The high schools have worked hard to increase their graduation rates and to better prepare the kids for college. The SAT and PERT tests results have also improved. This week is literacy week throughout the school district. Mentoring is another area of importance and Duval County Schools are looking forward to the Mayor's Mentoring program. The students selected for the mentoring program are referred by teachers, requested by parents and/or students.

Jim Green, FDOT: pavement rehab on I-95 is underway. The I-95 construction for the project is being conducted at night and parts of I-95 are very rough to drive on. The signage transforming 9A into I-295 is underway; the project started in the southern part of the county and is working in a northbound direction. Also, the resurfacing on Southside Blvd. (between Cargile and Atlantic Blvd.) is underway.

- **Aaron Glick, Planning & Development Department:** no report, but available for questions.
- **Rosemary Wesolowski, Housing & Neighborhoods Department:** discussed the options for the May CPAC meeting (the 4th Monday of the month falls on Memorial Day), the group decided that they would like to meet on the 3rd Monday in the month of May. Also, St. Luke's Hospital will officially be re-named February 1, 2012 to St. Vincent's Southside. Only the name has changed everything else will be conducted as usual. On February 7th, there will be free training on the Florida Sunshine Laws, Ethics and Roberts Rules of Order. If you are interested in attending the training, please email or call me.
- **JSO, Zone 3:** Lt. York informed the group that during the month of December there were a lot of smash and grabs and home burglaries in zone 3. JSO has put a lot of time and resources solving these crimes and the numbers have gone down. Citywide we are having problems with kids violating curfew. If you see kids out and about after 11:00 p.m. Sun – Thurs. and/or out after midnight on Friday and Saturday, please call JSO. Zone 3 continues to lead the City in traffic fatalities. Currently, there are 8 officers and their sergeants focusing on traffic fatalities. They are stopping cars that are in violation (usually speeding) to educate them on the dangers of speeding. If you see anything that is suspicious, please call JSO.
- **Michael Waelde, Code Compliance:** informed the group that they started their systematic inspections again; Englewood netted 76 new cases with 160 violations. Illegal signs have been another focus of the group. On the major roadways in the district they have collected many signs; on University Blvd. there were 65 cases with 95 violations and along Beach Blvd. there were 52 cases with 73 violations.
- **Quinn Bledsoe, Recreation & Community Services Department:** reminded the group that the Winter/Spring JaxParks Activities Guides are available in the back of the room.
- **Lori Boyer, City Councilmember, District 5:** informed the group that she will be hosting a Town Hall meeting on February 2, 2012, 6-7:30 p.m. at DuPont Middle School.
- **Bill Gulliford, City Councilmember, District 13:** on behalf of Councilman Gulliford, Carol Harper informed the group that the councilman is looking into additional park land in the 9A/Baymeadows road area. Currently, Councilman Gulliford is working with Fel Lee (Duval County Schools) and they are looking at the city leasing some unused land next to Atlantic Coast High School for 3-5 years to be used as playing fields and the use of the basketball courts at Twin Lakes Academy. If you have any questions, please call 630-1397.

Chair's Report –

- Verified quorum.

- Voted and approved November 2011 meeting summary
- Informed the group that the CPAC leadership has determined that the SE CPAC needs to reach out to various neighborhoods and increase membership. Various outreach programs will be introduced.
- Presented Volunteer Appreciation Certificates to George Banks, Danny Becton and Gamal Lyons for the work on their subcommittees.

Subcommittee Chair Updates:

Beautification and Environment – Chairperson: Dick Cardell: not present

Economic Development– Chairperson: Gloria Stephens: Joe Whitaker from the JEDC will be at our next meeting to provide an update.

Education – Co-Chairs: George Banks and John Waddell: no report

Growth Management & Transportation – Chairman: Danny Becton: no report, but available for questions.

Land Use & Zoning – Co-Chairs: Michael Lashbrook and Jim Hill: discussed several applications and no action will be taken on any of them.

Membership Recruitment – Chairman: Kathleen Perera: not present

Safety – Co-Chairs: Roger Inman and Betty Wolfe: reminded everyone that December was a bad month in Zone 3; criminals are very bold and we need to be careful and vigilant everywhere we go.

T.R.U.E. Commission – Gamal Lyons: has been very busy reviewing the JEDC Audit. Currently, there are many questions in regard to procedures and how the money is being spent. There is also some concern about the City's Banking Fund. The City can use the Banking Fund allows purchase, but they cannot be capital purchases. At this time the Banking Fund is healthy, but the T.R.U.E. Commission is concerned that the fund keeps increasing, but nothing is getting paid off. The T.R.U.E. Commission is also looking at the Ash remediation and the Pension Fund. Attached are the subcommittee meeting minutes from the Finance Audit Subcommittee. These may be helpful to read before the February meeting.

The floor was opened to all in attendance:

Betzy Santiago, Mayor's Office informed the group education program sponsored by the Mayor on February 7th. The Mayor's Business Builders will be held at the Prime Osborn Convention Center 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. on February 7th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Monday, February 27, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

at

*St. Vincent's Southside Hospital, 4201 Belfort Road,
Main Hospital – Auditorium C*



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**FINANCE AUDIT SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 24, 2012
2:30 p.m.**

Location: City Council Conference Room A, Suite 425, City Hall – St. James Building; 117 West Duval Street

In attendance: Committee Members Greg Anderson (Chair) and John Crescimbeni
Excused: Committee Member Richard Clark

Also: Council President Stephen Joost, Council Members Lori Boyer, Bill Gulliford (arr. 3:03) and Bill Bishop (arr. 3:03). See attached sign-in sheet for other attendees.

Meeting Convened: 2:34 p.m.

After self-introductions of all in attendance Council Auditor Kirk Sherman distributed and discussed a document called "Council Auditor's Office Scope of Future JEDC Audit Work" which discussed possible additional work in the areas of local incentive verification and Cecil Commerce Center revenues and expenditures. The Auditor's Office proposed to audit 100% of local incentive payments to companies that promised to create jobs and agreed to penalties for noncompliance, to the fullest extent possible. The office also proposed to further audit the V.T. Griffin contract for operation and maintenance of Cecil Commerce Center for non-allowable expenses. The Auditor's Office did not suggest undertaking any work on the JEDC's film or sports operations or the SMG facilities management contract.

President Joost suggested starting the audit of incentive contract compliance with the 10 largest deals in the past 10 years and seeing where that leads. Mr. Sherman said that the work could either be contracted out to the City's independent auditor (McGladrey and Pullen) at a cost of \$115 per hour or could be done in-house by the Auditor's Office with some reassignment of personnel and re-prioritization of other scheduled work.

Council Member Crescimbeni felt that the SMG contract deserved more scrutiny given the controversy played out in the media over the past year with regard to charges made by the former General Manager of the SMG office in Jacksonville. There were allegations that the Inspector General's audit of the SMG contract was "sanitized" by the Mayor's Office before it was

released, and the TRUE Commission and Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County have expressed dissatisfaction with the outcome of that audit and feel there are still issues to be explored. President Joost suggested that, given the size of the contract and its upcoming expiration and opening for extension or rebidding, the time may be right to take a careful look in preparation for the rebidding opportunity. JEDC Acting Executive Director Paul Crawford stated that the JEDC and City CFO Ronnie Belton have begun planning to issue an RFP to competitively bid the facilities management contract when the current contract expires in 2013.

Mr. Sherman and the committee discussed the Auditor's Office staffing level and how much additional capacity could or should be added to deal with additional work on economic development activities. One entry level auditor just resigned so a hiring search is just beginning to replace that position. The process could be expanded to add one or more additional positions. The current office space has capacity to add up to 3 additional positions. His plan would be to team a new entry level auditor with the auditor who conducted the JEDC audit to have two personnel familiar with the JEDC's contracts and operations. Council Member Crescimbeni suggested exploring the concept of hiring an auditor on a 1-year contractual basis rather than adding another permanent employee.

Principal Auditor Kyle Billy said that the Audit Committee or City Council can direct the Auditor's Office to perform whatever audits are believed to be most important, but need to recognize that increasing the priority of one project necessarily means that the priority on other jobs is reduced and those projects will take longer to complete. Mr. Billy and Mr. Sherman outlined the Auditor's Office's current work plan.

Motion (Crescimbeni): that the Auditor's Office be authorized to hire 1 new entry level auditor to provide the Council Auditor with the capacity to assign one experienced auditor and one entry level auditor to JEDC audit and monitoring work – **approved**.

Deputy General Counsel Steve Rohan will draft a bill for introduction on tonight's Council agenda to authorize the new position.

The committee discussed whether or not additional work on the SMG contract is desirable. Mr. Sherman suggested that a proposed scope of work be developed utilizing the issues raised by the Inspector General's report, the TRUE Commission's work, Concerned Taxpayers' issues, and other input from interested parties. He expressed the need for a council member or a council committee to "own" the SMG review and provide guidance about exactly what is to be studied and how much time, effort and resources are to be invested in the project. The timing of a potential SMG review was discussed in relation to other on-going work such as the audit of the General Employees' Pension Plan. The committee asked Mr. Sherman to prepare a report for the next meeting of the Audit Committee showing the Auditor's Office's current work schedule and project timelines.

Motion (Crescimbeni): the Audit Committee directs the Council Auditor to continue on with Phase II of the JEDC audit – **approved**.

Council Member Crescimbeni asked the TRUE Commission and Concerned Taxpayers of Duval County to provide the Council Auditor with documentation of their issues and concerns regarding the SMG contract.

Paul Crawford stated that the JEDC is still hard at work trying to bring new jobs to Jacksonville and may have an announcement to make soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Minutes: Jeff Clements, Council Research Division
1.25.12 Posted: 12:00 p.m.

Tape: Audit Subcommittee meeting 1.24.12
Legislative Services Division

Materials: Auditor's Office handouts 1.24.12
Legislative Services Division