

# District 4 Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Dewey Walker

Vice Chair: Kathy Budd

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## MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville Kent Campus  
3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Room E-112F  
February 10, 2014

### Attendance

#### **Members:**

Chair (Springtree Village) - Dewey Walker  
Vice Chair (Council District 10) - Kathy Budd  
Charter Member - Don Ingram  
Cedar Hills Estates - Johnny Carter  
FSCJ Cecil North - Paul McNamara  
Hyde Grove Terrace - Shirley Lowry  
Murray Hill Preservation - Len Burroughs  
Timuquana Manor N. - Alice Turknett  
Timuquana Manor N. - Polly Walker  
Trinity Ministries - Bruce Tyson  
Watermill Master - Thomas Martin  
West Jax Civic - Richard Dill

#### **Excused:**

Armstrong & Bosh Insurance - Opal Burgstiner  
Charter Member - Charles Mann  
Confederate Point Civic - James Nolting  
Crystal Springs - Marilyn Lehman  
Gleaners Dispatch - Jim Kelly  
Hearing Loss Association - Judy Martin  
The Village Salon - Steve Shaffer  
Westside Area Residents - Charles Kelley  
Westside Business Leaders - Jane Miller

#### **Absent:**

Hearing Loss Association - Judy Martin

#### **Elected Officials:**

#### **Staff:**

City of Jacksonville Mayor's Office Representative - Angela Spears  
City of Jacksonville Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman  
City of Jacksonville Neighborhoods, Municipal Code Compliance - Dennis Steele  
City of Jacksonville Parks & Recreation - Eleanor Robinson

City of Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) - Lt. Mike Eason  
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - Richard Prindiville

#### **Staff Excused:**

City of Jacksonville Mayor's Liaison - Elaine Spencer  
City of Jacksonville Planning & Development - Andy Hetzel

#### **Guests:**

Lara Higgs - Higgs Group  
Kathleen Brunner - Willowbranch Public Library  
Abner Davis - Clara White Mission  
Joe Andrews - TRUE Commission

### **1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum**

Chair Dewey Walker called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Mary Beth Ridderman verified a quorum.

### **2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary**

A motion to approve the January summary was made by Len Burroughs and seconded by Paul McNamara. The vote: all in favor.

### 3. Staff Reports

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – Lt. Mike Eason reported:
  - At the March 10 SW CPAC meeting, Sheriff Rutherford will address violent crime in West Jacksonville.
  - There has been a rash of auto burglaries. Most cars (about 80%) were unlocked.
  - JSO has had a number of personnel changes. Assistant Chief Pat Ivey was promoted to Chief of Patrol West, including Zones 4, 5 and 6. The new Zone 4 Assistant Chief is Ray Walden.
  - A question was raised about red light cameras. Lt. Eason replied that Westside installation has been completed.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Housing and Community Development Division Chief Elaine Spencer's absence was excused.
  - Ms. Spencer may be contacted at 255-8200.
- **Mayor's Representative** – Ms. Spears reported:
  - Mayor Brown is working with youth on a Youth Initiative to include summer jobs and other services.
  - Mayor Brown established a Young Leaders Advisory Council.
  - The City has 60 boards and commissions, many with openings. To learn more, please visit <http://ccmayorboards.coj.net/boardlist.asp>.
  - The 2014 Jazz Fest is May 22-26. The poster unveiling is February 11.
  - Mayor Brown will host the 22nd Annual Mayor's Environmental Awards on March 6 at the Jacksonville Zoo. Tickets are \$25.
  - Ms. Spears may be contacted at 630-1977.
- **Duval County Public Schools** – The Honorable Becki Couch's absence was excused.
  - The Honorable Becki Couch may be contacted at [couchr@duvalschools.org](mailto:couchr@duvalschools.org) or 390-2373.
- **Neighborhoods** –
  - **Housing and Community Development Division** - Mary Beth Ridderman announced:
    - Portable posters displayed this week in Hemming Plaza to raise awareness about Human Trafficking.
    - Feb. 26 – April 9, 6 p.m. at the Mandarin Library: free program for families and children who struggle with reading. For more information, call 630-7392.
    - March 1 – Mayor's Walk for Senior Wellness, 9 a.m. 630-7392.
    - March 10 – Sheriff Rutherford is the SW CPAC special guest speaker – Town Hall Meeting style. All 10 display tables are reserved: ShAdCo, Senior Services, JSO Community Affairs, JSO Narcotics, World Relief (Human Trafficking), Hubbard House (Domestic Violence), Justice Coalition, FDLE (identity theft, sexual offenders/predators) and JFRD Fire Prevention
    - March 18, 2014 Condo & Townhome Training at 1 p.m., 214 N. Hogan Street Room 110.
    - March 18, 2014 HOA Training at 5:30 p.m., 214 N. Hogan Street Room 110.
    - A number of COJ employees are involved in updating the Neighborhoods Directory. Please fill out the form and return to Kenny Logsdon at [logsdon@coj.net](mailto:logsdon@coj.net).
    - For more information, contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or [marybeth@coj.net](mailto:marybeth@coj.net).
  - **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Dennis Steele reported:
    - He is the interim supervisor, usually assigned to Arlington.
    - The division is very short-staffed.
    - The division lost two supervisors within one week. Tests are being developed to fill the supervisors' positions.
    - New officers are being trained but it is a slow process.
    - Three additional officers will be hired on Feb. 24 and will be redistributed.
    - Each part of Jacksonville has unique problems. The Westside has elevated activities. Code can work with JSO to solve some problems. They are working together on the arson case at Harlow and 103<sup>rd</sup> Street – the building is on an emergency demolition schedule.
    - Please report concerns about City property or private property to 630-CITY (2489).
    - Chair Walker thanked Mr. Steele for his work in the community and thanked him for attending the CPAC meeting.
- **Planning & Development** – Andy Hetzel's absence was excused.
  - Contact Mr. Hetzel at [ahetzel@coj.net](mailto:ahetzel@coj.net) or 255-7821.
- **Parks & Recreation** – reported:
  - Summer camps are being planned.
  - Life guards and camp counselors are being hired for Summer Night Lights.
  - Community Centers are being reworked to provide ADA accommodations.
  - Sports fields are being redone.
  - Lists are being gathered for the next school year.
  - A member expressed concern that his neighborhood association has used Hannah Park for several years for their meetings, but now they are required to produce proof of insurance to use the park. He has called Parks several times but no one has returned his call. Ms. Wilson said COJ Risk Management requires the proof of insurance. Ms. Wilson said she will contact Tera Meeks and get back to the member.

- **Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA)** – Lara Hipps reported:
  - The Cecil Airport Advisory Committee will meet Feb. 3, 7 p.m. near Cecil Airport. A Hillwood representative will be present.
- **Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ)** – Mr. McNamara reported:
  - FSCJ is under new leadership: Dr. Cynthia Bioteau is the new president.
- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Richard Prindiville reported:
  - I-295 from Collins interchange and between Morse and Hwy 17 will have single lane closures from 7 p.m. until 5 a.m. beginning January 17, The work should be completed in 2014.
  - I-10 at Cassat will have single lane closures 9 – 3 on January 17 for road maintenance.
  - 103<sup>rd</sup> Street near Jammes will have single lane closures between 9 -3 on January 17 for road maintenance.
  - Chair Walker thanked Mr. Prindiville for attending the meeting.
  - Please check FDOT’s website for information about projects, to give compliments or express concerns: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/> or call 360-5400 or 367-5681.

**5. Presentation:** Street Drug Identification by JSO Lt. Rich Buoye, JSO Narcotics Unit

- Lt. Buoye has 19 years’ experience in law enforcement. His division consists of four squads of 6 – 8 detectives on each squad, with a total of 28 detectives, all street-level operatives. The division is undermanned. Working undercover is the most dangerous job in the city. A mid-level team has 7 officers that inspect UPS, USPS and FedEx distribution sites. This team does call-outs on meth labs and marijuana grow-houses (houses that have been gutted and are being used to grow marijuana under electric lighting.) The pill squad works with doctor-shopping and pill mills. Now that the pill mills have been investigated and many closed, pill-users have turned to heroine instead of prescription pills such as Oxycodone, Oxycontin and Roxycodone, Percoset, which are also opiates. Major narcotics cases may involve other agencies, wire taps and travel to other states. The narcotics team’s ultimate goal is to obtain evidence - a video recording of a dealer selling to a JSO undercover detective. JSO officers take a pre-hire drug screen and afterwards undergo random drug screening.
- Drugs are in every neighborhood in Jacksonville. Drugs are the nucleus of everything JSO does.
- The DART or Drug Abatement Response Team (DART) is another strategy to combat drugs in the community. DART condemns buildings being used for drugs – but the process takes time because proof is needed.
- Lt. Buoye brought sealed displays of street drugs and paraphernalia.
- Marijuana remains the number one drug of choice followed by crack cocaine and pills. Marijuana is a gateway drug, often lowering inhibitions and allowing users to accept other drugs and crimes. Marijuana possession is not strongly prosecuted because so many people think it is acceptable.
- Synthetic marijuana, sometimes called potpourri, K-2, Spice or Wacky Weed is illegal. It is marketed to children, using attractive packaging with popular cartoon and other characters. Previously marketed in convenience stores, synthetic marijuana is seldom seen now in chain stores, but only in smaller stores, sometimes in back rooms, for example, where certain customers have access.
- Methamphetamine (meth) is usually in crystal or powder form which is smoked or snorted. It is made from a variety of easily obtainable ingredients: lighter fluid, iodine, match heads, lithium (from batteries) Drano, Sudafed, brake fluid, lye or hydrochloric acid. Small batches are made in the One Pot Shake & Bake method, using 2-liter bottles or Gatorade bottles. Meth is extremely combustible, even in small batches. It is highly addictive and most users make just enough meth to sell to purchase ingredients for another batch, then use the rest.
- Bath salts (i.e. Cloud Nine or Bliss) are designer drugs, that look like Epsom salts. Ingredients are synthetic and vary from batch to batch. Very addictive, this drug causes hallucinations and paranoia and some users see demons. He referred to the Miami incident of face-eating.
- Krokodil or Crocodile is an inexpensive designer drug, made with iodine or crushed iodine and other ingredients then injected under the skin, causing the skin to look like crocodile skin and deteriorate. The drug is highly addictive and users die within two years.
- He suggested watching the movie “Breaking Bad”, about a meth lab operator.
- To report suspected drug activity, call 630-CRAK. Each report will be investigated but remember that investigations take time to complete.

**6. Chair’s Report** – Chair Dewey Walker reported:

- He is honored to serve as 2014 Chair of the SW CPAC. He will do everything he can to support the CPAC and its members.
- He has four objectives for 2014:
  - Increase CPAC membership.
    - Bring a guest next month. Membership nomination forms are available.
    - Volunteer for Membership Subcommittee Chair.
  - Obtain involvement of elected officials in CPAC meetings
  - Secure a Police Athletic League (PAL) site for the Westside.
  - Help JSO reduce Zone 4 crime rates.

- Work with Sheriff, ShAdCo, Westside Business Leaders and other organizations.
  - The Vice Chair has agreed to assume the following duties:
    - Greet and introduce guests.
    - Introduce JSO officers and other guest speakers.
    - Liaison to elected officials.
    - In addition, she will be permitted to make (personal) public comments and announcements.
  - He will speak with members about subcommittees and appoint members in February.
  - On March 10, Sheriff Rutherford is the honored guest speaker. Sheriff Rutherford requested and will be allowed one hour plus additional time for comments, questions and answers. The topic is crime in Jacksonville's Westside.
    - The CPAC meeting will move to the FSCJ large auditorium, F-128, to accommodate extra guests.
    - The meeting will be a town-hall meeting style with informational/display tables. Mary Beth is contacting community organizations and most tables have been reserved.
    - Bruce Tyson is passing out fliers. The fliers have also been distributed electronically. Please share this information with your contacts.
    - Please plan to bring a guest. We need to pack the meeting space, which holds about 250 people.
  - For future meetings, staff members or subcommittee members who provide a written report will please provide an oral report, summarizing the written report.
- 7. Elected Officials Reports** – Ed Suggs was present for Council Member Kimberly Daniels. She currently serves on the City Council's Public Health and Safety Subcommittee. If you have concerns, please contact Ms. Ridderman and she will forward the information.
- A comment was made that the SW CPAC would like to have a City Council Member's report each month. The community needs the Council Members' help and this is an efficient way to contact several neighborhoods at one time.
  - Mr. Suggs said Council Member Daniels has committed to become involved in CPACs. Chair Walker welcomed Mr. Suggs for the meeting and expressed his personal appreciation and the CPAC's appreciation to Council Member Daniels for her commitment to CPAC.
- 8. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports**
- Beautification/Parks/Environment – Mr. Carter's absence was excused.
  - Transportation – Thomas Martin' absence was excused.
  - Sheriff's Advisory Committee (ShAdCo) – Ms. Turknnett reported:
    - The annual joint ShAdCo meeting had very good attendance.
    - Zone 4 is experiencing an increased number of breaking/entering and auto burglaries.
    - Local issues are kids loitering in neighborhoods, with no jobs and no structured activities after school. Truancy is also a problem. Kids loitering in neighborhoods cause senior citizens distress and reduced quality of life.
    - Two homes were DARTED in her neighborhood. (The DART – Drug Abatement Response Team responds to chronic drug dealing and other illegal activities that cause neighborhood deterioration. Often these activities are started by homes causing blight in neighborhoods. Several COJ departments are involved.)
    - It is remarkable and commendable that JSO officers regularly put their lives on the line to protect residents.
    - Chair Walker commended Chief Ivey, who attends the ShAdCo meetings each month. Chair Walker encouraged CPAC members to join ShAdCo. ShAdCo K requested a speaker from CPAC – Chair Walker will present and recruit new members on February 4, 7 p.m. at the Lane Wiley Senior Center.
    - Please call 630-0500 to report suspicious activity, including loitering. Callers may remain anonymous.
    - The following are ShAdCo meeting dates:
      - ShAdCo Sector J meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Ortega United Methodist Church. Visitors and new members are welcome.
      - ShAdCo Sector K meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Lane Wiley Center. Visitors and new members are welcome.
      - ShAdCo Sector L meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Cecil Recreation Center – Aquatic Center. Visitors and new members are welcome.
  - Safety – Bruce Tyson was present for questions.
    - Chair Walker requested periodic updates from Mr. Tyson about the City of Jacksonville drive cam program.
  - Cecil Area – Bruce Tyson reported:
    - The Cecil Airport Advisory Committee will meet on February 3 at 7 p.m.
  - Economic Development – Jim Kelly's absence was excused. Volunteers are needed for this subcommittee.
  - LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs. Volunteers are needed for this subcommittee.
  - Education – Chuck Mann's absence was excused. Volunteers are needed for this subcommittee.
  - Membership – Volunteers are needed for this subcommittee.

9. **Unfinished Business** – Chair Walker thanked Alice Turknnett for arranging for her group, the Morning Glory Bell Ringers of Mandarin United Methodist Church, to perform at the December annual social.

10. **New Business** – none

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

- Bruce Tyson announced he distributed fliers about the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) public meeting, January 23, 5 – 7 p.m. at FSCJ Kent F-128. The meeting will be the kick-off for a study of the Southwest BRT, as part of the 25 year plan.

Lara Hipps announced the January 15 grand opening of Florida’s first public-access Clean Energy LNG (liquefied natural gas) station at Stuart Avenue and Lane Avenue. The Edgewood Bakery will cater the event. Several local companies, including Raven Transport, UPS and Southern Wrecker Service (Road Ranger Program) will convert to use LNG. •

12. **Motion to Adjourn** – Bruce Tyson made a motion to adjourn. Len Burroughs seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:29p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: February 10, 2014 ~ 6:00 p.m.**

Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus  
3939 Roosevelt Blvd, Room E-112 F

Summary prepared by Mary Beth Ridderman, Neighborhood Coordinator