

District 4 Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Dewey Walker

Vice Chair: Kathy Budd

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville Kent Campus

3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Room E-112F

January 13, 2014

Attendance

Members:

Chair (Springtree Village) - Dewey Walker
Vice Chair (Council District 10) - Kathy Budd
Confederate Point Civic - James Nolting
Council District 10 - Yvonne Cooke
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
Westside Business Leaders - Jane Miller

Excused:

Armstrong & Bosh Insurance - Opal Burgstiner
Charter Member - Don Ingram
Charter Member - Charles Mann
Crystal Springs - Marilyn Lehman
Gleaners Dispatch - Jim Kelly
Hearing Loss Association - Judy Martin
The Village Salon - Steve Shaffer
Watermill Master - Thomas Martin
Westside Area Residents - Charles Kelley
West Jax Civic - Richard Dill

Absent:

Cedar Hills Estates - Johnny Carter

Elected Officials:

Ed Suggs for Council Member Kimberly Daniels

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 - Devron Cody
City of Jacksonville Parks & Recreation - Sherry Wilson
City of Jacksonville Planning & Development - Andy Hetzel
City of Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) - Lt. Rich Buoye
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) - Richard Prindiville

Staff Excused:

City of Jacksonville Mayor's Liaison - Elaine Spencer

Guests:

Lara Hipps - Hipps Group
Pamela Miller

Linda Barrow - Hyde Grove Terrace

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

2013 Chair Bruce Tyson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mary Beth Ridderman verified a quorum.

2. Passing of the Gavel

2013 Chair Bruce Tyson passed the gavel to 2014 Chair Dewey Walker. Mr. Tyson congratulated Chair Walker and Vice Chair Budd on their election. Chair Walker thanked Mr. Tyson for his years of service as Chair and Vice Chair and said he looked forward to working with Mr. Tyson in the future. Vice Chair Budd thanked 2103 Vice Chair Burroughs for his service as Vice Chair. Members applauded.

3. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

A motion to approve the December summary was made by Len Burroughs and seconded by Bruce Tyson. The vote: all in favor.

4. Staff Reports

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – JSO was represented by Lt. Rich Buoye, guest speaker (see below).
- **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:
 - Jacksonville is ranked third among the top digital cities.
 - The Martin Luther King Breakfast is Friday, January 17 at the Prime Osborne Convention Center. To purchase tickets, call 630-3690 or visit JAXMLKBreakfast.com.
 - The St. Johns River Ferry is in back in operation, following repairs.
 - The Mayor is working on legislation for non-profits regarding special event permitting, streamlining the application process and decreasing insurance requirements.
 - 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 or 390-2373.
- **Neighborhoods** –
 - **Housing and Community Development Division** - Mary Beth Ridderman announced:
 - The Chair and Vice Chair attended the January CPAC Officers' training. Every CPAC was represented at the training.
 - Condo and HOA Training - March 18, 2014.
 - For more information, contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or marybeth@coj.net.
 - **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Devron Cody reported:
 - Maria Buchwalter retired and Mr. Cody is the interim supervisor.
 - Several officers recently retired. The division just hired six new inspectors.
 - Officers have been busy enforcing property safety, property maintenance, the sign ordinance and the new zero tolerance litter law.
 - The division has taken on new responsibilities with Operation Urban Blight. The overall goal is to reduce blight.
 - Today, he rode in Zone 4 to identify problem areas. If residents know of a neighborhood or an area that requires code compliance, please notify Ms. Ridderman and she will forward the information to him.
 - A visitor expressed concern that No More Homeless Pets continues to catch and release feral cats in her neighborhood. Feral cats have caused physical damage to her garage. They pollute the ground, cause disease in humans and other animals, decimate urban wildlife and present safety issues. Three members commented that feral cats also present problems in their neighborhoods. Mr. Cody advised residents to call Animal Care and Control.
 - Please report concerns about City property or private property to 630-CITY (2489).
- **Planning & Development** – Andy Hetzel was available for questions.
 - Contact Mr. Hetzel at ahetzel@coj.net or 255-7821.
- **Parks & Recreation** – Sherry Wilson 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.
 - 103rd Street near Jammes will have single lane closures between 9 -3 on January 17 for road maintenance.

- o Chair Walker thanked Mr. Prindiville for attending the meeting.
- o 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

- o 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.
- o Drugs are in every neighborhood in Jacksonville. Drugs are the nucleus of everything JSO does.
- o 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.
- o Lt. Buoye brought sealed displays of street drugs and paraphernalia.
- o 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.
- o 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.
- o 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.
- o 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.
- o 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.
- o He suggested watching the movie "Breaking Bad", about a meth lab operator.
- o 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:
 - o Increase CPAC membership.
 - Bring a guest next month. Membership nomination forms are available.
 - Volunteer for Membership Subcommittee Chair.
 - o Obtain involvement of elected officials in CPAC meetings
 - o Secure a Police Athletic League (PAL) site for the Westside.
 - o 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:
 - o Greet and introduce guests.
 - o Introduce JSO officers and other guest speakers.
 - o Liaison to elected officials.
 - o 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.
 - o The CPAC meeting will move to the FSCJ large auditorium, F-128, to accommodate extra guests.
 - o The meeting will be a town-hall meeting style with informational/display tables. Mary Beth is contacting

- o community organizations and most tables have been reserved.
- o Bruce Tyson is passing out fliers. The fliers have also been distributed electronically. Please share this information with your contacts.
- o 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.
- o 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.
 - o 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. Turknett reported:
 - o The annual joint ShAdCo meeting had very good attendance.
 - o Zone 4 is experiencing an increased number of breaking/entering and auto burglaries.
 - o 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 educed quality of life.
 - o 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.)
 - o It is remarkable and commendable that JSO officers regularly put their lives on the line to protect residents.
 - o 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.
 - o Please call 630-0500 to report suspicious activity, including loitering. Callers may remain anonymous.
 - o 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.
 - o Chair Walker requested periodic updates from Mr. Tyson about the City of Jacksonville drive cam program.
- Cecil Area – Bruce Tyson reported:
 - o 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 Turknett 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 Higgs 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