

District 4 Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Bruce Tyson

Vice Chair: Len Burroughs

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville Kent Campus

3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Room E-112F

August 13, 2012

Attendance:

Members:

Chair - Bruce Tyson
Acting Chair/Vice Chair – Len Burroughs
Charter Member - Charles Mann
Council District 10 – Kathy Budd
Cedar Hills Estates - Johnny Carter
Confederate Point Civic – James Nolting
Crystal Springs – Marilyn Lehman
Gleaners Dispatch - Jim Kelly
Hyde Grove Terrace – Shirley Lowry
Watermill Master – Thomas Martin
West Jax Civic – David Nechvatal
Westside Area Residents – Charles Kelley

Excused:

Charter Member – Don Ingram
Armstrong & Bosh Insurance – Opal Burgstiner
Argyle Community Garden - Sandi Newman
FSCJ Cecil North - Paul McNamara
Oak Hills Estates - Rosanne Vernon
NE FL Equestrian Society - Olwen Busch
Springtree Village – Dewey Walker
The Village Salon – Steve Shaffer
Timuquana Manor N. – Alice Turknett
Timuquana Manor N. – Polly Walker
Tree Top Estates – Russell Carlson
Westside Business Leaders – Jane Miller

Elected Officials:

Becki Couch, Duval County School Board

Staff:

Neighborhoods, Municipal Code Compliance – Maria Buchwalter
Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman
JSO – Lt. Stephen Spates
JSO – Lt. Jesse York
Planning & Development - Andy Hetzel
Florida Department of Transportation - Doreen Joyner-Howard

Guests:

Hipps Group, Inc. – Alberta Hipps
Blue Lake Estates – Capt. Blane Wilson
Bent Creek – Andrew Nemeth

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Bruce Tyson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Mary Beth Ridderman verified a quorum.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

The SW CPAC did not meet in July. A motion to approve June minutes was made by Tom Martin and seconded by Marilyn Lehman. The vote: all in favor.

3. Staff Reports

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office)** – Lt. Jesse York introduced himself and Lt. Spates.
 - The Sheriff is working on the budget. Effective August 24, all Community Service Officer (CSO) positions will be cut. CSOs supplement police officers, allowing police officers to respond to higher priority calls. Eliminating CSO positions places JSO in a compromised position. Prior to having CSOs, JSO had a backlog of calls. Crash calls on state highways such as Lane Avenue, Normandy Boulevard and 103rd Street will be forwarded to the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP). The FHP only has a total of 33 officers on all shifts. If vehicles on state roads can be safely moved, JSO officers will leave the scene. Motorists will wait until FHP can respond.
 - A concern was expressed for potential slower response times to 911 calls if positions are cut.
 - The JSO Zone 4 Substation number is 573-3165.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – A liaison has not been appointed.
- **Duval County Public Schools** – Becki Couch reported:
 - School districts have changed. Ms. Couch and Betty Burney represent schools in the SW District.
 - The election is Tuesday, August 14.
 - The search for a new Superintendent of Schools has been going on for months. Public meetings have been held to collect public input, meet the teachers, workers, principals and staff members. There was a visioning committee. A pool of 30 applicants will be reduced to 5, then 3.
 - A public hearing is scheduled for August 27, 5:30 p.m. at the Schulz Center, 4019 Boulevard Center Drive.
 - School starts August 20. The District is encouraging fathers' participation, particularly in the first day of school. This effort is part of the Million Man March.
 - Meet the new principal at Ed White High School on August 16, 6 p.m. in the auditorium.
 - Duval is making significant progress: increased A schools and decreased F schools; 84% of all schools were A or passing. The graduate rate is 24% above 2011. 18 of 21 high schools are A/B/C schools.
 - Something new: School Choice. Each middle and high school will pick a focus, similar to a magnet school. Priority enrollment is given to neighborhood schools. Remaining openings may be filled by students who provide their own transportation.
 - The SW CPAC Educational Subcommittee Chair commended Ed Pratt Daniels for good job he has done as Superintendent.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Doreen Joyner-Howard reported:
 - The FDOT Secretary requested a special meeting of the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO). A public meeting will be held on August 23, 10 a.m. – noon at 2198 Edison Ave. Updated information will be provided regarding the First Coast Outer Beltway. Public Comments are needed.
 - A SW CPAC member expressed concern about the poor condition of a portion of Chaffee Road and no traffic light near Samaritan Road.
 - A SW CPAC member expressed concern the lack of noise abatement and crash protection for housing near the Brannan-Field Chafee Turnpike and service roads.
- **Neighborhoods** –
 - Housing and Community Development Division - Mary Beth Ridderman provided a written report.
 - Municipal Code Compliance Division – Maria Buchwalter reported:
 - The division has received numerous complaints about the car dealerships on Blanding Boulevard where cars are parked too close to the road. They issued 10 warnings and 8 paying citations. If residents see similar activity on weekends, please call 630-CITY on Monday. The division will arrange weekend hours if needed to alleviate the problem.
 - To report violations or concerns, please call 630-CITY (2489).
 - Zone 4 is short-staffed. As a result, large systematic inspections have been cut. Staff is necessarily becoming more reactive rather than proactive. If you see violations, please call 630-CITY.

- **Planning & Development** – Andy Hetzel provided a written report.
 - A SW CPAC member reported that residents are frustrated that there has been no resolution to the Taylor R&R Auto Parts application (2012-0063). The mistake affects the entire city. Taylor is crushing vehicles and burning materials (Heavy Industrial activities) in an area of homes and apartments, zoned MDR and owner has stated his intent to continue. The land, air and water are being polluted. Code violations have been issued but nothing is being done by the COJ.
 - **Parks & Recreation** – No report. Staff member’s absence is excused.
 - **Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA)** – Alberta Hipps reported:
 - A public meeting will be held August 21, 7 p.m. to discuss environmental assessment regarding the Eastside infrastructure.
 - JAA appreciates the CPAC’s support and active interest.
 - Ms. Hipps thanked Mary Beth Ridderman for her work in organizing the first 2013 Bus Tour meeting.
 - A brief discussion was held about the bus tour. No date has been set for the tour, but the anticipated time frame is March or April, while the weather is still cool.
 - **Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ)** – Mr. McNamara’s absence is excused.
4. **Chair’s Report** – Chair Bruce Tyson reported:
- Next month Mayor Alvin Brown is the guest speaker, having rescheduled from this month. Another speaker has been scheduled for several months. He asked all subcommittee chairs to provide written reports to save time during the meeting. Please provide 25 copies or e-mail the report to Mary Beth Ridderman, who will make copies for the meeting.
 - School starts August 20. Please be careful around schools, near bus stops and on the streets.
 - The bus tour meeting is tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. at FSCJ Cecil Center North.
 - Everyone has seen the news about the city’s budget issues.
 - Tomorrow is the primary election. Get out and vote.
 - Visitor Blaine Wilson from Blue Lake Estates was welcomed and encouraged to join CPAC.
5. **Elected Officials Reports** – Chair Tyson welcomed Becki Couch, who reported in the Staff Reports segment of the meeting.
6. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports**
- LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – No report. A volunteer is needed.
 - Beautification/Parks/Environment – Mr. Carter had no report.
 - Membership – Ms. Vernon’s absence was excused.
 - Transportation – Thomas Martin provided a detailed written report.
 - Education – Mr. Mann reported:
 - Sherriff’s Advisory Committee (ShAdCo) – Ms. Turknnett’s absence was excused.
 - Safety – Chair Tyson reported
 - Cecil Area – Chair Tyson
 - Economic Development – Chair Tyson thanked Jim Kelly for a detailed written report.
 - TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Chair Tyson thanked Tom Martin for a detailed written report.
7. **Unfinished Business** –
- Kathy Budd announced the issue of R&R Auto Parts (2012-0063) remains unresolved. Residents are frustrated that there has been no resolution to the Taylor R&R Auto Parts application. The mistake of allowing a junk yard to operate in a residential area affects the entire city because other junk yards were forced to close or relocate to appropriately zoned areas. Taylor regularly crushes vehicles and burns materials, which are Heavy Industrial activities, in an area of homes and apartments zoned Medium Density Residential. It is a concern that R&R’s owner has stated his intent to continue these activities. Code violations have been issued but nothing is being done by the COJ. The land, air and water are being polluted. A discussion was held following Ms. Budd’s announcement.

8. New Business –

- Jim Nolting asked to have a presentation about JaxPort, the Mile Point dredging project and the St. Johns River Ferry.
- Chair Tyson announced he will appoint members to the Nominations Subcommittee and the Social Subcommittee. Please let him know if you are interested in serving.
 - Marilyn Lehman offered to serve as Chair of the Social Subcommittee.

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

- Chuck Mann announced brochures and straw ballots are available to “Save Our Public Libraries”.

10. Motion to Adjourn

- Marilyn Lehman made a motion to adjourn. Chuck Man seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: September 10, 2012 ~ 7:00 p.m.

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Summary prepared by Mary Beth Ridderman, Neighborhood Coordinator