

SOUTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus

3939 Roosevelt Blvd. Jacksonville, FL

Monday, Mar. 14, 2011

MEETING SUMMARY

Members and Representatives	Media/Staff/Officials
Chair - Rosanne Vernon	Municipal Code Compliance – Maria Buchwalter
Vice Chair - Bruce Tyson	Housing & Neighborhoods – Mary Beth Ridderman
Charter Member – Chuck Mann	JSO -- Sgt. Chip Remolde
FL State College at Jax Cecil North – Paul McNamara	Planning and Development – Andy Hetzel
Gleaners Dispatch – Jim Kelly	Recreation and Community – John Kelly
Murray Hill Preservation – Len Burroughs	STAFF EXCUSED
Springtree Village HOA - Dewey Walker	Florida Dep't. Transportation – Jim Green
Timuquana Manor North – Alice Turknett	Mayor's Liaison – Wight Greger
The Village Salon – Steve Shaffer	GUESTS
Tree Top Estates – Russell Carlson	Alberta Hipps, Hipps Group
Watermill Master Association – Thomas Martin	Peggy Myers
West Jacksonville Civic – Ric Dill	Shirley Lowry
Westside Area Residents – Charles Kelley	Sandi Newman
ALTERNATES ALSO IN ATTENDANCE	Kathy Budd
Timuquana Manor North - Polly Walker	Tom Dumas
West Jacksonville Civic – David Nechvatal	Cheryl Bell
MEMBERS EXCUSED	
Charter Member – Don Ingram	
Armstrong & Bosh – Opal Burgstiner	
Cedar Hills Estates – Johnny Carter	
Confederate Point – James Nolting	
Crystal Springs HOA - Marilyn Lehman	
Westside Business Leaders – Jane Miller	
ABSENT	
Charter Member - Jerry Spinks	
Family Investment - Robert Smith	
N. E. FL Equestrian Society – Olwen Busch	
RAP – Jean Grimsley	
Westwood – Jim Ross	

Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Rosanne Vernon called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was verified by Mary Beth Ridderman, Coordinator, Housing and Neighborhoods Department.

Approval of the Meeting Summary:

The February summary was approved.

JSO Report: Sgt. Rimalde, Zone 4, reported

- Zone 4 has experienced a slight increase in auto burglaries, primarily due to unlocked cars or valuable left in sight in locked cars.
- Violent crime has not increased.
- Auto thefts were due to vehicles left unattended with keys in the ignition, for example, at convenience stores.
- He suggested residents keep garage doors closed, even when residents are in the yard. Open garage doors provide opportunities for crimes.
- He suggested residents permanently mark valuable items and keep records of serial numbers – keep them somewhere other than on your computer.

- Noise complaints have been issued regarding bars and billiard parlors. JSO utilized a noise meter and took one bar owner to court, resulting in a fine for the bar owner.
- Chair Vernon thanked Sgt. Rimalde for his report.

Introductions and Acknowledgments: Chair Vernon thanked members for attending and welcomed guests, Alberta Hipps, Sandi Newman, Kathy Budd, Shirley Lowry Tom Dumas and Peggy Myers.

Presentation: Chair Vernon introduced Cheryl Bell-Abbott from the St. Johns River Water Management District. Florida has the largest concentration of fresh water springs in the world, but not a lot of water is available for use. Approximately 80 percent of our water is obtained from the aquifer. In this limestone layer, is ancient sea water, trapped in limestone deposits in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Alabama. A clay layer, the "Hawthorne Formation", protects our drinking water and can be up to 300 feet thick. The largest recharge area is in Keystone Heights. If fresh water is over-used, the trapped salt water leaches into the fresh water supply. It is important that residents conserve water by installing water-saving devices such as low-flow shower heads, water efficient toilets and appliances. She suggested installing aerators on all faucets. Following water restrictions, outdoors, follow water restrictions; install water-wise landscaping with the right plant in the right place. A list of water-wise plants is available at <http://floridaswater.com>. A discussion followed in which members expressed their concerns for pollution of the St. Johns River at Rice Creek and by JEA. Ms. Bell-Abbott announced she is available for presentations at neighborhood meetings or other groups. Call 904-730-6261 for more information for more information.

Public Comments:

- Kathy Budd thanked Bruce Tyson for his assistance in getting the Hyde Grove Avenue footbridge replaced. It is now attractive and safe.
- Alice Turknnett thanked everyone who set up for and provided refreshments at the Valentine's Day meeting.
- Tom Dumas announced the COJ is preparing to landscape Blanding to Rampart Road and FDOT will be landscaping the I-295 exit at Collins Road. He would like to coordinate efforts to make the areas attractive. If anyone is interested, please contact Mr. Dumas at 710-7774.

Staff Reports and Announcements:

- Mayor's Liaison: Wight Greger's absence was excused. Please call 255-8200 with questions for Ms. Greger.
- Council Members' Reports: No representative. No report.
- Duval County School Board – No representative. No Report.
- Planning and Development – Andy Hetzel reported:
 - One application for road frontage at 9090 103rd St. from 35 feet to 0 feet. It is a large agricultural property. The request is for road frontage to obtain access. He said he had not provided this information to the SW CPAC LUZ Subcommittee.
 - A public meeting of the LUZ will take place on March 21, 4 p.m. at the Ed Ball Building, Room 110.
 - A question was asked about a new U-Haul dealership on 103rd Street. Mr. Hetzel said he did not have information.
 - Mr. Hetzel may be contacted at 904-255-8721 or AHetzel@coj.net
- Municipal Code Compliance –Maria Buchwalter was available for questions. To report concerns or possible code violations, please call 630-CITY (630-2489) or contact Officer Buchwalter at 255-7011 or maria@coj.net.

- Recreation and Community Services – John Kelly reported three new and exciting things are taking place:
 - Quick Start Tennis began this month at Boone Park. The program is for children age ten and under.
 - The Cecil Aquatics Center is open for lap swimmers from at 5 – 8 a.m. A fee is connected to this use. Today was the first day and it is a trial program.
 - The Great Jacksonville Campout is March 26 through March 27 at 8:30 a.m. at Losco Regional Park. Last year 600 parents and children participated. This year over 1000 are expected.
 - A project status report is available for review.
 - Next month, a new Summer Guide Book will be available.
 - Summer Night Lights will have additional sites, but Mary Lena Gibbs will not be a site because it is under construction. No sites are available on the Westside.
 - John Kelly may be contacted at 904- 255-7918 or jkelly@coj.net.
- Florida State College at Jacksonville, Cecil North – Paul McNamara reported:
 - The Commercial Driving License (CDL) driving range is taking shape. Plans are to have it available for use in May, 2011.
- Jacksonville Aviation Authority – No representative. No report.
- Florida Dep't. of Transportation – Jim Green's absence was excused. Mr. Green may be reached at 360-5684.
- Housing and Neighborhoods Department – Mary Beth Ridderman announced she provided a written report. Ms. Ridderman may be reached at 255-8260 or marybeth@coj.net.

Subcommittee Reports and Announcements

- Education, Youth and Recreation – Len Burroughs reported for Chuck Mann. The LUZ subcommittee meeting regarding the sign ordinance 2010-900 is tomorrow at 5 p.m. at City Hall. Every CPAC in the city voted not to support the ordinance as written. He asked residents to show up for the meeting. Mr. Mann may be reached at 387-0636.
- Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE) Commission – Tom Martin reported the following major items were discussed at the March 3 meeting of the TRUE Commission:
 - Presentation by Wight Greger, Director of Housing and Neighborhoods Department on affordable housing issues.
 - Legislative Tracking Committee provided a committee report concerning bills pending before the City Council: 2011-884 appropriating \$40,000 for Hemming Plaza low impact design competition and 2010-856, transient vendor location regulations.
 - Performance Committee: The committee members will investigate internal service funds in detail. The committee reported that the City is facing huge budget deficits over the next five years and will need to make substantial changes to its current practices to keep the budget viable.
 - Banking Fund Committee: Some Commission members have made comments to the draft written report. The final draft report will be made at the next Commission meeting.
 - Contract Management Committee distributed a revised draft report based on Commission members' recommendations to the draft report distributed at the last meeting.
 - Moved to transmit to the City Council four recommendations concerning bill 2011-50, and the revised draft report from the Contract Management Committee with eight recommendations.

- o The next meeting will be Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 4 p.m.
 - o Mr. Martin may be reached at 778-2265.
- Economic Development – Jim Kelly’s absence was excused. Mr. Kelly may be reached at 742-4903.
- N. Florida Transportation Planning Organization – Tom Martin reported:
 - o Approved FDOT request to amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for FY 2010/11 through 2014/15.
 - o Approved JTA request to amend the FY 2009/10 through 2013/14 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
 - o Received the Project Section draft of the NFTPO Program FY 2011/12 through 2015-16.
 - o Received and discussed a presentation on the North Florida Freight, Logistics and Intermodal Update.
 - o Received and discussed a presentation on the COJ Mobility Plan.
 - o The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 6 p.m.
- Beautification, Community Facilities and Services – Johnny Carter’s absence was excused. Mr. Carter may be reached at 786-2535.
- ShAdCo - Alice Turknett reported:
 - o The last meeting had a large turnout. Council Member Michael Corrigan was present. About 80-85 residents attended primarily in response to the armed robbery at The Village Salon and the issue of the Carter Pharmacy which moved to Ortega from Park and King. Recent crime in the area is believed to be linked to the pharmacy. A residential robbery occurred near The Village Salon. The homeowner was beaten and robbed. The suspect was caught on Old Middleburg Road. She cautioned residents not to open the door unless you are expecting company. Steve Shaffer added that the suspect was recently released from prison after serving 17 years for armed robbery. Ms. Turknett thanked Mary Beth Ridderman for listing the ShAdCo meeting dates. If you do not know which ShAdCo you live in, see Alice Turknett or Rosanne Vernon.
 - o ShAdCo Sector J meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Ortega United Methodist Church.
 - o 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.
 - o ShAdCo Sector L meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Maxville Community Center. Visitors and new members are welcome.
- Land Use, Zoning and Transportation – Russell Carlson reported:
 - o He plans to attend the North CPAC to get insight into their Governmental Affairs Subcommittee.
 - o The SW CPAC LUZ Subcommittee met at 6:20 this evening. They are just getting started and would welcome new subcommittee members.
- Membership - Rosanne Vernon said new members are needed. She inquired if any CPAC members obtained their CPAC identification. Mary Beth Ridderman reported that Marilyn Lehman obtained her identification badge. Ms. Vernon may be reached at 477-5187.
- Safety – Bruce Tyson had no report.
- Bus Tour – Bruce Tyson reported the bus tour is March 25, at 8 a.m. at FSCJ Cecil Center. The tour is free and seats are available. Contact Alberta Hipps to reserve your seat. Breakfast will be catered by the Edgewood Bakery. Door prizes will be given on each of the two buses. A discussion was held about the bus tour. It was funded by JAA, Westside Business Leaders, the SW CPAC provided funds that had been held in trust since the 2007 bus tour, and \$7 from the COJ Housing and Neighborhoods Department. JEDC provided staff. FSCJ provided staff and host facilities. Partners

- Chair's Report – Chair Vernon reported:
 - Neighborhood watch signs are available from the Oak Hills Estates Neighborhood Watch for installation on private property for a cost of about \$8.88 plus tax.

Old Business/ New Business:

- Alberta Hipps announced the possible renaming of McGirts Creek Park for Lou Brantley.
- Peggy Myers announced she attended the March 3 Candidate Forum at FSCJ Kent sponsored by the SW CPAC, and she was disappointed at the turnout.

Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The vote: all in favor. Chair Vernon adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The next SW CPAC meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 11 at Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus, 3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Building E-128.

For more information, please contact Rosanne Vernon at 477-5187 or Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260. CPAC meetings and subcommittee meetings are open to the public.

The following provision is required by Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes: If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Southwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Summary prepared by Mary Beth Ridderman, Coordinator, Housing and Neighborhoods Department.