

District #6
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee
Chair: Mike Getchell

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus
4501 Capper Rd. Building C - Auditorium
December 12, 2012

Attendance:

Members:

Chair - Mike Getchell
Charter Member – Richard Berry
Charter Member - David Spruill
Ashford Wood - Evelyn "Kathy" Myers
Duval County PTS/PTA – Vicki Drake
Amelia View – Gay Septon
Black Hammock Island Civic Association - Mary Thompson
Captiva Bluff Neighborhood Association - Rex Neidlinger
Council Appointee District 11 – Tommy Ruffin
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Fran Beach
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Gerie Leigh
National Park Service – Shauna Allen
Northside Lions – Harry Wagner
San Mateo – Roland Biederer
ShAdCo Q – Mozelle Masters
The Cape Association – Delores Spruill

Excused:

Charter Member – Dot Mathias
Betz Realty, Inc. - William Baker
Eagles Hammock – Nancy Landau
Johnson Community Civic Association – James Shronce
Northlake Homeowners Association – Howard Miller
ShAdCo Q- Jenny Bray
Turtle Creek Village - Art Sullivan

Absent:

Northside Business Leaders - Michael Fisher

Elected Officials: None present

Staff:

Mayor's Liaison - Mike Sweat
Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman
Parks & Recreation – Elizabeth Palmer
Planning & Development – Lisa Ransom
Public Works – Terry Theriault

Staff Excused:

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office – Assistant Chief T.C. Davis
Municipal Code Compliance – Bruce Chauncey

Guests:

Angel Lakes – Paula Scott
Copper Hill IV – Bessie Williams
Copper Hill IV - Reverend Joseph Tate
Blue Grass/Northwood - Pastor Mark Bivens
Blue Grass/Northwood - Sharon Bivens
Garden City – Jim Breland
Garden City - Pastor Andre's Lavanderos
White Shell Bay – Aline Clements
White Shell Bay – Sandra Kessler

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Mike Getchell called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. A quorum was verified by Mary Beth Ridderman.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

A motion to approve the November summary with one correction: Charter Member David Spruill was present at the November meeting although he did not sign in. The motion was made by Richard Berry and seconded by Tommy Ruffin. The vote: All in favor.

3. Staff Reports

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office)** – no representative.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Agriculture Extension Office Director, Mike Sweat reported:
 - Agricultural programs are gearing up for winter and spring.
 - Hiring is in process for 3-4 full time positions. Three are University of Florida positions. For more information, please visit Solutions for Your Life and search Jobs <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/>
 - 186,000 residents participated in Extension Office classes last year
 - The Jacksonville Fair had a good report. Attendance was up – one day the wait was over 2 hours to get in the gate. There were rides and new exhibits. Security was much better. JSO was commended for their responses – gate security, drug undercover agents, etc.
 - City Council approved an allocation to the Fair for up to \$120,000 expense reimbursement for delaying the Fair because of the Florida-Georgia contract. The city will not allow temporary Fair vendors' parking at Cecil, prior to the FL-GA game.
 - There are no plans to relocate the Fair. The only change is a date change due to the FL-GA game.
- **Duval County Public Schools** – No representative.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Thomas Hill's absence was excused.
- **Neighborhoods**
 - **Housing and Community Development Division** – Mary Beth Ridderman had no report.
 - **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Bruce Chauncey's absence was excused.
- **Planning & Development** –
- **Parks & Recreation** – Elizabeth Palmer reported:
 - New Fall/Winter Activity guides are available on the registration table.
 - The Civil War Road to Olustee Reenactment will take place at Camp Milton on February 8, 9, 10, 2013.
 - Sheffield Park is scheduled to open in February 2013
- **National Park Service** – Shauna Allen reported:
 - A Science and Historical Committee was reestablished at the preserve.
 - Jan. 26 – a hands-on science day at the Timucuan Preserve.
 - Activities will include demonstrations, kayak boating safety and demonstrations by the Florida Archeological Society.
 - Fliers will be available at the next CPAC meeting.
 - For more information, please visit: http://www.nps.gov/timu/planyourvisit/upload/Adventure-Day-Flyer_Final.pdf
 - The visitor's center will be open with minimal staffing during the holidays.
 - Residents were asked to be watchful for fires in the park. No fires are allowed outside of

designated picnic areas. Previously a fire smoldered for three weeks because someone abandoned a small fire. Fires in the park are dangerous for property, wildlife and park personnel. Call 911 if you see or smell smoke.

- o Information about 25th anniversary celebrations will be available soon.
- o Please visit the National Park Service's website: <http://www.nps.gov/foca/index.htm>.

4. Presentation: Planned speaker, Public Works Director Jim Robinson, had a scheduling conflict. In Director Robinson's behalf, Terry Theriault, Chief of Right of Way and Grounds Maintenance, presented information regarding the planned street light outage.

- o Funding for street lights is in his division's budget.
- o The purpose of street lights is to light the roadway – not to provide security.
- o Street lights cost approximately \$9.5 million per year
- o Public Works was required to reduce its' budget
- o Shutting off 2,400 lights in commercial office parks and industrial parks will save approximately \$300,000. JEA provided a rate reduction, netting another \$300,000 in savings.
- o Some lights must be cut off individually at a high cost. Others can be cut off by circuit.
- o An additional 1400 lights were identified, costing \$35,000 to shut off, but resulting in savings
- o Additional areas in commercial strips near residential areas may be added for shut off.
- o Each shut off light will be tagged with identification stickers
- o All state roads are exempt from light cut-off – state road light fees are paid by FDOT.
- o Mr. Berry had questions about the map regarding the Eastport Road area between Main and Pulaski and the area on Faye Road between Eastport and Dunns Creek. Both areas are marked for shut off but have large areas of residential. Mr. Theriault said he will look into the addresses.
- o Mr. Breland expressed a concern about flooding in the Garden City area where property has been damaged by flooding. Mr. Theriault said he will check on it.
- o Mr. Wagner expressed a concern about street lights that are intermittently out at Starratt Road and Duval Station and about existing street lights that have very low candle power, causing safety issues.
- o Mr. Biederer expressed concerns about the city's position that street lights are for roadway safety, not for public safety. Mr. Theriault said that JEA provides addition lights on poles for a small fee to residents.
- o Ms. Leigh inquired about a program that was planned to replace existing lights with box lights to improve the night sky. Mr. Theriault said he was unaware of any such program in COJ. Perhaps JEA has a program – he said he will check on it.
- o A question was raised if the necessity for the street light outage will be reviewed each year (yes).
- o A concern was expressed that athletic field lights need to be on timers to save electricity. Elizabeth Palmer said many fields are already on timers, but may need adjustments. She asked residents to provide the names of the athletic fields.
- o Chair Getchell thanked Mr. Theriault for making a last-minute change to his schedule to attend the North CPAC.

Planned speaker, JEA Project Outreach Account Executive Gregory Corcoran, did not appear.

5. Chair's Report – Chair Getchell reported:

- o He attended a meeting of the Jacksonville Waterways Commission today. The Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) collects and distributes fees for projects such as new marinas and signage.
 - o FIND issued a 2013 preliminary list of projects for Jacksonville. Two are on in North Jacksonville: dredging the Ribault River to the ramp and purchasing a parcel on Half Moon Island for a boat ramp. Jax Waterways placed the Half Moon Island project on the bottom of the priority list. Residents need to lobby for this project – there are no boat ramps in North Jacksonville.
 - o The City is cutting back in many areas. Previously, the city provided funding for monitoring manatee "flights" (aerial counts) twice a month March through

September. The funding cut calls for a new contract of monitoring only 3 flights per season. The flights provide awareness of the manatees' presence. The county has a manatee protection plan, triggered by the number of manatee deaths with the purpose of reviewing to determine what is not being done correctly for their protection. The state and federal authorities have the option of placing moratorium or review on a case by case basis which slows permitting and construction.

- Shauna Allen reported Half Moon Island was identified as a priority parcel by the National Parks System. She asked that residents provide letters of support for the purchase. Chair Getchell said he will send her information.

6. **Elected Officials Reports** –no representative.

7. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports**

- **Governmental Affairs** – The subcommittee did not meet in December – there were no items to review. Mr. Ruffin arranged for a new meeting space at 4501 Capper Road, Room 216. The next Governmental Affairs Subcommittee meeting is Jan. 3, 2013, 4 p.m.
- **Membership** – Mike Getchell announced the CPAC has a new prospective member, White Shell Bay. Representatives Aline Clement and Sandra Kessler were introduced. Tasti D'Lite is a new member. Representative Nancy Burnett was acknowledged.
 - Jim Breland introduced Pastor Andre's Lavanderos, a representative for Garden City, a prospective member.
- **Transportation** – Richard Berry reported:
 - I-95 is being resurfaced near Duval Road/International Airport Road.
 - New Kings Road is being resurfaced from I-295 North to Dunn Avenue.
- **TRUE** (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – A volunteer is needed.

8. **Unfinished Business – Election:** Tommy Ruffin announced the subcommittee had no slate of officers to present last month. He expressed his appreciation to the subcommittee members for their work and thanked Mary Beth Ridderman for her assistance in identifying a candidate. Mr. Ruffin asked for nominations from the floor. Bobby Taylor was nominated for Chair. Rex Neidlinger was nominated for Vice Chair. Bobby Taylor was elected by unanimous vote to serve as Chair. Rex Neidlinger was elected by unanimous vote to serve as Vice Chair. Mr. Ruffin congratulated the new officers, whose term will begin on January 1, 2013. He asked for and received a round of applause in recognition and appreciation for Mike Getchell's two years of service as the North CPAC Chair immediately following two years of service as North CPAC Vice Chair and Chair of the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee.

9. **New Business** – Chair Getchell presented Certificates of Appreciation to members and staff. Mary Beth Ridderman, in behalf of Mayor Alvin Brown, presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Chair, Acting Chairs, Charter Members and Subcommittee Chairs.

10. **Public Comments:** none

11. **Motion to Adjourn** – Tommy Ruffin made a motion for adjournment and Harry Wagner seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:32 for the annual social. The annual social was held in the nearby atrium.

NEXT MEETING: January 9, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

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