

# North District Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Bobby Taylor

Vice Chair: Rex Neidlinger

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## MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus

4501 Capper Rd. Building A- 171

December 11, 2013

### Attendance:

#### **Members:**

Chair – Bobby Taylor  
Vice Chair – Rex Neidlinger  
Charter Member – Richard Berry  
Charter Member – Dot Mathias  
Charter Member - David Spruill  
Ashford Wood - Evelyn “Kathy” Myers  
Betz Realty, Inc. - William Baker  
Blue Grass Northwood – Sharon Bivins  
Copper Hill - Bessie Williams  
Copper Hill – Joseph Tate  
Council Appointee District 11 – Tommy Ruffin  
Duval County PTS/PTA – Vicki Drake  
Eagle Bend – Mike Getchell  
Edwards Creek – Danny Ferreira  
Edwards Creek – Pamela Ferreira  
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Fran Beach  
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Gerie Leigh  
Johnson Community Civic Association – James Shronce  
San Mateo – Roland Biederer  
Tasti D’Lite – Nancy Burnett  
The Cape Association – Delores Spruill

#### **Excused:**

Amelia View – Gay Septon  
Black Hammock Island Civic Association - Mary Thompson  
Blue Grass Northwood – Pastor Mark Bivins  
Highlands- Jack Stuart  
National Park Service – Shauna Allen  
Northside Lions – Harry Wagner  
Northside Business Leaders – Patrick Bennett  
Northlake Homeowners Association – Josephine Fiveash Porter  
ShAdCo Q – Jenny Bray  
White Shell Bay – Sandra Kessler

*Please contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or [marybeth@coj.net](mailto:marybeth@coj.net) if members will be absent.*

#### **Elected Officials:**

Duval County Public Schools -Honorable Paula Wright

#### **Staff:**

Mayor’s Representative – David DeCamp  
Mayor’s Liaison – Mike Sweat  
Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office - Sgt. W.D. James  
Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman  
Planning & Development – Lisa Ransom

#### **Staff Excused:**

Neighborhoods, Municipal Code Compliance – Bruce Chauncey  
Parks & Recreation – Shaniqua Simmons

#### **Guests:**

Ann Fridl, Highlands Library  
Evelyn Kimbrough, Angel Lakes Estates

### 1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Bobby Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was verified by Mary Beth Ridderman, Neighborhood Coordinator.

### 2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

A motion to approve the November summary was made by Roland Biederer and seconded by Richard Berry. The vote: All in favor.

### 3. Staff Reports

- Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) Sergeant Will James reported:
  - Violent crime is down 6% in Zone 6. The goal is a 2% reduction.
  - Abduction/kidnapping – no change
  - Rape/sexual battery – no change
  - Home invasion – 100% down
  - Robbery to individual down 6%
  - Car-jacking down 100% (from 1 to 0 incidents)
  - Aggravated battery up 75%
  - Burglary to residences down 15%
  - Burglary to businesses down 50%
  - Auto burglary up 75% (90% of vehicles were unlocked). Remove valuables from sight and lock car doors.
  - Thefts from business are down 23%. Most of the change is due to Walmart, who hired off duty JSO officers to deter crime. Walmart has cleared about 95% of their cases.
  - A question was raised about the number of homicides that occurred in 2013. Sgt. James said the year-to-date (YTD) numbers are down. He will obtain the information and report later.
  - A question was raised about comparing 2013 and 2013 numbers instead of YTD statistics.
  - A concern was expressed about the number of truants in Ashford Woods and the problems truancy causes: breaking/entering and damage to homes, especially vacant homes. Schools say they don't have the manpower to check reports of kids walking away from school. Sgt. James said to call JSO when suspicious youth activities are observed.
  - To report suspicious activity, call 630-0500.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Agriculture Extension Office Director, Mike Sweat reported:
  - A handout, the Extension Connection, was provided. The handout has information about available programs. Many programs are free of charge.
  - Dec. 13 – Winter Plant Workshop, 9:30 a.m. - Noon. \$10.
  - Dec. 14 - Canning Class – Holiday Gift Jams and Jellies, 9 a.m. \$20.
  - The Canning Center is available to individuals and non-profit organizations. A small hourly fee is charged. Trained volunteers supervise the canning center.
  - Simply Florida Cookbooks make excellent gifts \$15.
  - Jan. 22, 9:30 – noon. Rain Barrel "Make and Take" Workshop. \$45.
  - For information about Extension Office classes, please call the Extension Office at 255-7450.
- **Mayor's Representative** – David De Camp reported:
  - The pension reform is in progress. Council concluded the annual meeting schedule last night. The meetings will re-start on January 6, 2014.
  - The Mayor met with CPAC Chairs in a very productive meeting. The Mayor's Office is working on the Executive Order to renew and empower the CPACs with a commitment to efforts to get more people to the meetings. Mayor Brown appreciates what everyone in CPAC (staff and volunteers) does.
  - He presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Chair, Vice Chair and Subcommittee Chairs and thanked them for their service to the community, their leadership and their help to the City of Jacksonville.
- **Duval County Public Schools** – the Honorable Paula Wright, School Board Member, reported:
  - This is part of her district.
  - The State released graduation rates. Duval County is the leader in the State for increased graduation rates, with a 4.4% increase. The overall graduation rate is 76%. 80% of students are college-ready in reading. The number of students ready for college math increased by 15%.
  - Chair Taylor thanked Ms. Wright for being at the CPAC meeting. She said she will send

information for the next meeting. A member commented that Ms. Drake had set a high standard. Another member welcomed Ms. Wright and yet another asked if she will be back (yes).

- A concern was expressed about the Big Brother/Big Sister Program, a last-minute grade recovery program and kids doing work for others on home computers. Ms. Wright said she will investigate and report back to CPAC.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – no representative. No report.
  - Accident and related Florida Highway Patrol information: [www.fhp.state.fl.us](http://www.fhp.state.fl.us)
  - Regional traffic information: [www.northfloridaroads.com](http://www.northfloridaroads.com)
  - 511 websites: [www.jax511.com](http://www.jax511.com) and [www.fl511.com](http://www.fl511.com)
- **Neighborhoods**
  - **Housing and Community Development Division** – Mary Beth Ridderman reported:
    - Former Neighborhood Coordinator Marilyn Fenton-Harmer was presented a resolution from City Council for her years of service to the COJ.
    - January 7, 2014, 4:30 p.m. - Training for CPAC Chairs and Vice Chairs, 214 N. Hogan Street, Room 851.
    - March 18, 1 p.m. - training for Condo owners. 213 N. Hogan St., Ed Ball Bldg. Room 110, 214 N. Hogan St., Ed Ball Bldg. Pre-registration required. Contact [marybeth@coj.net](mailto:marybeth@coj.net) or 255-8260.
    - March 18, 5:30 p.m., training for Homeowner and Townhome Associations, 213 N. Hogan St., Ed Ball Bldg. Room 110. Pre-registration required. Contact [marybeth@coj.net](mailto:marybeth@coj.net) or 255-8260.
  - **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Bruce Chauncey's absence was excused.
    - Please call 630-CITY (2489) to register and track CARE concerns.
- **Planning & Development** – Lisa Ransom was present to assist Governmental Affairs.
  - Please call 255-7800 regarding posted signs/notices or contact Ms. Ransom at 255-7834/[lransom@coj.net](mailto:lransom@coj.net).
- **Parks & Recreation** – Shaniqua Simmons's absence was excused.
- **National Park Service** – Shauna Allen's absence was excused.
  - For information about National Parks, visit <http://www.nps.gov/state/fl/index.htm?program=all>

4. **Presentation:** none scheduled.

5. **Chair's Report** – Chair Bobby Taylor reported:

- He will be absent next month.
- All CPAC Chairs met with Mayor Brown on Nov. 18. At the meeting:
  - Chairs expressed concern about inadequate staffing for 6 CPACs, currently staffed by only two employees. Chairs were assured a commitment is being made to staff all three positions.
  - Discussed snipe signs, structure of CPACs, Mayor as spokesperson for CPACs via Public Service Announcements, CPAC Officers' extended (3 year) term of service and staff support (Mayor's Representative, Mayor's Liaison and Neighborhood Coordinator). The CPACs cannot do their job without the coordinator's support and all positions should be staffed.
  - All CPACs want a youth movement from schools. DCPS has begun pilot project at NW CPAC.
  - Chairs were told that Neighborhoods, with legal assistance, is creating new Executive Order draft. CPACs need to review CPAC By-Laws. A comment was made that the CPACs need to review the By-Laws.
- Chair Taylor presented certificates of appreciation to CPAC members and staff members.

6. **Elected Officials Reports** – See the above report by the Honorable Paula Wright.

**7. Subcommittee Reports**

- **Governmental Affairs** – Subcommittee Chair Rex Neidlinger reported:
  - The last Governmental Affairs Subcommittee did not have a quorum so items were discussed only, not voted upon. The CPAC discussed and voted upon the following:

2013-0722	Approve	Closing & Abandoning &/or Disclaiming a Portion of Dames Point Rd, an Improved R/W in Dames Point Replat, at Req. of JAXPORT, for Development as part of the Intermodal Container Transfer Facility
2013-0727	Approve stipulation- February 1 – July 15, 2014	<p>Use Agreement with BAE Systems Southeast Shipyards Jacksonville, LLC for use of Parking Spaces at Sisters Creek Marina; Designate Standard Sisters Creek Marina Parking Agreement for Future use by Dir. of Parks &amp; Rec to Execute such Agreements with no Further Action by Council; Provide for Deposit of all Parking Fees Collected under the Use Agreements into the Sisters Creek Park Maint. &amp; Improvement Fund; Designate Oversight by Parks &amp; Rec Dept.</p> <p><i>Concern that residents need parking for Kingfish Tournament. Vote to prepare letter to request 2013-0727 parking contract end before Kingfish Tournament.</i></p>

- The next Governmental Affairs meeting is January 2, 4 p.m. at FSCJ North Campus, Room C-136.
- **Membership** – Mrs. Bivins had no changes to report.
- **Transportation** – Richard Berry reported:
  - I-95 from Airport Road to Nassau County will be resurfaced. Expect one lane closures until March or April 2014.
  - The Sisters Creek Bridge is scheduled to be closed for painting Dec. 9 – 13. A discussion was held. The CPAC voted to prepare a letter to FDOT to request the closure be suspended until after the ferry is operational.
- **Nomination** – Richard Berry reported the Slate of Officers is: Bobby Taylor, Chair and Rex Neidlinger, Vice Chair. No nominations were received from the floor. A voice vote was held. The 2014 officers are: Bobby Taylor, Chair and Rex Neidlinger, Vice Chair.

**8. Unfinished Business:** none.

**9. New Business:** none

**10. Public Comments:**

- Bill Baker announced he lost his mom last month. He received and appreciated the CPAC’s card.

**11. Motion to Adjourn** – Mr. Berry made a motion to adjourn for the annual social. Bill Baker seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: January 8, 2014 at 4 p.m.**

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus  
 4501 Capper Rd. **Building A – Room 171**  
 The next Governmental Affairs Meeting is January 2, 2014, 4 p.m.  
 FSCJ North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd., Building C-136 Conference Room