

North District Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Bobby Taylor

Vice Chair: Rex Neidlinger

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus

4501 Capper Rd. Building C - Auditorium

March 13, 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
Black Hammock Island Civic Association - Mary Thompson
Council Appointee District 11 – Tommy Ruffin
Eagle Bend – Mike Getchell
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Fran Beach
San Mateo – Roland Biederer
ShAdCo Q – Mozelle Masters
The Cape Association – Delores Spruill

Alternates Also In Attendance:

Heckscher Drive Community Club – Gerie Leigh

Excused:

Amelia View – Gay Septon
Betz Realty, Inc. - William Baker
Duval County PTS/PTA – Vicki Drake
Garden City – Andrea Lavanderos
Highlands- Jack Stuart
Johnson Community Civic Association – James Shronce
National Park Service – Shauna Allen
Northside Lions – Harry Wagner
Turtle Creek Village - Art Sullivan
White Shell Bay – Sandra Kessler

Absent:

Eagles Hammock – Nancy Landau
Northside Business Leaders - Michael Fisher
Northlake Homeowners Association – Josephine Fiveash
Tasti D'Lite – Nancy Burnett

Elected Officials: None present

Staff:

Mayor's Liaison - Mike Sweat
Florida Department of Transportation – Thomas Hill
Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – Paul McElroy
Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) –Gregory Owens
Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – Sheri Cravey
Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – Payton Tilden
Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – C. Taylor
Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) – Karen Blutcher
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Lt. Shawn McCormick
Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman
Neighborhoods, Municipal Code Compliance – Bruce Chauncey
Parks & Recreation – Elizabeth Palmer
Planning & Development – Lisa Ransom

Guests:

Copper Hill IV – Rev. Joseph Tate

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.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

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

3. Staff Reports

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office)** – Lt. Shawn McCormick, for Assistant Chief T.C. Davis, reported:
 - One incident of sexual battery occurred in a vacant house. It is possibly a false report.
 - Robberies to individual continue without a pattern. It is a crime of opportunity.
 - If a JSO officer attempts to make a traffic stop, instead of stopping, it is okay to slow down and continue to a well-lit area. Or residents may call 630-0500 to verify that it is an officer.
 - If a JSO officer comes to your door, require a JSO identification card.
 - Robberies to businesses have occurred at convenience stores on Starratt and on Duval
 - Crime trends include daytime crimes occurring when no one is at home and thefts of recyclable metals.
 - Auto thefts are occurring all over the city.
 - Auto burglaries are second only to robberies to individuals, but the numbers are down.
 - Violent crime is down 41%
 - Property crimes have increased 10%. These crime statistics include grand theft and petit thefts and the number is higher because of the Walmart store in Zone 6. Walmart doubled their loss prevention staff, installed a new camera system and handles juvenile shoplifters in-house.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Agriculture Extension Office Director, Mike Sweat reported:
 - He provided handouts – the New Leaf, which has gardening and homeowner information.
 - March 19, 9a.m. – noon, Florida Friendly Landscaping for Homeowners. No charge.
 - Over 200 residents attend the Extension Connection class on raising chickens.
 - The Mayor saved \$11 million on bonds and will reinvest that money downtown.
 - The Mayor is looking at ways to consolidate/change/reorganize government to be more efficient. Changes will begin next month with more customer service and street lights turned back on.
- **Duval County Public Schools** – No representative.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Richard Prindiville reported:
 - I-295 and I-95 interchange flyover will be constructed. Bids begin Summer 2016.
 - SR 23 Outer Beltway will extend North to US 90 to provide better access for freight, for example Publix and Michael's warehouses and a better link to Cecil. Bids begin 2015.
 - Hwy 301 Bypass will bypass Starke on the West side. It will connect CR 277 South to the north side at CR 233 (Morgan Road). Hwy 301 is heavily congested with truck traffic.
 - Governor Scott will move forward on the \$38 million Jax Mile Point project.
 - J. Turner Butler Boulevard (JTB) and I-95 flyover will connect Southbound I-95 to Eastbound JTB ramp northbound to JTB. Internal bridgework to the flyover JTB and Belfort Road.
 - A concern was expressed about inadequate signage on the I-10 Westbound detour near Stockton Street.
 - Accident and related Florida Highway Patrol information: www.fhp.state.fl.us
 - Regional traffic information: www.northfloridaroads.com
 - 511 websites: www.jax511.com and www.fl511.com
 - Interstate highway traffic information: call 511 telephone service
- **Neighborhoods**
 - **Housing and Community Development Division** – Mary Beth Ridderman reported the Fair Housing Awareness Symposium is April 6, 8 a.m. at the Prime Osborne Convention Center.
 - **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Bruce Chauncey reported:
 - The division hired two new officers to fill vacancies.

- Snipe signs remain a concern. Officers have written approximately 350 citations at \$55 each; if adjudicated \$85 each; on telephone poles \$355 each.
 - Zone 6 Code Enforcement Officers work very hard for residents.
 - A concern was expressed that the junk cars are back at the address on Heckscher Drive. Mr. Chauncey said they are working on it.
 - Please report concerns to 630-CITY (2489).
- **Planning & Development** – Lisa Ransom deferred to the Governmental Affairs report.
 - If you see orange, blue or lime green signs posted, you may contact:
 - 255-7800 – Planning Department’s main number
 - 255-7834, lransom@coj.net- Lisa Ransom
 - **Parks & Recreation** – Elizabeth Palmer reported:
 - Sheffield Park is scheduled to open in April or May. Details will be provided at the next CPAC meeting.
 - A first meeting is being planned for the First Coast Pool.
 - A resident expressed concern about the condition of the road into Huguenot Park. The busy season is approaching and the on-site equipment is not broken.
 - **National Park Service** – Shauna Allen’s absence was excused.
4. **Presentation:** Paul McElroy, CEO, presented information about JEA. JEA is the seventh largest utility in the State of Florida. JEA’s present focus is on customer service and their goal is customer satisfaction. Please visit JEA.com for information about My Utility Tracker and My Budget Billing. My Budget Billing offers customers the ability estimate the same rate every month, averaged on the prior year’s bill. Prepaid meters are available which eliminate the need for a deposit. A fuel credit will be added to the April bill, with an average of \$35. JEA staff members were available to answer questions about bills. Brochures were provided.
- A concern was expressed about the JEA policy on bonuses, given the City’s overall current financial situation. Giving bonuses to upper management is inequitable when other city workers are being laid off, receiving cuts in pay or benefits.
5. **Chair’s Report** –
- Gerie Leigh was thanked for her service to the North CPAC. Ms. Leigh’s certificate was inadvertently overlooked in the 2012 presentations.
 - Chair Taylor presented a book from the CPAC and the Neighborhoods Department to Mike Getchell, 2012 Chair in appreciation for his service to the CPAC.
 - Council Member Holt was invited to speak at the CPAC. Council Member Holt has arranged a town hall meeting on March 25, 6 – 8 p.m. at 12215 Sago Ave. W.
 - St. Johns River Clean-up March 16, 2013, 8-11 a.m. at Huguenot Memorial Park.
 - CPAC members understand the city’s financial strain, have observed a reduction in services, and are looking forward to the future. He discussed the Better Jacksonville Plan and how it’s funding improved the city with a world class arena, the Jacksonville Equestrian Center, the baseball grounds, and many other projects. Ad valorem taxes have been cut every year since 1999. If we want a city to be proud of and for our kids to grow up in, we need to invest in it – don’t have a knee-jerk reaction to tax changes.
6. **Elected Officials Reports** –no representative.
7. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports**
- **Governmental Affairs** – Rex Neidlinger led this portion of the meeting.

The following items were discussed or voted upon:

2013-0091	Approve	ORD Approp \$4,087,118.75 from Alta Rd Fair Share Projs & Interest (\$335,686 from Alta Rd Improvements, \$3,859.09 from Traffic Signal, \$53,944.86 from Traffic Signal Interest Earnings, \$3,616,317 from Alta Rd/9A New Berlin & \$77,311.80 from Alta/Yellow Bluff Bridge) to Alta/Yellow Bluff Rd & Alta/Yellow Bluff Bridge as Fair Share Funding in Sector 6.1 toward Engineering of Widening Alta Rd; Amend 2012-434- E (CIP) for said Proj.
2013-0094	Disapprove	ORD Waiving Portions of Chapter 655 (Concurrency & Mobility Mgmt System), Sec 655.503 (Mobility Fee Requirement, Certificate, Appl Process & Calculation), Ord Code to Auth the <u>Waiver, under Certain Circumstances, of Mobility Fees for 3 Yrs after Effective Date of this Ord.</u>
2013-0095	Disapprove	ORD Auth (1) Rail Grade Crossing Easement with Nichols Creek Development, LLC & (2) Stipulation of Parties for Opening of a New Highway Rail Grade Crossing over New BerlinRd & New Berlin Court bet & Among City, Nichols Creek Dev, LLC & FDOT
2013-0103	Approve	ORD-Q re Sign Waiver Appl SW 13-02 at 10870 Harts Rd, Owned by S & H Investments of the Southeast, Inc to Reduce Minimum Setback from 10' to 5' in CCG-1 Dist.

2013-0107	Approve	RESO Urging Mayor to Investigate Cost Savings of Converting City's Street Lights to LED Lights under a Performance Contract that Capitalizes the Change Cost over Time, with Vendor Bearing Initial Cost; Request Report to City Council Finance Comm on 6/4/13.
2013-0122	Disapprove	ORD Adopt Small-Scale Amend to FLUM 2030 Comp Plan at 12254 Pulaski Rd (5.08± Acre) - LDR to ROS - (Appl# 2012C-014)
2013-123	Approve	ORD Adopt Small-Scale Amend to FLUM 2030 Comp Plan at 12254 Pulaski Rd (5.08± Acre) - LDR to ROS - (Appl# 2012C-014)
2013-128	Approve	ORD Adopt Small-Scale Amend to FLUM 2030 Comp Plan on Katherine Rd bet N. Main St & Gillespie Ave (1.47± Acres) - LDR to CGC - (Appl# 2013C-005)
2013-129	Approve	ORD-Q Rezoning Propy on Katherine Rd bet N. Main St & Gillespie Ave (1.47± Acres) - RLD-60 to CCG-2

- During discussion of the above items, these concerns and questions were raised:
 - Concern about the poor condition of Pulaski Road
 - 2013-129 – concern about the appearance of front entrance and fence. Recommended only one entrance on Main Street/no entrance from residential street.
- The next Governmental Affairs Subcommittee meeting is April 4, 2013, 4 p.m. at the FSCJ North Police Academy.
- **Membership** – Harry Wagner's absence was excused.
- **Transportation** – Richard Berry reported:
 - Mary Beth Ridderman forwards FDOT's notices and reports.
- **TRUE** (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – A volunteer is needed. or the chair will remove this valued subcommittee.

8. Unfinished Business –

- Mr. Berry announced a meeting will be held March 28 at the Crown Plaza Hotel, at noon, regarding the First Coast Pool. Council Member John Crescimbeni was invited.
- Mr. Biederer introduced discussion regarding a monthly report from Eden Group.
- Ms. Leigh introduced the topic of an Olympic pool and the discussion evolved into a brief discussion about the First Coast Pool.
- **Chair Taylor said a volunteer is needed for the TRUE** (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission. If no one is interested, he will remove this valued report from the agenda. A brief discussion was held regarding the TRUE work and prior TRUE representatives.

9. New Business –

- Chair Taylor said a member had suggested the need for a review of the CPAC By-Laws. A member had expressed concern about membership and other CPAC business affected by the By-Laws. He appointed Dick Berry, By-Laws Subcommittee Chair, along with Tommy Ruffin and Roland Biederer, subcommittee members. Their report will be issued in May or June. Vice Chair Neidlinger led a discussion about membership and suggested Mr. Wagner be asked if he would like assistance to recruit new members from subdivisions.

10. Public Comments: none

11. Motion to Adjourn – Tommy Ruffin made a motion for adjournment and Mary Thompson seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:20.

NEXT MEETING: March 13, at 4 p.m.

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus
4501 Capper Rd. Building C – Auditorium

The next Governmental Affairs Meeting is March 7, 2013, 4 p.m.
Policy & Corrections Academy, Room 216, FSCJ North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd.