

District #6
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee
Chair: Mike Getchell

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus
4501 Capper Rd. Room C-136
July 11, 2012

Attendance:

Members:

Acting Chair - Council Appointee District 11 - Tommy Ruffin
Ashford Wood - Evelyn "Kathy" Myers
Black Hammock Island Civic Association - Mary Thompson
Charter Member - Dot Mathias
Betz Realty, Inc. - William Baker
Duval County Council of PTS/PTA Association - Vicki Drake
Heckscher Drive Community Club - Fran Beach
Highlands Homeowners Association - Jack Stuart
National Park Service - Shauna Allen
Northlake Homeowners Association - Howard Miller
Northside Lions - Harry Wagner
San Mateo - Roland Biederer
ShAdCo Q - Mozelle Masters

Excused:

Chair - Mike Getchell
Amelia View - Nancy Burnett
Captiva Bluff Neighborhood Association - Rex Neidlinger
Charter Member - Richard Berry
Charter Member - David Spruill
Eagles Hammock - Nancy Landau
Heckscher Drive Community Club - Gerie Leigh
Johnson Community Civic Association - James Shronce
Northside Business Leaders - Michael Fisher
ShAdCo Q - Jennelle Bray
The Cape Association - Delores Spruill
Turtle Creek Village - Art Sullivan

Elected Officials: None present.

Staff:

Florida Department of Transportation - Thomas Hill
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office - Assistant Chief T.C. Davis
Mayor's Liaison - Mike Sweat
Parks & Recreation - Brian Burket
Planning & Development - Lurice Bannister
Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman
Neighborhoods, Municipal Code Enforcement - Bruce Chauncey

Guests:

Amelia View - Gay Septon
Copper Hill IV - Reverend Joseph Tate
Danny Ferreira
Angel Lakes Estates - Evelyn Kimbrough
Highlands Library - Donna Thomas

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Acting Chair Tom Ruffin called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was verified by Mary Beth Ridderman. Acting Chair Ruffin announced that Chair Getchell was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Acting Chair Ruffin welcomed everyone to the CPAC meeting and thanked them for being at the meeting to take care of community business. He asked that all comments or questions go through the Acting Chair.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

A motion to approve the June summary was made by Bobby Taylor and seconded by Bill Baker. The vote: All in favor.

3. Staff Reports

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office)** – Assistant Chief T.C. Davis reported:
 - Reports of Violent Crime are down by 5 percent, year to date.
 - Reports of property crimes are up due to the increased number of petit theft (retail theft) to businesses. Chief Baker reported retail stores have doubled their security staff, resulting in a the apprehension of more thieves. Two North Jacksonville retail stores lost \$2.3 million in inventory. The number of reported burglaries to residences, burglaries to businesses and auto thefts are down.
 - He asked residents to think about the acronym "WIN" when they are driving – What's Important Now. The number of traffic crashes and traffic fatalities are up. The number can be curtailed by using common sense. Think "WIN", "What's Important Now" - wear your seatbelt, don't be complacent and don't be distracted, for example by texting or using a cell phone.
 - Chief Davis provided a copy of Summer Safety Tips.
 - Acting Chair Ruffin thanked Chief Davis for his report.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Agriculture Extension Office Director, Mike Sweat reported:
 - Mayor Alvin Brown will be the guest speaker at the August 8 CPAC meeting. Acting Chair Ruffin asked if members have ideas of questions or topics for Mayor Brown, please give them to Mr. Ruffin or Ms. Ridderman.
 - The Canning Center costs only \$12,000 per year to keep open. Volunteers run the center and teach canning classes.
 - July 14 – Organic Gardening class. To register, call Becky at 255-7450
 - July 16 – Canning Peach Jam class. Space is limited. To register, call Jeanne at 255-7450.
 - 4-H kids have returned from a mock legislature session in Tallahassee. They are currently working on programming robots to perform tasks at the State Congress in Gainesville.
 - A babysitting day camp is finishing up. Participants become certified babysitters, CPR certified, have business cards printed and create a business plan.
 - Acting Chair Ruffin thanked Mr. Sweat for his report and for arranging for Mayor Brown's visit.
- **Duval County Public Schools** – No representative. Acting Chair Ruffin asked Vicki Drake to provide a report.
 - Meetings have concluded regarding requirements for a new Superintendent. The search is underway. Applications are public record.
 - School grades were published today. Duval County had good successes. For example, Northshore Elementary grade went from D to B. Other schools from C to A and B to A. Overall, the news was good.
 - A concern was expressed about truancy and drop-outs. Ms. Drake explained that the problem is that some parents don't get their kids to school. The schools have successful programs for drop- out prevention but the programs are too few and expensive to run. There are not enough programs for the kids who need them.
 - A question and answer session followed. Acting Chair Ruffin thanked Ms. Drake for her report.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** - Thomas Hill reported:
 - There is no construction in North Jacksonville that needs reporting.
 - He provided Power Point presentation with the results of the FDOT's St. Johns River Ferry Survey. A total of 3157 people were surveyed on weekdays and weekends. Approximately

79.6 percent of all riders were surveyed. Of those surveyed, 56/6 percent were Duval County residents. Most were starting and ending their trips in Duval County. During weekdays, 29 percent of trips were work-related. On weekends, 46.4 percent were social or recreational. On weekdays, 54.3 percent paid with cash while 45.7 percent paid with coupons. On weekdays, 88.6 percent of all riders surveyed paid with cash. Most of the vehicles were cars (88.2 percent). Pedestrians, bicyclists and motorcyclist also rode the ferry. He said he felt the number of bicyclists were under-reported because the surveyors lacked sufficient time to survey all bikers during the ferry trips. JaxPort has pledged \$200,000. The COJ pledged \$200,000. Others have agreed to provide \$5000 in funding, leaving \$400,000 unfunded. The State is considering funding the \$400,000 balance.

- o A question and answer session followed.
- o A concern was expressed about drivers' safety in the COJ Clark Road roundabout.

- **Neighborhoods**

- o **Housing and Community Development Division** – Mary Beth Ridderman announced:
 - A written report was provided.
 - Acting Chair Ruffin asked about a list of topics or questions for Mayor Alvin Brown's August 8 visit. The following suggestions were made:
 - Funding for the First Coast High School Community Pool
 - Will Mayor Brown support a millage increase if the City Council recommends it?
 - What are Mayor Brown's true feelings about the future of COJ firefighters?
 - A concern was expressed about morale because of discussions about privatizing rescue services and cutting pay again.
 - A concern was expressed that reducing the number of fire service personnel would affect the quality of fire service, increase response times and cause fire insurance premiums to go up.
 - His position on toll roads in Duval County.
 - Residents thanked Mayor Alvin Brown for his support of the St. Johns River Ferry. They appreciated him for attending the ferry meeting at Heckscher Drive Community Club.
- o **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Bruce Chauncey reported:
 - Systematic inspections remain suspended due to loss of personnel.
 - The rain has caused the division to be really busy responding to lawn/weed abatement.
 - The division is doing more with less.

- **Planning & Development** – Acting Chair Ruffin recognized Lurice Bannister, who announced she was available for questions. Ms. Bannister said she was representing the department for this meeting. No staff person has been permanently assigned since Shakeeb Shariff left. She is the representative to the Northwest CPAC. Acting Chair Ruffin thanked Ms. Bannister for attending the meeting.

- **Parks & Recreation** – Brian Burket reported:

- o On June 29, Mayor Alvin Brown introduced People + Parks Connection.
 - 10 additional kayak launches
 - Updated waterways access pages. Also see JaxParks.com
 - Waterproof Jax program, JaxParks will rotate its swimming instructors to every public pool to provide every child in the city an opportunity to learn to swim. Previously, instruction was offered at only 10 outdoor pools.
- o Huguenot Park - Zones 11 – 14 are temporarily closed to vehicles because of the sea bird chicks. Pedestrians are permitted in the area.
- o Added kiosks with Quick Response (QR) codes, new technology for smart phone users to scan the code and view a park map.
- o Improved directional signage on trails
- o Increased and improved bike trails
- o A concern was expressed regarding the effect of proposed budget cuts to parks and recreation's service.

- **Other:**

- o **National Park Service** – Shauna Allen reported:
 - The recent storm caused flooding on Ft. George Island. Residents were asked to stay off the road when the roads are flooding. Employees were put at risk rescuing

residents trapped by the flood waters.

- A record number of trees were downed by the storm. Crews are working to remove them. Please advise the office if downed trees are seen on the trails.
- Research is underway regarding oyster, spiders and other species in the park. The website will offer information when it is available.
- A symposium is planned for January. No date has been set.
- A public service day is in the planning stages. No date has been set.
- Please visit the National Park Service's website: <http://www.nps.gov/index.htm> or <http://www.nps.gov/foca/index.htm>.

4. Presentation – The Riverkeeper, Lisa Rinaman, presented information about the St. Johns River and the Riverkeeper's activities

- The Riverkeeper is a privately funded project. It receives no government funding.
- The Riverkeeper asked residents to visit the springs website: <http://www.ilovesprings.org/> and to sign the petition to protect Florida's springs and fresh water supply
- The Riverkeeper recently lobbied for stronger legislation to protect the river from pollution such as over-fertilization which causes algae bloom.
- The Riverkeeper is negotiating for the cleanest possible wastewater from the Georgia Pacific (GP) pipeline in Palatka – the Department of Environmental Protection pulled GP's permit, which will allow thousands of gallons of wastewater to be dumped daily into the river.
- The State of Florida is considering selling certain preservation lands, such as Pumpkin Hill, for surplus lands. To obtain a list of proposed sites and to learn more about the process, please visit the St. Johns River Management District's website: <http://www.sjrwmd.com/> or <http://www.sjrwmd.com/landassessment/>.
- The Riverkeeper is working to plan meaningful mitigation for port dredging, which will have huge environmental impacts on the river.
- The Riverkeeper is currently working to oppose a threat to Silver Springs. A cattle rancher from Canada has filed a permit to remove 1.3 million gallons of water daily from the Silver Springs basin. Silver Springs feeds the Silver River, which feeds the Ocklawaha River, which feeds the St. Johns River. Removing this much water from the Silver Springs area will allow more salt water intrusion into the St. Johns River and will further endanger Silver Springs and other waterways, already suffering from pollution and water consumption.
 - Silver Springs is no longer crystal clear. It has brown and green algae caused by pollution.
 - The flow is down 50 percent
 - The fish population is down 92 percent
- The following concerns were expressed by CPAC members:
 - Pollution to the river from raw sewage released when sewer lids suddenly fly off due to torrential rains. (The Riverkeeper added that waste released when septic tanks are flooded is also a concern. She said the COJ does not have the funds to improve the infrastructure.)
 - Salt water intrusion into the St. Johns River affecting the local water supply
 - River water being pumped to provide water to Orlando
- Volunteers are needed on the River Patrol. Portions of the river may be adopted. The river needs advocates.
- For more information about the St. Johns River, please visit the Riverkeeper's website: <http://www.stjohnsriverkeeper.org/>
- Please contact the Riverkeeper at nlrinama1@ju.edu or 256-7907.

5. Chair's Report – none

6. Elected Officials Reports – No representative. No report.

7. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports

- **Governmental Affairs** – The subcommittee did not meet in July.
- **Membership** – Mr. Wagner was present but did not have a report.
- **Transportation** – Richard Berry's absence was excused.
- **TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission** – A volunteer is needed.

8. Unfinished Business - none

9. New Business - none.

10. Public Comments/Announcements:

- Michelle Kalil introduced herself as candidate for Duval County Judge.
- Bobby Taylor announced the FDOT will host a public meeting about the Sisters Creek Bridge. The meeting will be held at the Heckscher Drive Community Club on July 17. Open house is 4:30 - 6 p.m.. The presentation is 6 - 7 p.m.

11. Motion to Adjourn - Harry Wagner made a motion for adjournment and Jack Stuart seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: August 8, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

CHANGE IN LOCATION:

**Oceanway Middle School Cafeteria
143 Oceanway Ave., Jacksonville 32218**

NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



North CPAC July 2012

Mary Beth Ridderman, Coordinator



Supervisor of Elections: 2012 Early Primary Voting

Aug. 4 – 11; Highlands Library ; Mon. – Fri. 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Sat. - Sun. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

- For a complete list of early voting sites, please visit:
<http://inside.coj.net/News/Documents/EV%20Flyer%20Pri%202012.pdf>
- For a list of candidates, please visit: <http://www.duval elections.com/electioncandidates.aspx?eid=64>
- Precinct Finder, Maps and Demographics: <http://duval elections.com/content.aspx?id=100>

Veterans Affairs:

- Aug. 3 – Annual Veterans Job Fair connect veterans with 30 potential employers
- Aug. 4 – Homeless Veterans Resource Fair offers free VA services, health screenings, haircuts/showers, food, clothing, shelter/housing information, debt management, substance abuse awareness and more.
- For more information, call 630-3680



Duval Emergency Operations Center: Code Red Alerts - a FREE Code RED Weather Warning system delivers severe weather warnings within seconds after being issued by the National Weather Service. Also delivers critical community information: evacuation notices, bio-terrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports. If you would like to receive these warning messages to your unlisted, cellular or business phone please visit:
<https://cne.coderedweb.com/Default.aspx?groupid=EAAn7CUhsxLfCaympNrd82g%3d%3d>



Link up to Literacy

Early literacy skills established prior to kindergarten contribute to future success in school. Libraries help parents learn to be their child's first teacher.



Public Library: The Owl's Nest – a bimonthly electronic newsletter produced by Jacksonville Public Library's Special Collections Department, features articles highlighting each collection and includes information about upcoming classes, events, and material additions.
<http://jpl.coj.net/coll/newsletters.html>



Duval Extension Service:

- July 14 – 9 a.m. – noon. Organic Gardening Workshop, \$5 per person. Call Becky at 255-7450.
- July 16 - 9 a.m. - noon or 1 - 4 pm. Canning Class: Peach Jam, \$20 per person. Call Jeannie at 255-7450.
- Having Trouble Making Ends Meet? Want to Build or Re-Build Your Credit? Saving Enough? Call 255-7450 or email Anita (mckinney@coj.net) to ask for a Master Money Mentor. This is a free service.
- Free newsletter: <http://www.solutionsforyourlife.com/>



Riverside Arts Market: Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

- Free bike valet will park and store your bike while you shop. Bring your bike basket.
- Free entertainment. Shopping includes handmade arts, crafts, fresh fruit and veggies.
- July 14 – The Art of Boating
- August 25 – Art Barket – dog parade, beauty contest and products for your dogs. Dogs on leashes are welcome.
- Shoppers and volunteers are needed. To learn more, contact Torrie Parette at 389-2449 or torrie@riversideavondale.org.

Animal Care & Control:

- Down2Zero Campaign: July- special adoptions rate of \$40. Visit the shelter at 2020 Forest St. or call 630-2489.
- Free newsletter: <http://www.coj.net/departments/environmental-and-compliance/docs/animal-care---protective-services/newsletter-issue-1-summer-2012.aspx>
- Heat Stroke can occur quickly in dogs and cats because they are unable to sweat like humans, so their ability to tolerate high temperatures is limited. Dogs pant to exchange warm air for cooler air, but when the air temperature moves closer to body temperature that cooling ability is greatly compromised. Cats typically do not pant unless they are very hot or very stressed. The most common scenarios that can cause heat stroke include:
 - Leaving an animal in a locked car, even with the windows cracked open.
 - Strenuous exercise in hot or humid weather.
 - Prolonged exposure or confinement on concrete or asphalt.
 - Prolonged confinement without access to shade or fresh water.
 - **Please call 630-0500 if you see an animal locked in a car during hot weather.**

Phone Numbers:

- City Link 630-CITY (630-2489). Please provide the exact address and obtain a tracking number to follow up.
- City Council meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. City Council Chambers, 117 W. Duval St. 32202. For information contact 630-1377.
- Duval County School Board meetings are on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., Board Room, 1701 Prudential Dr., 32207. For information call 390-2000 or Duval County Public Schools www.duvalschools.org
- Jacksonville Public Library - 303 N. Laura St, Jacksonville, FL 32202 – 630-2665 or www.jaxpubliclibrary.org
- JSO - Police Non-Emergency 630-0500-First Coast Crime Stoppers – 1-866-845-TIPS (8477) to report a crime anonymously
- JEA – 665-6000 – If a street light is out please get the number on the pole to report it
- Duval Extension Office – 387-8850 or 1010 N. McDuff Ave. www.coj.net (Search Extension Office)

Davis, Thurman C.

From: Tranquille, Jean C.
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2012 3:16 PM
To: Jones, Larry L. (Asst. Chief)
Cc: Stang, Jerry C.; Collier, Evander; Lendvay, Ronald L.; Davis, Thurman C.
Subject: Operation Heat Shield
Attachments: image001.jpg

Go to this web-site

<http://www.coj.net/departments/sheriffs-office/news-room/iso-news/summer-safety-tips.aspx>

This the type of information we should be sharing, in addition to the crime stopper tips, etc.

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

June 14, 2012

JACKSONVILLE, FL (June 14, 2012) - The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office would like to remind



citizens of the following summer safety tips.

- It is not unusual for us to see a spike in property crimes during the summer months. Simple actions, such as keeping car doors locked; valuables out of plain sight; keeping the garage door closed and locked (even when you are home); all of these actions can help prevent you from becoming a victim of a property crime.

Parents and guardians – you are accountable for your juvenile children. Every year at this time we offer some practical tips to help parents and guardians set and keep boundaries for what will be acceptable summer behavior and what is not. But, at the end of the day, responsibility for setting and keeping these rules is up to the parent/legal guardian:

- **Leaving a Young Person Home Alone**

A big safety concern for parents is how to protect kids who are home alone during summer months. Only a parent can determine the “right age” for their child to be at home unsupervised, based on maturity level and other factors. NO CHILD should ever be given the responsibility of caring for another, younger sibling unless they are responsible, older children who would normally babysit for younger children who are *not* relatives.

- There are babysitting classes offered by area hospitals and non-profits. The minimum age for enrollment in those programs is usually 11 or 12.

- Again, parents must use discretion in making the decision to allow young people to stay home alone and/or care for other children, whether in your home or at someone else's.

- The favorite rule uttered by parents is: "Don't let a stranger inside the house." It's a good rule, but ineffective. "Stranger" is not the best word to use. Kids expect strangers to be "scary" when indeed they look like an everyday person and kids need to know that. And some of the greatest threats to a child's safety can come from someone on the Internet and NOT necessarily at the front door.

THERE ARE A FEW RULES PARENTS NEED TO TEACH A CHILD WHO IS HOME ALONE:

- **Keep All Doors Closed:** Instead of telling kids not to let a stranger in, the safer rule needs to be: "Keep the doors shut and locked at all times." Instead of filling your child's head with "don'ts"; simply tell them to keep all the doors to the outside (including the garage) closed and locked. If someone comes to the door, your child can communicate with this person through the door, while on the phone with a trusted adult.
- **Have a Check-In Time:** Another thing parents should ask their child to do is call/text and let the guardian know when the child's location has changed; that he or she has arrived somewhere safely; or is home safely after an outing. Set a consistent time for the child to call you each day. You can start to worry if he/she doesn't meet this deadline. Children's activities should be approved by the parent or guardian.
- **Know Exactly Who Your Child Is With:** If a parent doesn't know his or her child's friends, and the parents or guardians of those friends, then it's not wise to let your child associate with them - either in your home or for outings. If a young person your child is associating with isn't someone you know, personally, that is a "red flag". If you don't have a contact name and number for the guardian of that person, how can you contact them in case of an emergency, or if your child is late returning home?
- **Look Out for One Another:** Find a close neighbor or friend who wouldn't mind your child calling him or her in case your child can't reach you. Make sure the child knows to call this person to check in if you cannot be reached or if they need an adult's help. Grandparents can provide an excellent "assist" to parents, and if living in town might welcome a call from a grandchild to say he/she is home safely.
- **Have a Plan:** Parents need to remember that kids who are home alone are much more likely to encounter dangers such as fire from burning popcorn or falling down the stairs than being abducted by a stranger. It is very important that the family has a plan and knows how to react to different situations that may occur. Run practice drills and make sure your child does not hesitate or deviate from the plan that you have enacted.
- **Rules for Internet Use:** Children need to know what is OK to do until mom or dad gets home, *and what is not*. Getting started on summer reading assignments, letting the dog out, having a snack, what friends can come over, what websites they can visit and which are off limits. These are decisions and rules that a parent or guardian should discuss with the child and decide on, before summer vacation gets underway. There can be structure to a child's day, even if no one else is home, leaving less opportunity for an unsupervised child to get into trouble.
- **Use Parental Controls on Television and Internet**

Does Jacksonville have a curfew? YES and it is enforced throughout the year. A curfew applies to persons under 18 years of age. The curfew is 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday nights and midnight on Friday and Saturday nights. A person under 18 is exempt if he or she is:

1. With a parent or guardian or other person 18 or over who is authorized by the parent to have control over the child,
2. At or going to or from a job, school or church function,
3. Attending an event open to the public and supervised by adults and beginning no later than 10:00 p.m.,
4. In an area immediately adjacent to his or her residence
5. Running an emergency errand.

More information on safety tips can be found on this site under the Community Affairs section. Look for [Community Education Brochures and Videos](#) - they are easy to download and free of charge.

J. "Carson" Tranquille
Chief of Patrol West
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
501 E. Bay St.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Office: 904.630.2098
Desk: 904.630.3741
Community Involvement/Problem Solving/Intelligence Led Policing