



North District 6
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee
Mike Getchell – Chair

MEETING SUMMARY

NORTH CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 FSCJ North Campus
 Building "C" Conference room C-136
 4501 Capper Rd.
 January 11, 2012 4 – 6 p.m.

ORGANIZATIONS – REPRESENTATIVES	
in Attendance	
Chair – Mike Getchell, Eagle Bend	PENDING REMOVAL – non-attendance
Charter Member – Dick Berry	Lydia Estates
Charter Member – Dot Mathias	New Berlin Enclave
Amelia View – Nancy Burnett	
Ashford Wood – Kathy Myers	PENDING NEW APPOINTMENT (PRESENT)
Betz Realty – William Baker	Northlake HOA – Howard Miller
Johnson Comm. Civic – James Shronce	
Black Hammock Island – Mary Thompson	VISITORS
Council Appointee 11- Tommy Ruffin	Rev. Joseph Tate – Copper Hill IV HOA
Duval Council of PTAs/PTA – Vicki Drake	Evelyn Kimbrough – Angel Lakes Estates
Heckscher Dr. Comm. Club – Fran Beach	Paula Scott - Angel Lakes Estates
Highlands – Jack Stuart	Susan Grandin – Trust for Public Land
National Park Service - Shauna Allen	Greg Chelius – Trust for Public Land
Northside Business Leaders – Michael Fisher	Gay Septon
Northside Lions – Harry Wagner	
	STAFF and OFFICIALS
EXCUSED	Mayor’s Liaison/Duval Extension Office – Mike Sweat
Charter Member – David Spruill	Florida Dept. Transportation – Thomas Hill
BRC Florida Holdings – Hiron Peck	Housing and Neighborhoods - Mary Beth Ridderman
Captiva Bluff – Rex Neidlinger	Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office – Lt. H.A. Eason
FL Open Beaches, Bobby Taylor	Municipal Code Enforcement – Bruce Chauncey
Heckscher Dr. Comm. Club – Gerie Leigh	Planning & Development – Shakeeb Shariff
Johnson Comm. Civic – James Shronce	Recreation and Community – Brian Burket
ShAdCo Q – Jennelle Bray	
The Cape – Dolores Spruill	STAFF ABSENT
Turtle Creek Village – Art Sullivan	Duval School Board – Selinda Keyes
ABSENT	
Lydia Estates	
New Berlin Enclave	
San Mateo – Roland Biederer	

1. **The meeting was called to order** at 4:01 p.m. by Chair Mike Getchell.
2. **A quorum was verified** by Mary Beth Ridderman, Coordinator, Housing and Community Development Division.
3. **Presentation** – No presentation was scheduled.
4. **Summary of previous meeting:** A motion to approve was made by Dick Berry. The motion was seconded by Kathy Myers. The vote: approved.
5. **Unfinished Business** – none.
6. **Chair's Report:**
7. Chair Getchell presented certificates of appreciation to CPAC and staff members and staff who were not present for the December presentation of certificates. He thanked them for their service in 2011.
8. **Staff Reports**
 - A. **JSO** – Lt. Eason reported:
 - Sheriff Rutherford challenged officers citywide to reduce crime overall by 3 percent. The goal in Zone 6 is to contribute to the overall reduction. This year, Zone 6 reduced property crimes by 6.74 percent. Violent crime was reduced 4 percent. Overall, crime was reduced by 8 percent in Zone 6, .
 - JSO is active in community events.
 - The Zoo's Spooktacular had over 50,000 visitors. JSO officers were on duty. The zoo followed JSO's suggestions for additional parking, lighting and clearing brush from near parking areas and walkways. There was no crime during Spooktacular.
 - The Spring Safety Fair at the River City Marketplace went very well.
 - In Zone 6: Burglaries are down by 30 percent – he attributes this to residents paying attention and securing their property. Murders are down 50 percent with 3 in 2011 vs. 6 in 2012. There were no abductions, kidnapping, home invasions or sexual batteries. There were 2 robberies to individuals – one at Broward Road and one on Kings Road. JSO did not consider the robberies to individuals a pattern since the incidents were not in close proximity. There were no business robberies. There was no increase in aggravated batteries or auto burglaries. Auto theft was down by 40 percent. One stolen car had the keys in it. He cautioned residents to lock their vehicles and take the keys out. Crime was down at the mall for the holidays, however, during the shopping rush, people were removing large items such as televisions from boxes and boldly walking out of Wal-Mart.
 - He thanked the community for their work to reduce crime and for their ongoing support.
 - For more information or to report suspicious activity, call the Zone 6 office, 696-4335 or the non-emergency number, 630-0500.
 - B. **Mayor's Representative** – Mike Sweat reported:
 - He provided a flier from the Duval County Extension office.
 - The Extension office has expanded its food and nutritional education. The program brings in federal funding and costs less than \$20,000 per year to operate. Over 35 percent of deaths in Duval County are attributed to nutrition-based diseases.
 - The Extension office offers classes in Florida Friendly Landscaping and Urban Forestry. Classes are available to homeowners associations, neighborhood organizations and others. Please call to schedule speakers.
 - Last year 5,130 adults graduated from Extension office training programs. Follow-up surveys indicate a 92 percent improvement in practices.
 - Members requested Mr. Sweat invite Mayor Alvin Brown to a North CPAC Meeting.

- Please visit the Duval County Extension website:
<http://www.coj.net/Departments/Recreation-and-Community-Services/County-Extension-Office.aspx>
 - Mr. Sweat may be contacted 387-8850.
- C. City Council Member's Reports** – Council Member Ray Holt was present. He utilized his report segment to invite guest speakers Susan Grandin and Greg Chelius give a presentation about Bill # 2011-0692 regarding the proposed purchase of property on Thomas Creek. The property is reported to be the only Florida site of the Revolutionary War. Buttons and other relics were located on the property to substantiate its authenticity. The property consists of 1,700 acres total. The amount the City of Jacksonville (COJ) can purchase is based upon the negotiated price per acre.
- At the last meeting, the CPAC expressed concerns about the purchase price of the land. All public acquisitions are based on appraisals. A new appraisal is in progress. After the appraisal process, which usually involves 2 appraisers and a reviewer, the COJ will decide whether or not to make the purchase.
 - The COJ attempted to purchase the property in 2002-2003. There is an opportunity at this time due to low property values and an overall low market.
 - The National Trust for Public Land secured \$5.3 million in Federal funds to cover most of the purchase price. COJ funds are needed to match. The COJ has \$1.3 million from the AES Settlement (Cedar Bay Fund). Another \$220,000 from the General Fund will be needed to match the federal funds. Mr. Holt reported \$220,000 is left from another project. If the federal money is not spent in Duval, it will be spent elsewhere.
 - The COJ would have no maintenance costs. National Parks has agreed to improve, manage and maintain the property. National Parks plan to increase access to this and a nearby property currently owned by National Parks, but without access. The property would not be deeded to National Parks. It would remain the property of the COJ.
 - Currently the property is approved for the construction of 1400 homes. There was a discussion about the loss of revenue vs. the COJ's cost per acre for utilities and services if the property is developed.
 - A very lengthy discussion followed. Members expressed these concerns:
 - The purchase of preservation lands when the city has a budget shortfall and finds it necessary to cut services, employees' pay and benefits.
 - Forty percent of land in the North District is not taxable or accessible to residents. It is owned by JEA, JAA, National Park Service, State, COJ and JAXPORT. Creating a park instead of developing homes will result in no property tax revenue for the city.
 Lack of access or very limited access to the Thomas Creek area if it is managed by National Parks.
 - A fair price should be negotiated for the purchase of the Thomas Creek property.
 - Land for a neighborhood pocket park was donated to honor volunteer firefighters. Plans for a simple park were denied due to a lack of funding, but over \$1 million is now available for the purchase of Thomas Creek property.
 - The CPAC voted 12 – 2 to support the purchase (see Governmental Affairs).

- D. Duval County School Board** – No representative. No report. The Chair asked Ms. Drake to be available for questions. There were no questions. For information about Duval Schools, please visit <http://www.duvalschools.org/>.
- E. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Thomas Hill reported:
- FDOT has 6 ongoing projects on schedule.
 - The Dames Point Bridge will have lane closures from 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 a.m.
 - Last month a question was asked about signage on I-295. On I-295 signs will indicate “I-295 East Beltway” or I-295 West Beltway” Signs will not indicate a North or South direction.
 - The resurfacing project on US 1 and Ratliff Road is scheduled for completion in Spring, 2012.
 - The widening project on 301 South of Callahan is scheduled to be completed in 2014.
 - The topic of the St. Johns River Ferry was raised. Concerns were expressed that the ferry may be closed although it remains a part of State Road A-1-A. Mr. Hill said he will research the issue.
- F. Municipal Code Compliance** – Bruce Chauncey announced:
- Municipal Code Compliance moved to the Florida Theatre Building.
 - Zone 6 lost two officers. One retired. One voluntarily left the city’s employment. One was replaced. Currently, Zone 6 has 4 officers.
 - Please report suspected code violations to 630-CITY (630-2489).
- G. Planning and Development** – Shakeeb Shariff reported:
- Public notices were mailed on 2012-58 and 2012-59. Mr. Shariff and Mr. Emory Naughton are the planners assigned.
- H. Recreation and Community** – Brian Burket reported:
- Thomas Creek Fish Camp – the new bathroom and parking areas have been completed.
 - A map of water access facilities was provide. The map shows 12 newly designated launch sites with a total of 44 kayak launch sites.
 - Road to Olustee Living History Weekend flyers were provided. The event is Jan. 28, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 29, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 - The Palms Fish Camp is status quo.
 - For information about park activities or aquatics programs, visit www.jaxparks.com or call 630-3690.
- I. National Park Service:** Shauna Allen reported:
- Jan. 20, 2012 is Timucuan Science Symposium. There will be a citizen component to identify areas that will help research and monitoring. Registration is \$35, which includes lunch.
 - On Nov. 11, 2011, the Day of Discovery, an announcement was made about the location of the slave cemetery. A civic engagement process has begun to decide what to do with the site. Input is being sought from descendents of Kingsley Plantation slaves and from the general public. Comment cards are available at the stie.
 - For more information, please visit <http://www.nps.gov/timu/naturescience/park-science-symposium.htm>.
- J. Neighborhoods Department** – Mary Beth Ridderman announced:
- The department has a new name: Neighborhoods. The CPAC coordinators are currently in Housing & Community Development Division of Neighborhoods.
 - Ms. Ridderman may be contacted at 255-8260 or marybeth@coj.net.

9. Subcommittee Reports:

A. Governmental Affairs: Dick Berry and Tommy Ruffin reported for the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee. They announced the CPAC needs a Vice Chair to also chair the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee meetings. Both Mr. Berry and Mr. Ruffin have previously served and the opportunity is open to others.

2011-789	Approve	The bill closes, abandons and/or disclaims four small portions of the right-of-way of Duval Road between Airport Center Drive and Main Street east of I-95 near the River City Marketplace, subject to reservation of easement rights, and declares the closed right-of-way as surplus property. It provides for the directed conveyance of the parcels to the adjacent property owners via quit-claim deed at no cost and waives conflicting provisions of the Ordinance Code that require surplus property to be sold via auction, sealed bid, or other competitive process.
2011-780	Approve	The bill designates the property at 9225 Dames Point Road as a brownfield area at the request of the proposed purchaser of the property. The ordinance contains a sunset provision by which the designation is automatically repealed 9 months from the effective date of this ordinance if the owner has not signed a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by that date.
2011-736	Discussion only – no position	The development agreement concerns a proposed development to be known as Duval Station Outparcel 4, consisting of approximately 1.09 acres located on the north side of Duval Station Road between Webb Road and Bradley Cove Road. Plans are for 10,000 enclosed square feet of shopping center uses. This agreement is made subject to a performance schedule and payment of an annual renewal fee for the reservation of traffic circulation capacity.
Reference prior bill # 2011-0692	Approve	Following a very lengthy discussion, the CPAC voted to provide a letter of support for the appropriation of existing AES funded \$1.3 million plus \$220,000 in other funds to provide the necessary match to the federal funds set aside for the purchase of acreage for "Thomas Creek Battlefield Phase I".

B. Membership: Harry Wagner was present. A new application is being processed for Northlake.

C. Transportation: Dick Berry was present. He said Mr. Hill had already covered the information. In addition, Mary Beth Ridderman electronically distributes FDOT reports to members.

D. Taxation Revenue Expenditures (TRUE) Commission: Chair Getchell announced that Hiron Peck remains out due to health issues. He asked members to keep Dr. Peck and his family in prayer and thought.

10. New Business: None.

11. Public Comments:

- Bobby Taylor announced he would appreciate the CPAC’s support to keep the St. Johns River Ferry open. He has reached out to the Northside Civic Association and others. He plans to lead “Save the Ferry” to keep the ferry open. He plans to request funding from federal, state and COJ.
- Dot Mathias announced the Waterfront Commission is going forward with their concerns about keeping the ferry open.

12. Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Bobby Taylor and properly seconded by Tommy Ruffin. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m..

The next North CPAC meeting is 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2011 at Florida State College at Jacksonville, North Campus, C-136. The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee meeting is 4 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 5, 2012 at Florida State College at Jacksonville, North Campus, C-136.

The following provision is required by Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes:

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the North 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. For information contact Mary Beth Ridderman, Coordinator, City of Jacksonville **Neighborhoods Department**, 214 N. Hogan St., 8th Floor, Jacksonville, FL 32202, 904-255-8260, MaryBeth@coj.net.