# Northwest Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

# May 11, 2017 Meeting Summary

The Legend's Center, Community Room, 5130 Soutel Drive, 6 p.m.



# **Meeting Attendance**

**CPAC Members:** 

CPAC Chair: Larry Solomon CPAC Vice Chair: John Pittman Parliamentarian: Tyrona Clark-Murry

Better Living: Elaine Billups

2nd Mile Ministries: Jonathan Blackburn Moncrief Springs: Carlotta McIntosh Timber Oaks: Velma Rounsville Riverview: Doretha Tompkins Timber Oaks HOA: Rhonda Boyd

**EXCUSED:** 

Cherokee Cove: Anthony Williams Marietta Senior Center: Roxsan Currier Marietta Senior Center: Tim Rossetter City Staff:

City Councilman: Reginald Brown

Planning and Development: Lurise Bannister Planning and Development: Devin Scott Jacksonville Public Library: Marshelle Berry

Florida Department Of Transportation: Jim Green Jacksonville Fire and Rescue: Adrian Johnson

JEA: Berdell Knowles

Public Works: John Kolczynski

Municipal Code Compliance: Ernest Murphy

Parks, Recreation and Community Svcs: Vicki Preston

Neighborhood Services Office: Amy Holliman

Visitors:

Deidre Shoemake: UNF Nursing Ivy Guillem: UNF Nursing Jeremy Thomas: UNF Nursing Jayce Teeman: UNF Nursing Teresa Cortes: UNF Nursing Jordan Iacabucci: UNF Nursing Jessica Ogden: UNF Nursing Emily Dioskouch: UNF Nursing Ryan Aponte: UNF Nursing Hannah McEwen: UNF Nursing

Darrell Burgess Roosevelt Williams Sr. Freddy Harris

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Elizabeth Young

Ondrea Harden James Mount

Henry L. Scott: North Riverside Lana Suggs: Carver International

Amanda Nelson Jerome Lazenberry

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum: Chair Larry Solomon called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. Vice Chair John Pittman confirmed a quorum.

## 2. First Responder Staff Reports

- Jacksonville Sheriff's Office: Lt. John E. Gay (<u>John.Gay@jaxsheriff.org</u>: 696-4335) reported that
  Friday Night Lights will begin soon. This is an initiative in which the police go into community
  parks on Friday evenings and play pickup games, like soccer and basketball, with the kids in
  the park. Lt. Gay also reminded all that simply locking your house and your car will often deter
  a criminal.
- Jacksonville Fire and Rescue: Chief Adrian Johnson (<u>Adjohnso@coj.net</u>: 630-0864) announced that there is currently a burn ban in effect. No outdoor burning is allowed due to the drought situation, with the exception of cooking or warming.
- **3. 2030 Comprehensive Plan Discussion:** 2030 Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee member Rhonda Boyd shared the following issues:

### **Development Issues**

- We have a problem with ease of changing convenience stores to liquor stores; same zoning, different use. Maybe limit of one per every four square miles?
- We have a problem throughout the district with unusual businesses with equipment in yards and old trailers with no improvement or activity.

### Service Issues

- We like the JTA facility in the old shopping center on Soutel but pedestrian safety is an issue in the surrounding area, especially on New Kings Road.
- Upgrade or rebuild the libraries in the Northwest District to better serve the residents in the community.
- Consider opportunities for building re-use for additional community libraries for this large district.
- Upgrade the play equipment in the district parks.
- Increase Neighborhood Pocket Parks within the district.

#### Other district issues

- Septic tanks we encourage the continued phase out.
- Promote more food services in the district, specifically to prevent food deserts in the district.
- Encourage Duval County Schools to return to community collaborating. Many neighborhood schools put up gates and fences to keep children off their school playgrounds during afternoons and weekends (non-school hours) and many have ceased allowing neighborhood organizations access for afternoon and evening meetings.

### **Questions**

- What would happen if convenience stores were required to sell 50% of their gross receipts in food, like restaurants?
- How do we attract recreational and educational businesses to Northwest Jacksonville?
- How do we implement the 2003 Northwest Vision Plan? What was suggested and what has happened?
- Eyesores are a problem. How do we prevent them?

### Additional discussion

- From an email submission, a request for better street lighting will be included in the list of item for consideration for inclusion in the 2030 Comprehensive Plan.
- 4. City Council: Reginald Brown, District 10 (RBrown@coj.net: 630-1387), discussed several issues;
  - <u>The Councilman said will review</u> the 2003 Vision Plan as per the request of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee.
  - Council member Brown discussed a proposed road diet for Soutel Road from Lem Turner Road to US Route 1. This would convert the four-lane road to a three-lane road, with one east lane, one west lane and one center turning lane. Transportation Services City Planning Manager, Lurise Bannister added that there will be a special workshop about the proposed changes to Soutel Road and the CPAC will stay informed of the project progress.
  - Mr. Brown stated that Council is currently working on legislation to require the maintenance of private retention ponds.
  - He also stated that he pulled his proposed moratorium on block parties because he didn't like the direction in which the legislation was going. Dinah Mason, Manager of Special Projects with Public Works is currently drafting a new ordinance on block parties.
  - Northwest CPAC TRUE Commission representative John Pittman asked CM Brown about the proposed legislation to eliminate the TRUE Commission; he assured everyone that he values the input of the CPAC.
  - A visitor asked about the sidewalks proposed for Lane Avenue near Kings Road. The Councilman states that the ditches along the road are in the right-of way and interfere with the building of sidewalks, but a solution is still trying to be found.

## 5. Staff Reports

- Jacksonville Public Library: Marshelle Berry (<a href="MBerry@coj.net">MBerry@coj.net</a>: 765-5402), was introduced by Northwest CPAC Chair Larry Solomon who added that he would like the CPAC members to consider moving the CPAC meetings back to the Bradham Brooks Library on Edgewood Avenue. Ms. Berry announced that Jacksonville Public Libraries has been selected as Library of the Year for the State of Florida.
- Municipal Code Compliance: Ernest Murphy, Code Compliance Officer Senior (<a href="EMurphy@coj.net">[EMurphy@coj.net</a>: 255-7096), stated that the biggest problem with renters putting vacated property curbside, is the public rummaging through the pile and leaving items on the right-of-way. Mr. Murphy encouraged everyone to call in the issues to 630-CITY and to be specific with the problem and the location.
- Parks, Recreation and Community Services: Vicki Preston, Recreation Services Supervisor Senior (<a href="VPreston@coj.net">VPreston@coj.net</a>: 765-5282), announced that registration for summer camp is now available online only through the Parks section of the City's website. She also announced that sigh up for swim teams have started and that the next Summer Movie Night is May 19, at Riverside Park at 8 p.m.

- **Public Works:** John Kolczynski, Traffic Studies Associate Engineer (<u>JohnFK@coj.net</u>: 255-8580), reported that ten pedestrian crosswalks have been funded throughout the city and that four will be in this district; Soutel Drive and Ridge Boulevard, Acorn Street at Beaver Street, West 44th Street between Norwood Avenue and Springfield Boulevard and Winton Drive between Ribault Scenic Drive and Van Gundy Road.
- **JEA:** Berdell Knowles, Director of Government Relations (<u>knowb@jea.com</u>: 665-4524), reported that the LED replacement lights for neighborhood streetlights are brighter than standard lights and use less energy.
- Florida Department of Transportation: Jim Green (<u>James.Green@dot.state.fl.us</u>: 360-5684) reviewed some of the major projects listed in the North Florida Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). A section of the TIP was emailed to CPAC members prior to the meeting and paper copies were also available at the meeting.

## 6. Subcommittee Reports

- Transportation: Tyrona Clark-Murry deferred to Jim Green's presentation on the TIP.
- TRUE Commission: John Pittman reported that the TRUE Commission has three subcommittees and that each Chairman of the three subcommittees are all CPAC appointed members. If they eliminate CPAC appointments for TRUE Commission that will eliminate the three subcommittees and most of the Commission's highly active members.
- 7. University of North Florida Nursing Program: UNF Nursing student Ryan Aponte spoke about being a student in the nursing program. Nursing professor Deidre Shoemake spoke about the neighborhood impact of the program, from the students to the patients.
- 8. Neighborhood Coordinator: Amy Hays Holliman (<a href="mailto:aholliman@coj.net">aholliman@coj.net</a>: 255-8260) reported that neighborhoods my register online now at <a href="https://jaxneighborhoodorganization.coj.net/">https://jaxneighborhoodorganization.coj.net/</a>. The 2017 Neighborhood Matching Grant application is also available on the City's website through the <a href="mailto:Neighborhood Services Office">Neighborhood Services Office</a>. The Clean It Up, Green It Up Program is a part of the Neighborhood Services Office, and we available to assist with anyone interested in organizing a neighborhood clean-up. Finally the latest edition of Our Jax is available; please take copies to share with your neighbors.
- **9. Adjourn**: Velma Rounsville motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tyrona Clark-Murry seconded and the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

**Next CPAC Meeting:** Thursday, June 5, 6 p.m. at the Legends Center, Community Room, 5130 Soutel Drive.

A copy of the audio recording of this Urban Core CPAC meeting is available through a Public Information Request by calling 630-CITY. Details about Public Records can be found on the City's Website here: <u>Public Records</u>.