

District #2 – Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Michael Anania

Vice Chair: Dr. Ramey Salem

MEETING SUMMARY

Location: Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport

DATE: Monday, March 14, 2016

Attendance:

Organizations/Representatives

Members:

Anania, Michael - Arlington Business Society
Armstrong, Kirk – Lucina Lake Association
Barletta, Bob – Charter Point Community Association
Belge, Larry - River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA
Blanche, James – The Woods Community Association
Brown, Pamela – Covington Creek HOA
Hanapel, Lenore – Covington Creek HOA
Hawkins, Lad - Communities of East Arlington
Henry, David - Kensington Association
Hunter-Nowak, Karen – Hawkins Cove HOA
Jackson, Mary Jane – Southern Grove Condominiums
Litwhiler, Shelia – Beachwood Civic Association
Lowe, Marcella – Alderman Park Civic Association
Maxted, Ed - Bentwater Place
Miller, Pete - Indian Springs Community Association
Mione, Peter – Old Arlington Inc.
Parsons, Eddi - Monument Oaks HOA
Petoskey, Jerry - Old Mill Cove Community Organization
Pougiouklidis, Nina – Ibis Point Owners Association
Roberts, John - The Valley at Hidden Hills
Salem, Ramsey – Queens Harbour POA
Tucker, Ben - Cypress Cove Good Neighbor Group

Excused:

Agnihotri, Amita - Hawkins Cove HOA
Davis, Michele - Council Appointee – District 1
Evans, Kacy - Caroline Forest Homeowners Association
George, Shirley – University Park
Jarnutowski, Sherrie – Walkers Glen HOA
Schirado, Carol - Communities of East Arlington
Shacter, Melody – Clifton Civic Association

Elected Officials:

Morgan, Joyce – District 1

Staff: Davis, Paul; Gillem, Tiffany; Green, Jim; Haywood, Margretta; Lancaster, Elaine; Long, Steve;
Mason, Darren; Morrow, Wendy; Rhodes, Joshua; Wesolowski, Rosemary

Guests:

Becker, Joan – Covington Creek HOA

Ansbacher, Sybil – Jacksonville Public Library

Braham, Tamara – Jacksonville Public Library

Shelton, Maysha – DCPS

Montgomery, Mario

Mack, Brandon - DCPS

Hipps, Alberta - JAA

Aiken, Martha – Alderman Park Civic Association

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Anania called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The meeting began with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

Chair Anania verified that there was a quorum and that everyone had the opportunity to review the February meeting summary. There was a correction to be made; Abess Elementary was misspelled. Karen Hunter-Nowak made a motion to approve the meeting summary with the correction and Lad Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Presentation(s):

LaCree Carswell, Manager of Community Development and Dayatra Coles, Affordable Housing Manager, provided a comprehensive overview of the 2016-17 Five year

Consolidated Plan – Action Plan & Analysis of Impediments To Fair Housing Public Hearing for CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, ESG, SHIP and the Universal Application process.

Everyone in attendance was provided with a packet of information that contained five handouts. Ms. Carswell started the presentation and instructed the CPAC to open the handout titled “2016-17 Consolidated Plan Programs (CDBG, HOME, HOPWA and ESG) State Funds (SHIP) Universal Application Process”. Ms. Carswell pointed out highlights within this handout, such as the Mission/Purpose of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and stressed the importance of community input.

To be in compliance with Federal HUD, the City of Jacksonville is required to complete the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan. The purpose of the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan is to combine the planning, application and reporting aspects of the U.S. HUD Formula Programs into one collaborative process. The Consolidated Plan- Action Plan Universal Application Process was developed to be in compliance with 24CFR Part 91. Each jurisdiction must submit a Consolidated Plan – Action Plan to U.S. HUD no later than 45 days prior to the start of its program year (which is August 15th). Additionally, to be in compliance with U.S. HUD, the city must conduct at least one public hearing to set priorities for funding. To ensure maximum involvement, the COJ team conducts four public hearings.

Priorities for funding is determined through the Citizen Participation Plan Process (this includes the public hearing process and the outcomes) is used to set the priorities for project funding. All of the applications must address one or more of the following priorities: Neighborhood Revitalization, Housing Rehabilitation, Economic Development/Job Creation, Physical Improvements, Housing Counseling and Non-housing CDBG/Special Needs.

Ms. Carswell discussed the various Federal and State programs as well as the allowable uses for the funding:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities, urban counties and states to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments, and by expanding economic opportunities principally for low and moderate income persons and/or the elimination of slum and blight. The allowable uses for CDBG funding include: Acquisition of Real Property, Clearance, Code Enforcement, Economic Development, Fair Housing Initiatives, Historic Preservation, Housing Counseling, Housing Rehabilitation (through LRP and U-Tip programs), Public Facilities & Improvements (e.g. parks and senior centers), Public Service (15% cap), Removal of Architectural Barriers and Administration (20%).

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments designed to exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. The allowable uses for HOME include: Develop Subsidy for CHDO (Ownership and Rental), Down Payment Assistance, Operating Support for CHDO's, Owner-occupied Rehabilitation, Redevelopment, Multifamily Development and Rehabilitation (Affordable and Special Needs) and Relocation.

Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 (NSP3) are funds authorized under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act) of 2010 provides a third round of neighborhood stabilization grants to all states and select governments on a formula basis. Unlike NSP2, grantees are not constrained to census tract boundaries and can define their target areas more precisely to their intended target area. In Jacksonville the NSP3 target area comprised the Eastside and Springfield neighborhoods. The allowable uses are: Acquire and rehabilitate vacant homes that have been foreclosed upon, Redevelop demolished or vacant properties into affordable housing, establish financing mechanisms for the purchase and development of foreclosed upon homes, Demolish blighted structures, acquire and rehabilitate multi-family properties that have been foreclosed upon and make them available to person at 50% or below the AML.

State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) provides funds to local governments as incentives to create partnerships that produce and preserve affordable housing and multifamily housing. The program was designed to serve very low, low and moderate income families. The allowable uses are: Homeowner occupied, Purchase Assistance (Down Payment, Principal Buy-down, closing costs), Housing Counseling/Homebuyer Education, New Construction Development Subsidy, Demolition/Reconstruction (Owner Occupied), Foreclosure / Loss Mitigation and Disaster Mitigation (Ownership & Rental), Multifamily (Acquisition & Rehabilitation), Rental and Utility Deposits.

Ms. Carswell reviewed the map that was included. The purpose of the map was to show the Low/Mod Income area by the census tracts and zip codes in the City of Jacksonville.

Dayatra Coles, Affordable Housing Coordinator introduced herself and briefly touched on the handouts titled "Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice" and "2011-2016 Barriers and Actions Steps". Ms. Coles emphasized that everyone safe and sanitary housing. Everyone was encouraged to review all of the handouts that were provided.

4. Elected Officials Reports:

Councilmember Morgan reminded the CPAC she will be holding another Town Hall Meeting on Monday, March 28, 2016 at the University Park Branch Library. As an update to the CRA board, Councilmember Morgan stated that the Mayor has just appointed two more members.

Councilmember Bowman's CPAC Liaison, Jose Cuetos, informed the CPAC Councilmember Bowman will hold a Town Hall Meeting on March 21, 2016 at Pablo Creek Elementary School. On March 23, 2016, there will be a ribbon cutting at Girvin Road for the groundbreaking at the corner of Girvin Road and Ashley Melisee Blvd. Lastly, legislation was sent to Tallahassee in regard to the extending the sales tax extension.

5. Staff Reports:

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office)** – Lt. Nader announced both property crime and violent crime is down citywide. In Zone 2, property crime is down 16.5% and violent crime is down 9.14%. There have been some problems with smash and grab crimes to businesses in strip malls. JSO is recommending that business should deposit all of their cash when the business is closed. After hours keep cash registers empty with the draws open. Remove tip jars and charity donation boxes from the counters. Most of the smash and grab crime have been occurring east of St. Johns Bluff Road on Atlantic Blvd. and Beach Blvd.
- **JFRD** – Fire Chief Owens no report, but available for questions.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – E. Denise Lee – not present
- **Duval County Public Schools** – Brandon Mack, Supervisor for the Department of Family and Community Engagement. Mr. Mack informed the CPAC about the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project. This is a new program for the 2015-2016 school year and is modeled after the program in the Miami-Dade School system. The 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project serves 10 Duval middle and high schools. In the GAB district this program is offered at Terry Parker High School and Fort Caroline Middle School. The 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project will recruit 5,000 community mentors over a 10 year period (500 mentors annually) to serve as role models for young African-American males. The 500 students identified to participate in the inaugural year of the program will benefit from various academic and behavioral supports. The 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project aims to intervene in the lives of at-risk minority male youth in an effort to provide them with positive role models and experiences that will empower them to make good choices and encourage healthy living, responsibility, respect and achievement. Expected outcomes include improved academic performance, reduced truancy, fewer referrals and suspensions, and increased pathways to success through mentoring and diverse experiences. Young men from grades 6 - 12 will participate in various cultural and educational experiences such as visits to college campuses, etiquette workshops, and job and career building trainings. Students will also serve as ambassadors for the program and the school district throughout the City of Jacksonville. Each school will have a 5000 Role Models of Excellence Site Director who will serve as club sponsors to facilitate speakers, field trips, and assist in mentor recruitment.
- **Regulatory Compliance Department** (Code Compliance Supervisor)- Elaine Lancaster reported that the Atlantic Blvd. Corridor (this systematic inspection began at University Blvd. and ended at San Pablo Road) systematic inspection resulted in 51 businesses being cited for various reason. The Woodland Acres systematic inspection resulted in 220 sited properties, 4 properties boarded up and 4 unsafe structures. Ms. Lancaster addressed the concern about dilapidated fences that the CPAC discussed last month with Blight Manager Denise Lee. Code Compliance sent out a team along Girvin Road; 30 properties were cited as a result. After the properties were cited, Code Compliance received numerous calls in regard to the fences. It appears there is an upcoming JTA roadway widening project on Girvin Road. Upon completion of this project, new fences will be installed and this will correct the fences along Girvin Road. The fences that are along Monument Road is a different story. Eighteen properties were cited due to dilapidated fences and Code Compliance will continue to follow this issue. There have been a number

of complaints to Code Compliance in regard to a trailer park off San Pablo Road. Code Compliance cited 37 violations. The owner of the mobile home park contacted Code Compliance and informed them that the land has been sold. After the transfer of property is complete, the mobile homes will be removed and single family homes will be built. At this time it has not been announced the amount or size of the homes.

There was a question in regard to how Code Compliance can assist neighbors/associations with homeowners that are hoarders? Ms. Lancaster stated she can cite the property if there are outside violations only. Ms. Lancaster reminded the CPAC when they send emails to Code Compliance to put CPAC or CPAC member in the subject line so she and her team will recognize that this is an email from the community versus junk email.

- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green – stated FDOT has completed 2 landscaping projects: one at Atlantic Blvd and Kernan Blvd University Blvd. and the other along Beach Blvd. Mr. Green informed the CPAC that state law requires FDOT to spend 1.5% of the construction budget on landscaping, but it does not have to be on the same project, but it is required to be in the general area of the project. The ITS project along I-295 East beltway from I-95 to Atlantic Blvd has been displaying a “Test” message on the screens. The test will continue to run for another week. The Atlantic Blvd. /Arlington Expressway / Monument Road project is underway and will be continuing for the rest of the year.
- **Jacksonville Aviation Authority** – Tiffany Gillem – informed the CPAC Allegiant Air is adding three new seasonal routes and one year-around route from Jacksonville at Jacksonville International Airport (JIA). The seasonal routes to and from Jacksonville International Airport will be:
 - Columbus, Ohio, Wednesdays and Saturdays, May 25-Aug 13.
 - Asheville, N.C., Mondays and Fridays, May 27-Aug 15.
 - St. Louis via Mid-America Airport, Mondays and Fridays, May 27-Aug. 15.

Year-around flights to and from Indianapolis will begin June 2 on Sundays and Thursdays. All the new routes will be twice weekly.

Air Canada has announced to accommodate tourists from Canada interested in attending The Players Championship (TPC), they moved it up the service date between Jacksonville and Canada. The new service will make it easier to travel between Toronto and Jacksonville and Northeast Florida year-round. The addition of service by Air Canada will give local residents more travel options, both to visit Canada and the ability to connect to Air Canada's international network of flights.

It was announced that JIA recently won a customer service award for 2015 and ranked #2 for best airport in North America. The north baggage area at JIA is under construction, that project is expected to be completed within the next 60 days. JIA will be offering a Spring Music Program. If you know any schools that would like to participate/perform, please contact Debbie Jones at 741-2726 to register your school.

At Jacksonville Executive Airport, the portion of the security fence located at St. Johns Bluff Road and Atlantic Blvd has been hit several times by vehicles. JAXEX will be replacing this portion fence this week. Handouts were available for the Wings and Wheels event. If you would like to have your business involved in Wings and Wheels or volunteer for the event,

please contact Tiffany. Ms. Gillem offered to have a display table for the GAB CPAC at the Wings and Wheels Event. If anyone has any concerns or questions, please contact Ms. Gillem at 904-641-7666.

CPAC Member Lad Hawkins inquired when the landscape inspection for the project at Monument Road and St. Johns Bluff Road would be completed and if he could be included in the inspection? Ms. Gillem stated that it has not been scheduled yet and she would inquire if Mr. Hawkins could be a part of the inspection process. In addition, Mr. Hawkins stated he has heard a rumor that soil testing was completed at the Blue Sky Golf Course and results came back showing contamination at the golf course. Is this information correct? Ms. Gillem stated that some soil samples came back showing some contamination around the maintenance shed. The contaminants were identified were arsenic and lead. The airport is working with an environmental consultant for remediation. There has been a delay for the start date on the remediation due to the impact of traffic on Derringer Road. The impact on Derringer Road is associated with trucks and other large equipment moving on and off the airport property around the maintenance shed. Ms. Gillem stated that once a schedule for the remediation has been established, she will provide a copy of the schedule of clean up and a copy of the map of the area of contamination to Rosemary to share with the CPAC and community.

- **Jacksonville Public Library** – Sara Roberts and Sybil Ansbacher reached out to the CPAC for support for the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan for the Beaches Branch Library. Ms. Roberts informed the CPAC about the Jacksonville Beach Library redesign. It was stated they plan to begin this project in FY19, giving the 30 year old branch a much needed facelift. The remodel will include: upgrade to electrical capacity, reinvention of wasted space, a dedicated teen space, and much more. Jacksonville Public Library will dedicate \$1.2 million in funding, and is requesting \$1 million from the city in order to move forward. The library staff asked the CPAC to consider this to be a high priority capital improvement project for our district when working with the Director of the Planning Department.
- **JaxParks** –Joshua Rhodes – informed the CPAC about the upcoming St. Johns River Clean Up on March 19, 2016, 8 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. There are more than 50 litter cleanup locations throughout Duval County. Handouts were provided that identified the various cleanup locations.
- **Planning Department** – Paul Davis reminded the CPAC if they would like to be on his email distribution list for LUZ applications, to please contact him at PDavis@coj.net.
- **Public Works** – Steve Long – Chief of Right of Way and Stormwater stated the street lights that were reported out on Arlington Road have been replaced. In regard to San Pablo Road, JTA has a project under design for San Pablo Road between Atlantic Blvd and Beach Blvd. In approximately 10 days, the Roadside Ditch Cleaning Team will be begin working in the GAB District. The ditch projects will be bordered by Kernan Blvd (to the west) Girvin Blvd (on the east) and Atlantic Blvd. (to the south) to the river on the north. Equipment will be along the roadways cleaning out the ditches. This should be a 4 to 8 week project. Jacksonville is currently in our dry season and the past month public works has been able to work on the drainage system.

Mr. Hawkins stated when the Girvin Road landfill was closed 30 years ago, it was announced the landfill would be turned into a park in the future. Mr. Hawkins stated that he checked the status of the land with the Parks Department and he was informed that the landfill is still part of the Public Works domain. Mr. Hawkins asked if Mr. Long could provide an update to the CPAC on the status and plans for this land? Mr. Long stated that he would look into it.

Member Hunter-Nowak inquired when the Sandalwood Canal was going to be cleaned again. Mr. Long stated that Public Works can look into getting inmates to clean some of the ditch banks and remove trash, but the large scale cleaning project is a CIP project and it is currently not in the budget or planned.

- **Military Affairs** – Bill Spann stated that they have been tracking veteran participation since the Military Affairs office has increased their community awareness and they are pleased with the growth. In December 2015 Military Affairs experienced an increase of 7.1%, in January 2016 there was an increase of 9.2%, and after Mr. Spann's visit to the GAB CPAC in February 2016, the office had an increase of 59.7%. Last fiscal year the Military Affairs Office connected 6050 area veterans with \$25 million new money from the VA. If you are a veteran or know a veteran please have them contact us.

6. **JTA** – Wendy Morrow – announced that there will be services changes on April 4th; handouts in regard to the schedule changes were provided. Ms. Morrow informed the CPAC that in the downtown area JTA added Bus Lanes and Queue Jumps. The new bus-only lanes are along Bay Street, Jefferson Street, Broad Street and Kings Avenue. In addition, a queue jump was placed on Forsyth Street. Handouts were provided that contain an explanation and artist rendition of the projects. City Council will vote on the transfer of the St. Johns River Ferry JTA on March 22, 2016. If City Council approves the transfer, then JTA will take over responsibility of the ferry on April 1, 2016. On Kernan Blvd. JTA is working on drainage issues and on a retention pond location. JTA is expecting the design for Kernan to be completed by the end of the year. JTA held a community meeting for the Girvin Road project and JTA was happy with the large amount of feedback they received from the community. In May 2016, construction should begin on the Girvin Road project. JTA should have a schedule out by the end of summer I regard to the San Pablo Road project.

7. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports:**

Land Use and Zoning – Mike Anania – The LUZ made the following motion:

Support Rezoning 2016-0185 at 400 Century 21 Drive – this application provides multi-family housing in an area already developed with similar uses, it does not create unduly increased traffic intensity or unreasonable conflicts with existing traffic. The CPAC voted 12 to 7 to send a letter in support of this application.

Support Exception E-16-009 at 6009 Arlington Road to allow a school at this address. The site is close to residential neighborhoods but is inherently compatible with nearby residential uses, the site is already a church with a day care and is compatible with the existing site development, parking and traffic flow. The CPAC voted unanimously to send a letter of support.

Beautification – Larry Belge – reminded the CPAC that the Florida Times Union had an excellent plant guide inserted in the paper last weekend and it is available on their website. This contains great information to share with your community.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – The Waterway Commission is in the process of taking recommendations from citizens for water access on the St. Johns River and the rivers various tributaries.

Membership – Karen Hunter-Nowak – introduced new member Jose Cuetos and presented him with his appointment letter from Mayor Curry.

Transportation – Ben Tucker – no report

- **Ad-Hoc:**

- **North Florida TPO** – Roger Sharp – not present
 - **TRUE** (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – no representative
- 8. Neighborhood Coordinator** – Rosemary Wesolowski announced that the Housing and Neighborhoods Division has a new Chief, Diana Seydlorsky. Ms. Seydlorsky has relocated to Jacksonville from the Hilton Head area and has extension experience with HUD, CDBG and various housing programs. There has been some confirmation that there will be a Neighborhoods Department created, but at this time no details have been provided.
- 9. Chairs Report** – Mike Anania – announced that the 6 CPAC chair have a meeting scheduled with the Mayor tomorrow. Chair Anania stated if there were any concerns that he should present to the Mayor please contact him.
- 10. Public Comments/Announcements (3-minute time limit)** –

Member Hawkins informed the CPAC that a citizen and former City Council Candidate by the name of Lisa King was denied membership to the North CPAC. Mr. Hawkins stated that CPAC's should not be about politics, but should serve as a conduit of information.

Member Miller stated that he has great concern about the pedestrian and cyclist safety. Many of the crosswalks are poorly marked and sidewalks are inadequate. Mr. Miller stated that he has shared this concern with City Councilmember Boyer and he asked Chair Anania to share this concern with the Mayor.

Motion to Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: April 11, 2016 ~ 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport
855-1 Craig Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32225