

Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

November 19, 2018 Meeting Summary

Pablo Creek Regional Library, 13295 Beach Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32246

Meeting Attendance

CPAC Members:

Queens Harbour POA - Dr. Ramsey Salem – Chair
Clifton Civic Association - Melody Shacter - Vice Chair
Arlington Business Society – Mike Anania
Beachwood Civic Association – Shelia Litwhiler
Caroline Forest Homeowners Assoc. - Kacy Evans
Charter Point Community Association – Bob Barletta
Covington Creek HOA – Lenny Hanapel
Covington Creek HOA – Joan Becker
Cypress Cove Good Neighbors – Harley Herndon
Hawkins Cove HOA – Kristopher Edewaard
Hickory Creek HOA – Nell DeCoursey
Hickory Creek HOA – Lennette Hauver
Ibis Point Owners Association – Nina Pougiouklidis
Indian Springs Community Association – Pete Miller
Kensington Association – Tim Keeley
Lake Lucina Association – Kirk Armstrong
Monument Oaks HOA - Eddi Parsons
Old Arlington Inc. – Peter Mione
Old Mill Cove Community Organization – Jerry Petoskey
Osprey Point HOA – Pam Brown
Osprey Point HOA – Amita Agnihotri
Queens Harbour POA – Will Messer
River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA – Larry Belge
The Valley at Hidden Hills – John Roberts
University Park Civic Association – Shirley George
Waterleaf HOA – Vida McCullough

Excused:

Bentwater Place – Edward Maxted
Communities of East Arlington - Lad Hawkins
Council Appointee – District 1 – Michele Davis
Cypress Cove Good Neighbors – Ben Tucker

Staff and Elected Officials:

City Council District 1 – Joyce Morgan
City Council Vice President District 4 – Scott Wilson
City Council At-Large District Group 5 – Sam Newby
Council President ECA - Carol Brock
Council Vice President ECA – Jackie Lee
FDOT – Derek Dixon
JaxParks – Keith Meyerl
JEA – Payson Tilden
JPL – Jackie Spiritas
JSO – Lt. Valentine
JTA – Cheryl Riddick
Neighborhoods Code Compliance – Thomas Register
Neighborhood Services Office Manager – Lisa Ransom
Neighborhood Services Office – Rosemary Wesolowski
Planning and Development – Connie Patterson

Visitors:

Richard Becker – Covington Creek HOA
Joseph George - UPCA
Delmas Harper – Harper & Associates
Lindsey Carter - UNF
Troy Barrett - UNF

Call to Order/Verify Quorum- Chair Salem called the November 2018 GAB CPAC meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Rosemary Wesolowski verified that a quorum was present.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary – The October 2018 meeting summary was approved by the CPAC.

Presentation(s): **Scott Wilson, City Council Vice President, District 4** provided a brief professional background and introduced his Executive Council Assistant, Ms. Jackie Lee. Vice President Wilson informed the CPAC about the proposed removal of the elevated highway ramps that connect the Hart Bridge to Downtown. It was stated that the removal of the elevated roads would be a benefit to improve freight traffic in the Talleyrand area. It also could benefit Jacksonville Jaguars owner Shad Khan, who wants to pursue a multibillion-dollar mixed-use project along the Downtown Northbank.

Vice President Wilson stated legislation was introduced Tuesday by Jacksonville City Council seeking to appropriate a \$12.5 million grant from the Florida Department of Transportation. The additional funds needed to complete the project may be allocated in the City's Capital Improvement Program. The city also is pursuing a \$12.5 million federal grant to begin a second phase that would expand and widen East Bay Street.

Vice President Wilson displayed an artist rendition of the proposed changes to the local roads. The City would remove a half-mile-long stretch of elevated roadways between A. Philip Randolph Boulevard and Festival Park Avenue. A new grade-level ramp will be installed near Festival Park Avenue for traffic entering and exiting the Hart Bridge. Another section of the expressway that routes traffic to and from Gator Bowl Boulevard and East Duval, Monroe, Adams and Forsyth streets would remain. Removing the highways and reconfiguring Gator Bowl Boulevard is estimated to take 18 months.

Vice President Wilson also introduced three new parks/projects that would be coming online in Council District 4 in the near future:

The first project will be a new Senior Citizen Center to be constructed at the Beach and Peach Urban Park; this is located in the Southside Estates/Windy Hills area off Beach Boulevard (between Anders and Southside Boulevards). The new senior center will be approximately 6600 square feet, offer several different rooms for various activities and have a large outdoor porch that will overlook the five acre lake at Beach and Peach Urban Park. The center will be staffed with a COJ employee and lunch will be served Monday through Friday.

The second project announced is work on the Touchton Road Park (near Belfort Road) that should begin soon. The scope of the park project will include a small parking area, a walking trail with playground equipment and exercise equipment stations throughout the trail. The park includes 42.5 acres of land. The land was donated by developers back in 2002 along with \$125,000 for park development. The City cleared the land and added a retention pond with a fountain, but did not have the money needed to complete the project. Currently, there is \$550,000 earmarked for the park's construction. Vice President Wilson stated construction will take about six months; the park is expected to open in April or May in 2019.

The third project is the new Ivey Road Park located at 9000 Ivey Road; just off Southside Boulevard. The surrounding communities need a place for their children to play. The park will be built on a former sand dune; crews are currently working to remove sand from the area. To date, the Master Plan for Ivey Road Park is complete. Phase I Amenities will include multi-use fields, walking trails, a dog park, skate spot and a large assortment of play equipment.

Contact Council Vice President Wilson at 630-630-1394 or SWilson@coj.net

Elected Officials Report:

Joyce Morgan, City Council District 1 – on behalf of Council Member Morgan the following report was read to the CPAC:

- Council Member Morgan extended Happy Thanksgiving wishes to everyone.
- Congratulations to all of our dedicated CPAC members and the 25th Anniversary.
- The Renew Arlington CRA Board of Directors has deferred action on the Renew Arlington CRA Zoning Overlay legislation.

- City Council passed a 6 month Moratorium that would hold everything in place until the Council decided if and how they would regulate Adult Arcade establishments. Ordinance 2018-680
- The next City Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 27, 5 pm.
- The next City Council District 1 Town Hall Meeting will be held on Monday, November 26, 2018 at 6 pm at Christ the King Parish, 742 Arlington Rd. North.

Carol Brock, Executive Council Aide, District 3 – Council President Bowman is very pleased at the response from the community to serve on the newly created Safety Task Force. Approximately 150 applications were submitted to serve on the Task Force. The Council President is hoping to hold the first Safety Task Force meeting in February.

Sam Newby, City Council At-Large Group 5 – thanked everyone for attending and for their supporting the GAB CPAC.

Staff Reports:

JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Lieutenant Valentine provided the following updates:

- In the last 30 days violent crime is down 18% and property crime is down 9% in Zone 2.
- Reminded everyone to follow the 9:00 pm Routine and lock their vehicles.
- Stated with the holidays and holiday shopping on the horizon, be mindful of your activities while out shopping. Keep purchases, jackets and all valuables out of sight when you are out shopping.
- Keep your garage doors closed if you are not outside and can see your garage.

Zone 2 substation – 9501 Arlington Expressway – 904-726-5100

JEA – Payson Tilden announced backflow system check-up letters were mailed to those that live in the 32246 and 32223 zip codes on October 1, 2018. Testing will start in these zip codes on November 20, 2018. If you have any questions please call 665-6000.

JFRD (Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department) – not in attendance

Jacksonville Public Library – Jackie Spiritas provided the following updates:

- The Pablo Regional Library has sponsored a chair at the beach as part of the Deck the Chairs holiday decorations.
- The Makers space at the Main Library has an exhibit of Ties & Knots on display until January 1, 2019.
- Bookfest will be held on February 23, 2019 and the headliner will be R.L. Stine. Additional details will follow.
- There are two dates in December to visit with Santa at the Pablo Creek Regional Library: 12/7/18 at 11:00 am and 12/20/18 at 4:00 pm.

Jackie Spiritas – spiritas@coj.net

JTA – Cheryl Riddick announced many changes will occur on December 3, 2018 for JTA. There will be changes in many of the bus routes; please visit JTAFLA.com to check your bus route. Ms. Riddick also announced that the First Coast Flyer Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) will begin on December 3, 2018. The Red Line will run from the Rosa Parks Station Downtown to Jacksonville Beach. There will also be a soft launch of a new route from downtown Jacksonville to Nassau County on December 3, 2018.

Neighborhoods Department (Municipal Code Compliance Division) – Thomas Register provided a report that contained the following statistics for the GAB District: Total inspections completed October 2018 were 1847 and the inspection resulted in the following violations: Commercial: 48; Illegal Signs: 39; Junk Vehicle: 220; Litter Signs: 75; Nuisance: 595; Board Up: 62; Graffiti: 7; Nuisance Pool: 24; Nuisance Tree: 109; Residential: 360; Unsafe: 58; Zoning: 250

Mr. Thomas answered a few questions. Mr. Thomas clarified if a community is having problems with commercial vehicles parking on city streets, the neighbors need to call 630-CITY to report this issue. If someone is burning leaves or trash in their yard this is a violation and the neighbors need to call 630-0500 to report the burning while it is occurring.

Thomas Register, 255-7290 or tregister@coj.net

Parks and Recreation – Keith Meyerl reported that there will be a new community center built in the Mayport Area; the center will be located directly across the street from the Mayport Boat Ramp (off Ocean Street). This project is currently in the design phase, but it has been requested that the building be constructed with hardy board siding and a big wrap-around porch to blend in with historic Mayport architecture. This will be a two-story community center. The first floor of the community center will offer a large community room and the second floor will provide office space. Construction on the Mayport Community Center is expected to begin in mid to late 2019. The splash pad at Abyss Park is 90% complete. The Blue Cypress Park swimming pool is still in the design phase and construction is expected to begin in 2019. Huffman Park soccer fields were re-sodded and will be in good shape for the free soccer-camp that will be available over the winter break. The Blue Cypress/Lion's Club water front boardwalk is still waiting to be replaced. The City is currently in the permitting phase of this project and it has been determined that the boardwalk will be elevated higher than it previously was. The fishing pier and boat ramps will also receive some improvements once construction begins.

Planning & Development Department – Connie Patterson stated the CRA agency board has deferred the CRA draft until January or February of 2019. The Planning and Development Department will answer all questions about the draft with City Council Members.

Connie Patterson, 255-7822 or Constancep@coj.net

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports (3 minute time limit):

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs – On behalf of Mike Anania, Chair Salem announced the LUZ Subcommittee reviewed numerous applications and heard a presentation from a concerned neighborhood group. Three motions were made and all passed unanimously:

Denial of Ordinance 2018-0758 at 2057 Sallas Lane. The Greater Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee made the following observations:

- The request provides single family housing in an area already developed with similar uses.
- The request will create increased traffic intensity or unreasonable conflicts with existing traffic.
- The request is inconsistent with the character and development pattern of the surrounding area.
- The CPAC suggests RLD-50 instead to create a transition from the surrounding neighborhoods.

Request Deferral of WAAR-18-01 at 3732 Betty Dr., 32224. The Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) reviewed the request for Waiver of Architectural and Aesthetic Requirements WAAR-18101 and made the following observations:

- The applicant requests relief from the zoning code for the minimum square footage of a dwelling from 850sqft to 336sqft.
- The applicant states that the zoning code does not adequately define the newest trend in housing design commonly referred to as the "tiny house".
- The CPAC agrees with the applicant's statement of the zoning code deficiency but understands the impact to the neighborhood and needs to understand the concerns of the surrounding neighborhood.

Denial of Ordinance AD-18-51 2805 Wycombe Drive West. The GAB CPAC reviewed the request for Administrative Deviation AD-18-51 and its companion application and made the following observations:

- The applicant requests relief from the parking requirement of the zoning code from 11 to 0 spaces.
- In the site plan there is not enough area of off-street, off-ROW to accommodate parking spaces.
- The applicant suggests that "Users would back onto circular driveway and forward onto Wycombe Drive in a northerly direction (toward Bamberg Road)."
- The CPAC disagrees with the applicant's assertion that this "would not create any hazard for pick up nor drop off of children."

Beautification/Parks – Larry Belge - no report.

Environment – Lad Hawkins – not present

Membership – vacant

Nomination – Jerry Petoskey and Nina Pougloklidis announced Ramsey Salem was nominated to serve as 2019 Chair and Melody Shacter was nominated to serve as 2019 Vice Chair; both have accepted the nomination. Mr. Petoskey asked three times if there were any nominations from the floor for the Chair or Vice Chair position. No additional nominations were made. The CPAC unanimously voted to elect Ramsey Salem to serve as the GAB Chair and Melody Shacter to serve as GAB Vice Chair in 2019.

Transportation – Will Messer - no report

Ad-Hoc Committees:

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – John Roberts stated the TRUE Commission is reviewing City contracts and agreements. Currently, the contracts and agreements are maintained in the various departments instead of a centralized location; the TRUE Commission is questioning this process. The TRUE Commission has also questioned the lack of reports produced by the Office of Economic Development(OED). At this time the OED does not even produce an annual report. The TRUE Commission would like to see some sort of reporting from OED. The TRUE Commission has also questioned what the right level is of spending for the maintenance of parks? The TRUE Commission has completed some research on per capita spending on parks in Florida cities? Compared to the other major cities in Florida, Jacksonville spends half of the per capita on parks and park maintenance.

North Florida TPO – Will Messer - no report

Neighborhood Coordinator Report – Rosemary Wesolowski shared the following information:

- The deadline to submit Matching Grant application is December 3, 2019.

- Informed the CPAC that copies of the 2019 GAB CPAC meeting dates are available at the sign in table.
- Announced the Neighborhood Services Office will offer CommUniverCity Leadership Training program again this year. Copies of the registration form are available; please ask Rosemary for one.
- Thanked all of the CPAC members that attended the CPAC 25th Anniversary on October 23, 2018 at City Hall. Rosemary recognized supervisor Lisa Ransom and all her efforts to make the anniversary celebration happen. Copies of the 25th Anniversary proclamation are available for each CPAC member and distributed.
- Ms. Ransom stated she enjoyed working on the CPAC 25th Anniversary celebration and thanked everyone for their participation. Ms. Ransom reiterated that the Matching Grant applications are due on December 3, 2018; please submit them to Robert Ownsby.
- Rosemary informed the CPAC that the December CPAC meeting would be held on December 10, 2018. It was questioned if the CPAC members would like to have a meeting, hold their traditional pot-luck dinner or meet for dinner in a restaurant? The CPAC members voted to have their traditional holiday pot-luck dinner; a sign-up sheet was distributed.

Chairs Report – Chair Salem informed the CPAC that the CPAC Chairs have been meeting in the Mayor Office with Sam Mousa, Chief Administrative Officer and when his schedule allows, Mayor Curry on a quarterly basis. Chair Salem stated that he always brings up the issues that are occurring in our district at these meetings.

Chair Salem stated he represented the GAB CPAC during the CPAC 25th Anniversary Proclamation.

Last Tuesday at the City Council meeting, GACC (Greater Arlington Civic Council) was recognized for their 40 years of serving the Arlington community. Chair Salem presented Certificates of Appreciation for those CPAC members that serve on the various subcommittees.

Unfinished Business - none

New Business – Member Pete Miller expressed his concerns about the lack of maintenance on the Sandalwood Canal and the flooding problems associated with the lack of maintenance. Mr. Miller would like to hear from Public Works Department on when the funding for the maintenance will be put into the CIP.

Member Nina Pougioklidis informed the CPAC as a follow up to the presentation at the October 2018 CPAC meeting by the St. Johns River Water Management, she has found one civil engineering group that works on storm water retention ponds. Their neighborhood is having problems finding businesses to conduct the inspections required to complete the inspections

Public Comment - none

Motion to Adjourn

The next meeting of the District 2 CPAC will be Monday, December 10, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the Pablo Creek Regional Library, 13295 Beach Boulevard, Jacksonville FL, 32246