

District #1 - Urban Core

Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Meeting Location: Ed Ball Building – Training Room 110 – 214 N. Hogan St.

Chair: Christina Parrish 434-0959 ceparrish.CPAC@yahoo.com

Vice Chair: Gloria DeVall 449-4340 gloria.devall2010@comcast.net

Mayor's Representative: Carolyn Shehee-Williams 630-1636 cshehe@coj.net

Neighborhood Coordinator: Rosemary Wesolowski 255-8261 rosemary@coj.net



Meeting Summary Monday, January 6, 2014

Members

Arnold, Ruth – 02nd Mile Ministries
Demopoulos, Dimitri – Churchwell Lofts at East Bay Condo Assoc. Inc.
DeVall, Gloria – Preservation SOS
Harris, Darcel – Mother Midway AME
Merrick, Dorothy – Plaza Condominiums
Parrish, Christina – SAMBA
Partlow, Levoyus – Good Neighbor M.A.N.I.A.
Radlinski, Greg – Parks at the Cathedral
Swain, Deloris – Grand Boulevard Crime Watch
Swain, Johnny – Grand Boulevard Crime Watch
Trent, Erica – Pathways Academy Charter School
Vanderlaan, Doug – SPAR Council

Excused –

Hamilton, Victoria – St. John's Lutheran Church
Hamilton, William C. – St. John's Lutheran Church

Guests

Cannon, Alice – JTA

Staff/Resource

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Barth, Michelle -Mayor's Office | Logsdon, Kenny - HCDD |
| Myers, Tim - Code Compliance | Ransom, Lisa – Planning |
| Ricks, Lt. Jimmy - JSO | Simmons, Shaniqua – JaxParks |
| Taulbee, Karen – FDOT | Wesolowski, Rosemary -HCDD |
| Shehee-Williams, Carolyn – Mayor's Liaison | |

Call to Order

Chair DeVall called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.; it was established that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone.

Approval of the Minutes

Member Arnold made a Motion to accept the minutes as presented from the November 2013 meeting and a second was made by Member Radlinski. The motion passed unanimously.

Guest Speakers:

Denise Chaplick, City of Jacksonville, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator – spoke on the need for Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety. Ms. Chaplick the City's first-ever full-time Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator, who came on board in October 2013.

Upon joining the City of Jacksonville, Ms. Chaplick was assigned to analysis the area around the Rosa Parks Transit Station for its safety and accessibility. Based on her recent investigation and review of the data and circumstances surrounding the Rosa Parks Transit Station, Denise Chaplick then offered an in-depth presentation of the issues and some potential solutions for making the area safer for everyone (motorists, pedestrians, bikers, and those using public transit).

She cited a variety of statistical data, including volume of crashes, where crashes have occurred most frequently, how vehicle speed influences fatality rates, etc. The 2012 Benchmarking Report, by The Alliance for Biking & Walking, ranks Florida 45th out of 50 states on the list of safest states to bike. For bicycle safety, Jacksonville FL ranks 49th on their list of 51 cities, ahead of Arlington TX and Charlotte NC. For pedestrian safety, Florida ranks 50th out of 50 states, and Jacksonville ranks 50th on a list of 51 cities, ahead of only Fort Worth TX. From January 2006 through November 2013, there have been 167 crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists in the vicinity of Rosa Parks (131 involved pedestrians; 36 involved bicyclists). Six of the crashes involving pedestrians were fatal, including three in 2013.

Somewhat surprisingly, more crashes in recent years occurred on the Union Street side of the Transit Station than on State Street, but both have unacceptably high accident rates. Other dangerous intersections in the area include Laura and Beaver Streets, and Main and Adams. Chaplick also mentioned that they also need to look at lane width and the amount of lanes that have to be crossed to get to the Rosa Parks Station. The basic problem here is that our roads and streets are too big and too far apart.

Ms. Chaplick noted that a resurfacing project has been scheduled by FDOT for State and Union Streets to be completed in 2015. It would be desirable to have any recommendations for improvements around Rosa Parks advanced to FDOT in time for them to consider them when finalizing their resurfacing plan. FDOT representative Jim Green was in attendance and state he would help convey any information to FDOT.

Ms. Chaplick also discussed pedestrian signal crossing; she stated that installation of countdown pedestrian signal heads has already been incorporated future improvements, and all curbs and crosswalks will be brought into compliance with applicable ADA requirements.

Ms. Chaplick also mentioned that The Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan from 1999, the Bicycle Facility and the Pedestrian Facility maps from 2009 are available on the COJ websites for review. For the short term, Ms. Chaplick stated that her goals are to: enhance connections between the Urban Core and Downtown; promoting and enhancing safety for bicyclists; increasing pedestrian access and visibility; etc.

Elected Officials Reports –

Kimberly Daniels, City Council at Large – attended the meeting and spoke briefly to the group. She made a request that all the CPAC members send their concerns or needs in regard to Public Health and safety to Rosemary Wesolowski to compile a list and send it to her.

Staff Reports:

JSO Zone 1 – Lt. Jimmy Ricks

Lt. Ricks informed the group that crime is down in Zone 1. Year to date, violent crime is down - 6.5% and property crime is down -5.77%. Recently JSO has responded to a few calls related to auto burglary, homeless men fighting over a beer and made the arrest for gentleman that robbed a downtown bank. New Year's Eve was also pretty quiet; there were a couple of arrests that were alcohol related. For assistance and information call the JSO Zone 1 Sub Station at 924-5361 or JSOzone1@jaxsheriff.org

Mayor's Representative – Ms. Shehee Williams – not present

Mayor's Liaison – Michelle Barth

Informed the group that Mayor Brown will be hosting a Roundtable event for Non-Profit organization on January 9th. A number of flyers were mailed to area non-profit organizations to

announce the event, but if you did not get one and would like one, please contact Ms. Barth at MBarth@coj.net.

Duval County Public Schools – not present

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – Jim Green reported on the following:

- FDOT continues to work with Denise Chaplick to ensure the safety on our roads.
- The Main Street project has begun the needed repairs and will continue for some time.
- On N. Davis there will be a ground breaking ceremony on January 10th at 10:00 am for the new ITS signal control; this will be state of the art and available to share Amber and Gray Alerts.

Mr. Green can be reached at 360-5684 or James.green@dot.state.fl.us

Planning and Development – Planner Marvin Echols, stated that he did not have a report, but he is available for questions.

Mr. Echols can be reached at 255-7823 or mechols@coj.net

Project New Ground – Bill Holman

Stated that as of December 15th, they have completed cleaning up 140 parcels. Phase 3 clean is scheduled to start soon, but they have not established a start date yet.

One of the CPAC members inquired if they were going to clean up the contamination at 8th and Florida Ave? It stated that they were not aware of any contamination at 8th and Florida Ave; it was recommended that she contact the Health Department to confirm if this parcel is contaminated.

Project New Ground can be contacted at 630-CITY (2489) or the Outreach Center at 357-8077.

Parks & Recreation – Mark Hartley stated that he did not have a report but was available for questions.

One of the members asked for clarification of the presence of no fishing signs on the Northbank Riverwalk. Mr. Hartley confirmed that there are 9 signs posted along the Northbank Riverwalk from starting at The Berkman and ending just past the Landing; they are posted on the light poles. It was noted that someone keeps tearing the signs down, but the Parks Departments replaces them as soon as they are aware that they are missing. Another member suggested that the Parks Department also spray paint the no-fishing ordinance onto the walkway to prevent theft of the signs.

Another member informed Mr. Hartley that a palm tree has died on the island at Confederate Park. Mr. Hartley stated that he would research/report that occurrence.

Has the security changed at Confederate Park? Yes, they are having a problem hiring someone, but they are actively recruiting a replacement.

Another member thanked Mr. Hartley for the new equipment that arrived at A. Philip Randolph Park.

Mr. Hartley can be reached at 472-2865 or mhartley@coj.net

Jacksonville Public Library – not present

Public Works – not present – there was a request from a CPAC member to get a report/update on the water damage repair at the main library.

Neighborhoods – Code Compliance – Supervisor Nelson Beard reported that there are 1524 active cases in the Urban Core.

Supervisor Beard can be reached at 255-7041. Code can be reached at 255-7000.

Neighborhoods – Housing and Community Development Division – Neighborhood Coordinator Rosemary Wesolowski stated that she would be providing the group with information for the upcoming events: January 29th ~ Legislative Forum for Seniors 10:00 am and the main Library; various gardening educational programs for the community; flyers with complete details will be emailed.

Ms. Wesolowski can be reached at 255-8261 or rosemary@coj.net

Daphne Colbert introduced herself to the CPAC and informed them that she is worked with the Director of the Neighborhoods Department. She has embarked on a project that requires updates for all the contact information for neighborhoods. Ms. Colbert thanked everyone that she has spoken to and she looks forward to speaking to more neighbors in the future.

Chair's Report

- Chair DeVall distributed all the Subcommittee Chair Appreciation certificates for 2013 and thanked the group for stepping up and taking on the leadership roles that the UC CPAC needs. Chair DeVall also inquired what topics or guest speakers the group would like to have at upcoming CPAC meetings. The suggestions were:
JTA to discuss transportation in the Urban Core
The Health Department to discuss how they are assisting individuals to sign up for the Affordable Healthcare Act
How to start a beautification of the East Side (city agencies need to come out and offer their various services)
Report on current activity of the DIA
Update from 630-CITY and how to use the system
Report from the DCPS ~ concerned on the lack of Physical Education in schools.
Portfolio of the City real estate and what they are/are not selling
Update on the Jacksonville Journey and its funding source
Update on the Consolidated Government Task Force

Mayor's Liaison Michelle Barth was able to inform the group that Jacksonville was designated as a "Let's Move City". This designation has recognized Jacksonville for its recent completion of key health and wellness goals for Let's Move! This is a major component of First Lady Michelle Obama's comprehensive Let's Move! This particular initiative is dedicated to solving the childhood obesity. Also, the Mayor will be kicking off his Urban Blight Initiative; Ms. Barth stated that she noted that the East Side would be interested in this program.

Subcommittee Reports

- **Preservation** – Chair DeVall ~ no report
- **Transportation** – not present
- **Parks** – Greg Radlinski - no report
- **TRUE Commission** – Greg Radlinski – no report

Unfinished Business

New Business

Public Comments/Announcements:

An announcement was made that Tony Sleimen and the city will break ground for a new parking garage next to the Sun Trust Building. This garage will be funded with city funds.

A guest extended an invitation the UC CPAC member to get involved in the BPAC that Denise Chaplick mentioned earlier. She stressed the importance of the UC CPAC becoming involved.

Adjournment

*Member Arnold made a Motion to adjourn and was Member Hamilton seconded.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.*

The next Urban Core CPAC meeting is on
Monday, February 3, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.,
at the Ed Ball Building, 214 N. Hogan Street, 1st floor Training Room