

District #2 – Greater Arlington Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Michael Anania

Vice Chair: Eddi Parsons

MEETING SUMMARY

Location: Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport

DATE: Monday, February 9, 2015

Attendance:

Organizations/Representatives

Members:

Anania, Michael, Arlington Business Society
Barletta, Robert, Charter Point Community Association
Belge, Larry, River Woods – St. Johns Landing HOA
Conderman, Laurel, University Park Civic Association
Davis, Michele, Council Appointee – District 1
Evans, Kacy, Caroline Forest Homeowners Association
Henry, David, Kensington Association
George, Shirley, University Park Civic Association
Hunter-Nowak, Karen, Hawkins Cove HOA
Keeley, Tim, Kensington Association
Kline, Jeanne, Arlington East Neighborhood Association
Litwhiler, Shelia, Beachwood Civic Association
Ludwig, Helen, St. Johns Woods HOA
Maxted, Ed, Bentwater Place
Miller, Pete, Indian Springs Community Association
Parsons, Eddi, Monument Oaks HOA
Pougiouklidis, Nina, Ibis Point Owners Association
Roberts, John, The Valley at Hidden Hills
Sanders, Patricia, Southern Grove Condo Association
Schorr, Patricia, Covington Creek HOA
Sharp, Roger, Historic Marabanong
Tucker, Ben, Cypress Cove Good Neighbor Group

Excused:

Agnihotri, Amita, Hawkins Cove Owner Association
Lowe, Marcella, Alderman Park Civic Association
Petoskey, Jerry, Old Mill Cove Community Org
Schirado, Carol, Communities of East Arlington

Elected Officials:

None

Staff: Roman, Dave; Nasrallah, Karen; Lancaster, Elaine; Wesolowski, Rosemary; Davis, Paul; Hall, Robert; McNeil, Julie; Williams, Danny

Guests:

Johnson, Donna – Holly Oaks
Hipps, Alberta – JAA

Leis, Barbara – Holly Oaks
Morgan, Joyce – Candidate Council District 1

1. **Call to Order/Verify Quorum**

Chair, Michael Anania, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The meeting began with a prayer 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 January meeting summary. Member Pete Miller pointed out 2 errors that should be corrected: on p. 2, under the JSO Report, in the last sentence, the word and should be changed to any. On p. 10, the web address should be corrected to www.nextdoor.com. Jeanne Kline made a motion to accept the meeting summary as amended and Pete Miller seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. **Staff Reports**

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Sgt. Micheal Monts** informed the CPAC that YTD property crime is down 15% and violent crime is down 14.87%. Sgt. Monts stated that JSO has not noticed any particular crime patterns or trends in Zone 2. Member Belge informed Sgt. Monts that his neighborhood has had an ongoing vandal problem with a neighborhood park located at the corner on Ashley Manor Way and Fulton Road. The neighborhood has improved the lighting in the park, but vandals continue to cause problems. Member Belge requested that JSO increase their patrols past the park and shine their spot lights into the park.
- **Mayor's Liaison – Dave Roman** - guest speaker for the month
- **Duval County Public Schools** – not present
- **Regulatory Compliance Department (Code Compliance)**- Elaine Lancaster
Ms. Lancaster announced that she and her team have been busy conducting after business hour inspections in the Zone 2. They completed 3 inspections on their way to the meeting and plan to complete 2 additional inspections after this report. Supervisor Lancaster informed the CPAC that they are in the middle of conducting a systematic inspection in the Sandlewood area and they hope to have that completed soon. Supervisor Lancaster also stated that she and her team will be actively working in the Arlington Urban Blight area too. There were a couple of questions about campaign signs. Lancaster informed the CPAC that there are no special exceptions for political candidate signs. All sign violations will be handled the same. It was clarified that you can only have one sign per candidate in your yard, but you can have as many different candidates as you want. Several CPAC members stated that they are concerned about the tires that are being stored all over the property at a tire store located at 6206 Merrill Road, 32211. Supervisor Lancaster stated that she and her team are aware of the problem and that they are working on it. Lancaster encouraged all the CPAC members to call in their concerns to 630-CITY.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green – not present, but asked Rosemary to remind the CPAC that FDOT will hold a Public Hearing on proposed safety improvements along SR 212 (US 90/Beach Boulevard) from F.O.P. Way to east of Ryar Road (approx. 1 mile) including the intersection with SR 109 (University Boulevard). The meeting was held Thursday, February 19, 2015 at Spring Glen United Methodist, 6007 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32216. The meeting was an "Open House" format between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. to give you an opportunity to review exhibits and talk with Department Staff. A public comment period was held at 6:30 p.m.

- **Jacksonville Aviation Authority** – Tiffany Gillem informed the CPAC that the Navy’s move to Cecil Commerce Center is going well. To date, the JAA staff has badged over 4000 employees. By June 2015, JAA expects to have all of the entire fleet in Jacksonville and the fleet will have between 12,000 and 18,000 members. At this time the fleet is expected to stay in Jacksonville (at Cecil) for 12 to 18 months. This week at JIA they have a new airline carrier called Allegiant Air and they are providing non-stop service to Pittsburg and Cincinnati. Also at JIA, the Clarion Hotel (on JIA property) has been remodeled and reopened as a Double Tree Hotel; additional information is available on the JIA website. The landscaping at JAXEX is moving along. This week there will be a pre-construction meeting with the contractor to go over the projects details and schedule. There will be a JAXEX Community Advisory Meeting in this room on February 17, 2015 at 9:00 am; all are welcomed to attend.
- **Operation Dolphin** – Karen Nashrallah – Last Thursday, a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a community redevelopment consultant was approved through the city PSEC (Professional Service Evaluation Committee) to be advertised for 30 days. The deadline for the RFP is March 11, 2015, by the April meeting we should have a contract in place. The CRA (Community Redevelopment Area) will be based on all of the existing neighborhood action plans and vision plans; the various plans will be updated and implemented. This should all be completed and approved by City Council by December 2015. On Wednesday, February 11, 2015, Mayor Brown, Council President Clay Yarborough, Councilman Crescimbeni and JU President Tim Cost will hold a community meeting at the University Branch Library to roll out the plan for Arlington. An invitation to attend was extended to the CPAC.
- **Planning Department:**
 - Housing and Community Development** – Rosemary Wesolowski informed the CPAC that she has reached out to Councilman Yarborough in regard to the CPAC’s request in having something named after Johnny Holden at the Reddie Point Preserve. As soon as details are available they will be shared with the CPAC.
 - Planning Department** – Paul Davis stated that he did not have an additional report from the LUZ Subcommittee, but he was available for questions.
- **Public Works** – Steve Long, Chief of Right of way and Stormwater Management – not present
- **JaxParks** –Robert Hall – In formed the CPAC that Blue Cypress Community Center will be re-opening from 2-9 pm and he announced that they are looking to partner with a group to assist with programing. If you know of anyone or if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Hall at 255-7933 or RHall@coj.net

4. Presentation(s):

Dave Roman, Mayor’s Liaison, City of Jacksonville, informed the CPAC that Jacksonville officials and LISC have committed \$35.5 million to improving housing and infrastructure in some of the city’s most chronically struggling neighborhoods. The project is called Renew Jax. Some of the goals of Renew Jax will include road and drainage improvements, water lines, sidewalks, septic system changes in more than a dozen areas of the city, to improve and expand housing opportunities, promote economic development and job creation, and strengthen families. The initiative will empower neighborhoods and improve quality of life. The projects will mingle \$20 million from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation, (LISC), with \$15.5 million the city assembled from federal and state funds and the city’s stormwater fee.

On February 11, 2015, at 10:00 am, Mayor Alvin Brown, Tim Cost, JU President and Arlington City Councilmembers will meet at the University Branch Library to roll out the Renew Arlington plan. For

those that will not be able to attend the meeting, Renew Arlington is focused on rejuvenating private investment by designating a specific section within Arlington as a Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) with a Redevelopment Trust Fund. For a 20-year period, all new revenues generated from increased property values in the redevelopment area would be dedicated to economic development, housing, infrastructure and other projects that benefit the Arlington area.

Mayor Brown has also developed the Jacksonville Community Empowerment Days. The goal of the Empowerment Days is to bring service providers (faith based, non-profit, for profit and government services) from throughout the community and put them directly into the neighborhoods of the residents that need them. The goal is to strengthen families and communities. The Community Empowerment Day in Arlington will be held on April 18, 2015 from 10 am – 2 pm at Caroline Arms Apartments, 6457 Fort Caroline Rd.

The Urban Parks Initiative will also impact Arlington community. Last year, JaxParks hired a number of retired and active coaches for an 8 week period to focus on 10 parks. The coaching staff worked were assigned 2 part time teens to staff parks and to organize and referee activities/games for the kids. This year the program has been expanded to 18 parks and in the Arlington area, Bruce Park will offer these opportunities to the neighborhood kids.

Mr. Roman also mentioned that Parks Department is actively hiring for summer positions at most parks and for a variety of different programs. Applicants must be 18 years of age, unless they are a certified lifeguard.

Five additional community centers will be opening and in the Arlington area, Blue Cypress Community Center will be re-opened in the near future. At Blue Cypress Community Center, they are looking to partner with for-profit and non-profit agencies to offset the expense. The goal of the Blue Cypress Community Center is to offer an afterschool program and mentoring center from 2pm to 9pm.

In Arlington they are also looking to expand Teen Court and the Neighborhood Accountability Boards at Terry Parker High School. These programs follow a restorative justice model, allowing students to be accountable for their mistakes through sanctions such as public apologies, community service, and other rehabilitative measures. Successful completion of these requirements means they avoid a criminal record that could otherwise foreclose future educational and employment opportunities. An overwhelming percentage of students not only fulfill the requirements, but also take to heart the lessons they learned through the experience. 92 percent of juveniles who appear before Teen Court and Neighborhood Accountability Board in Duval County successfully complete the program. Of those students, 91 percent are not rearrested within the next year. Statewide, these programs boast a 4 percent recidivism rate, the lowest of any Florida juvenile justice program.

Waterproof Jacksonville will return and Mr. Roman is currently working with Woodland Acres Elementary School in effort to hold the program there again this year. The goal is to have 4 summer schools involved with this program and to teach kids to swim in effort to reduce drowning.

- 5. Chair's Report** – Chair Anania – Informed the group that he and the other CPAC chairs (6 in total) have reached out to all the Mayoral Candidates to meet with them and discuss the importance of CPAC's and how they would view CPAC's role once they are elected. Chair Anania also mentioned that at the last CPAC Chairs meeting with Mayor Brown the CPAC Chairs were supplied with CPAC brochures so they can be used as marketing tools for the

CPAC's/Membership Subcommittees. The City is also looking at creating business cards for the CPAC's too.

6. Elected Officials Reports – none

7. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports

- **Land Use and Zoning:**

The Land Use and Zoning Subcommittee met at 5:30 p.m. The subcommittee reviewed several applications and 4 motions were made:

Approval of Variance V-15-02 of the request to allow a reduction to the required width of the lot at 1671 St. Johns Bluff Road for the following reasons: the site is already developed in a constrained configuration and relief is necessary to utilize the existing structure.

Redevelopment of the existing property is more efficient, historically respectful and ecologically sustainable than the demolition of the existing structure and total rebuild.

Approval of AD-15-06 of the request to reduce requires landscape and parking requirements per application at 1671 St. Johns Bluff Road.

Approval of Exception E-15-04 for the request to expand the existing 38 bed assisted living facility to 150 beds for the following reasons: The existing use has not generated adverse impacts to the neighborhood. The use is consistent with the surrounding residential uses and contributes a public benefit to the community.

Deny Rezoning 2015-064 Melissa Grove PUD and denied due to the following observations: The proposed use is not consistent with the surrounding single family character of the area. The height of the proposed building is excessive for the neighborhood. Parking spaces that block other parking spaces creates inconvenient and conflicting actions. There are not adequate parking spaces for services vehicles and visitors. Traffic will have a significant adverse impact to surrounding road system.

- **Beautification** – Larry Belge – no report
- **Environment** – Lad Hawkins – not present
- **Membership** – Jeanne Kline and Karen Hunter-Nowak – no report
- **Transportation** – Ben Tucker – no report

- **Ad-Hoc:**

- **North Florida TPO** – Roger Sharp – no report
- **TRUE** (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Patricia Schorr informed the CPAC that all new TRUE Commission members were required to attend ethics training and she completed her training in January 2015. Member Schorr stated that she wanted to share an update from the training with the CPAC. The COJ Ethics Officer, Carla Miller informed the training group that any committee that is subject to the Sunshine Laws has to open the floor to the public as well as the members for comment prior to voting on an issue. This change was adopted in 2014.

The TRUE Commission also took action on the following issues:

2015-61 (appropriating \$65,000 from Fire and Rescue Department operations to fund a Teen Court Neighborhood Accountability Board site in Arlington); the committee questioned why funding to the cash-strapped Fire Department was identified as an appropriate source for reallocation to the Teen Court when the department has so many operational and vehicle replacement needs. A motion was made by the Legislative Tracking Committee and they recommended that the TRUE Commission oppose passage of Resolution 2015-61 – approved 2-0.

2015-83 (resolution urging Governor Scott to commission an investigation and audit of the

Police and Fire Pension Fund): the committee was in support of this resolution as an affirmation of the TRUE Commission's previous support for a forensic audit of the PFPF.

A motion was made by the Legislative Tracking Committee that recommends that the TRUE Commission oppose support passage of Resolution 2015-83 – approved 2-0.

Member Schorr did inform the CPAC that fellow TRUE Commission member, Danny Becton, has was his seat on City Council and the TRUE Commission will be looking to replace him.

8. Unfinished Business - none

- 9. New Business** – Member Pete Miller, informed the group that in the newspaper today, there is an article that stated that the JSO calls for service website has been temporarily taken down for officers safety.

Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens - A Brush with Nature, a juried plein air painting event, with over 30 of the region's finest landscape artists will set up their easels to capture the essence of the Arboretum's beautiful settings. From Thursday, April 16, 2015 through Saturday, April 18, 2015, the artists will paint their favorite scenes from locations throughout the 120-acre site.

On April 18, 2015, from 10 am - 2 pm at the Regency Square Mall, 9501 Arlington Expressway, Jacksonville, FL 32225, JSO will hold their Zone 2 Safety Fair. The North Florida Bicycle Club has joined the event this year the organization and will assist with the bicycle rodeo. Approximately 600 new bike helmets donated for the event. There are also 40 new bicycles that will be raffled off throughout the event; 10 bikes every hour will be raffled. This year there will be 15 to 20 safety vendors inside the mall and an additional 15-20 safety related vendors on the outside of the mall. There are 7 areas of safety that will be the focus of the event this year; those areas of focus are: Bicycle safety, Pedestrian safety, Fire safety, Water safety, Personal safety (ID theft & Child ID), Traffic safety and Emergency Preparedness. In 2013, there were approximately 4000 individuals in attendance. They are shooting to have that many or more in attendance this year.

Member Belge informed the group that he is involved with the Air Force Association Falcon and they are working on the Falcon Chapter Scholarship Fund with a fundraiser at the Alhambra Dinner Theater. On March 9, 2015, James Rogers will perform for the event. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$40 for children 12 and under. A silent auction will be held in the lobby.

10. Public Comments/Announcements (3-minute time limit) –

James Nealis introduced himself as a candidate for City Council District 3
Joyce Morgan introduced herself as a candidate for City Council District 1

Motion to Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: March 9, 2015 ~ 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport
855-1 Craig Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32225