

**Greater Arlington/Beaches ~ Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

**Regency Square Branch Library  
6 p.m. April 12, 2004**

**Minutes**

**Members and Alternates**

Terry Akins	Joseph Lek	Carol Schirado
Skip Benolken	Marcella Lowe	Tom Shouvin
Albert Cherry	Gail Melton	Rick Smith
Gary Dickinson	Jay Olchak	Roberta Thomas
Dorothy Fant	Thomas Olney	Benjamin Tucker
Kevin Feldt	Janet Ostler	Clay Yarborough
Johnnie Holden	Bradley Richards	Laura Brown
Sherrie Jarnutowski	Ray Salman	

**Members Excused**

Mark Foss

**Guests**

Kathleen Smith	John Lowe	Greg Bruce
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**Staff/Resource**

Lorrie DeFrank, NSD	Margo Moehring, P&D	Lynn Westbrook, PW
Michael Dickey, C A	Felton Purdue, F&R	Jeff Sheffield, FCMPO
Lynette Self, Cty Council		

**Call to Order**

Marcella Lowe called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**Speakers**

**John Meserve**, mayor of Atlantic Beach and executive director and CEO of Fleet Landing, spoke about the Mayport Waterfront Partnership and the many improvements that it brought to the historic fishing village. He said he got involved in the community when he was the commanding officer at the Naval Air Station Mayport. One of the first three villages to be selected for the Waterfronts Florida program, Mayport received a \$25,000 grant, which required a full-time staff to administer. The City of Jacksonville paid for the position through Community Development Block Grant funding. Over the next several years, the partnership's accomplishments included:

- Conducting community visionings and developing plans to keep Mayport as a fishing village
- Securing \$1.7 million to buy a new St. Johns River ferry, now operated by the City of Jacksonville
- Acquiring sewer lines to the village
- A \$4.5 million infrastructure improvement program

- Receiving a \$600,000 grant from the City of Jacksonville to continue improvements

Future plans include installing new streetlights, sidewalks and crosswalks and creating a visitor destination in the village. The completion of the Wonderwood Expressway and improvements to Mayport Road are expected to attract good business growth.

**City Councilwoman Lynette Self** gave an update on the ongoing St. Johns Bluff Corridor Study. She said when the new section of Route 9A opens soon a lot of traffic will bypass St. Johns Bluff, which was not intended to be a commercial route.

Roberta Thomas asked about continued funding for the Town Center Initiative. The councilwoman said she intends to talk about that when she meets with Mayor Peyton next week.

**Jeff Sheffield**, director of planning for the First Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization, reported on the Transportation Improvement Program for fiscal years 2004-2005 through 2008-2009. He gave a history of the MPO, which serves Duval County and parts of Clay and St. Johns Counties. He discussed proposed improvements at several locations, including Atlantic, Beach, Hodges, San Pablo and Kernan boulevards; the intracoastal bridge at Beach Boulevard; and the Regency Bypass. Handouts detailing the plans in District 2 were available. A public meeting on the plan will be held in the MPO's new building at 1022 Prudential Drive on May 5.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from the March 8, 2004, meeting were approved.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

**PARKS AND RECREATION** – The committee didn't meet this month.

**BEAUTIFICATION** – Gail Melton reported that she still doesn't have applications for JEA tree grants and doesn't want to wait until the last minute. Interested members may call her at 744-0962. She commended Skip Benolkin for the nice article in the newspaper about his neighborhood's tree plantings.

**GRANTS AND AWARDS** – Dot Fant reported that the committee selected the following to receive Jacksonville Children Commission's New Way's Initiative grants:

- Ridgefield Homeowners Association, \$5,000
- YMCA/Rotary Neighborhood Center, \$5,000
- Kensington Neighborhood Children's Group, \$5,000
- Woodland Acres Neighborhood, \$2,130
- Jacksonville Beach Apartments-Resident Management Corp., \$2,870
- Duval County PTAs/PTSAs(DCCPTA), \$2,500
- Omni Community Development Corp., \$2,500

**LAND USE AND ZONING** – Joe Lek said that the LUZ sub-committee recommended denial of 2004-246, a residential project on Kernan Boulevard, because the proposed building height of 55 feet is too high and out of context with the area, its impacts on

wetlands are inappropriate given the proximity to Sandalwood Canal and Cedar Swamp, and 576 units and 50-foot frontage lots are too intense.

- A motion to deny 2004-246, made by Joe Lek and seconded by Carol Schirado passed unanimously.

Ben Tucker said he is concerned that letters of recommendation from CPACs have little impact, especially when they don't have enough detail or someone present to support the request. Chair Marcella Lowe requested that the LUZ Subcommittee chair, or his designee, attend LUZ Committee meetings when she is unable to attend.

MEMBERSHIP – No report.

SCHOOLS – No report.

TRANSPORTATION – Mark Foss will replace Ben Tucker as chair of the Transportation Subcommittee. Ben read a letter from the director of the city's Planning and Development Department to the CPAC chair concerning the Regency North Area. The letter said that impact of the new development has been considered in the design and engineering of Trednick Parkway, a six-lane artery that will have sidewalks and bike lanes. She offered to have staff meet with the CPAC on transportation issues, upon request.

Bradley Richards made a motion, seconded by Carol Schirado, that the CPAC send a letter to the mayor and other concerned parties recommending that the proposed rezoning of the Craig Airport property on the northeast quadrant of Monument and St. Johns Bluff roads be denied. The motion passed unanimously. He asked that the letter be read at the meeting of the Craig Airport Citizens Advisory Committee to be held at 9:30 a.m. May 10 in Building 1 (under the tower) at the airport.

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN – Gail Melton reported that the March meeting was canceled and the next meeting will be at 6 p.m. April 22 at Blue Cypress.

ENVIRONMENT – No report.

### **Staff Reports**

NEIGHBORHOODS DEPARTMENT – Lorrie DeFrank encouraged members to consider applying for a Mayor's Neighborhood Matching Grant.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – Margo Moehring said applications for this round of Phases 1 and 2 Town Center Initiative grants are due.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – No report.

DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD – No report.

JACKSONVILLE SHERIFF'S OFFICE – No report.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – No report.

JACKSONVILLE FIRE AND RESCUE: - District Chief Felton Perdue reported that the fire station on Joandy Road will be delayed because all bids were over budget. Ground will be broken in two months with completion expected in about a year.

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – Lynn Westbrook said that mayor will be considering future Town Center Initiative funding as the city goes through the budget process during the next three months.

Better Jacksonville Plan work at the Beach Boulevard intersections of Hodges and Kernan will not be done simultaneously for the convenience of motorists.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS – Michael Dickey said the Annual Fair Housing Awareness Program presented by the Jacksonville Human Rights Commission will be from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 24 at the Radisson. He said that he will be assigned to the Southeast CPAC starting next month.

**Neighborhood Announcements, Comments and Issues (Guests and Members)**

- Jay Olchak said that the homeowners of Ashton Park would like to commend Councilwoman Lynette Self for her personal efforts to have a bus stop removed from the community entrance. The stop was generating trash at the entrance and in the retention pond.
- Laura Brown expressed concern about dangerous curves on Girvin Road and Ashley Melisse.
- Roberta Thomas commended the building inspection/signage code enforcers for improving the appearance of signs in Arlington.

**Other Business**

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR – Marcella Lowe said that she and Gail Melton attended a meeting about JSO's new community relations program, where people age 18 and older will have the opportunity to serve on a special enforcement unit and earn an education paid for by the city.

She announced that a hazardous waste dropoff will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 17 at the Police Athletic League District 2 Park on McCormick Road.

**Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**Next Meeting**

**The next meeting will take place on Monday, May 10, 2004, at the Regency Square Branch Library at 6 p.m.**