

Greater Arlington / Beaches ~ Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

**Regency Square Branch Library
August 14, 2006 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting Summary

Members and Alternates

Larry Belge
Al Cherry
Gene Crabtree (Alt.)
Eddie Daniel
David Evans
Kacy Evans
Dorothy Fant
William Figueroa

Anne Hancock
Phillip Hannah
Lad Hawkins
Johnny Holden
Joseph Lek
Dewey Marshall
Jay Olchak
Lewis Palmer (Alt.)

Eddi Parsons
Ramsey Salem (Alt.)
Tom Shouvin
Rick Smith
Ben Tucker
Richard Witzel
Clay Yarborough

Members Excused

Geraldine Atkinson
Yvonne Creswell
Armando Grundy-
Gomes

Sherrie Jarnutowski
Marcella Lowe
Helen Ludwig
Brad Richards

Carol Schirado
Maxine Terrell

Guests

Honorable John Peyton,
Mayor
Honorable Lake Ray,
City Council - District 1
Liz Flaisig, Times-Union
Skip Benolken
Valerie Britt
Mary Anne Saadeh

Roberta Thomas
John Fox
William Sweet
David Thompson
Dawn Hudson
Virginia Norton
Paul Davis
Cheryl Grymes

Warren Grymes
Waverly Fant, OAI
Robert Sanders, OAI
Florence Holcomb
John Slough

Staff/Resources

Lt. E. Allen, JSO
Tamera Branan, JPL
Marcy Cook, PW/BJP
John Culbreth, PREC
James Green, FDOT
Linda Grant-Hunter, JHRC
Selinda Keyes, DCPS

Michael Koerner, PDD
Ed Lukacovic, PDD
James Richardson, NSD
Skip Roszel, Bldg. Insp.
Jeff Smith, Bldg. Insp.
Bob Winter, Property Safety

Call to Order

Tom Shouvin called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. After establishing that a quorum was present, an inspirational moment was led by Johnny Holden and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Tom then acknowledged that there were candidates for various offices present and allowed them to introduce themselves: Virginia Norton – Judicial candidate, Dawn Hudson – Judicial candidate, Cheryl Grymes – City Council candidate, William Sweet – City Council candidate, David Thompson – Judicial candidate, Clay Yarborough – City Council candidate, Jay Olchak – City Council candidate. He welcomed them to stay and talk to members and guests individually after the meeting.

Speakers

Tom introduced the Honorable Lake Ray, City Council – District 1 to the group. He thanked the Mayor for the City hosting the Day of Faith at the arena. He also thanked the members for the time they devote to the CPAC. Tom then introduced the Honorable John Peyton, Mayor of the City of Jacksonville to the group. After stressing the importance of CPACs to him and his staff, he addressed the group on several topics including: the Day of Faith, the homicide rate and increasing police presence, early literacy and Project Blueprint, citizen involvement, growth management, Seed of Change initiative and the budget. He then fielded several questions from the group. Tom thanked him for attending and announced that Mayor Peyton would stay for a portion of the meeting so he would be adjusting the remainder of the agenda.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the July 10, 2006 meeting summary (with correction) was properly seconded and approved by the group.

Subcommittee Reports

LAND USE & ZONING – Joe Lek reported that the committee met, reviewed the projects list and had no recommendations at this time.

The next meeting of the LUZ Subcommittee will be held Monday, September 11th, 4:30 pm at the Regency Branch Library.

TRANSPORTATION – William Figueroa reported that the new subcommittee is discussing various issues and will bring any recommendations to future meetings.

The Transportation subcommittee is scheduled to meet the 3rd Thursday of the month. Please call Bill Figueroa at 482-0300 to confirm time and location

ENVIRONMENT – Lad Hawkins discussed tree mitigation as it relates to the Wonderwood Connector – Phase 3 project. He moved that the CPAC send a letter expressing concern and suggestions as to an equitable resolution. (letter attached) The motion was properly seconded and, after discussion, was approved by the group.

Lad indicated that the committee, in conjunction with the Transportation subcommittee, would be reviewing and discussing the need for an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) in the City. He also discussed the JEA's Combustion Turbine 8 project and the need for additional environmental inspectors.

BEAUTIFICATION – Tom mentioned that a steering committee was being formed for the Historic Arlington area in the Seeds of Change Initiative. He will continue to keep the group informed on the initiatives progress.

PARKS & RECREATION – no report.

GRANTS & AWARDS – no report.

MEMBERSHIP – James Richardson indicated that several new members were introduced last month, that there were several applications going through the appointment process and that he had received a few applications that evening.

SCHOOLS – Tom Shouvin reported that school began the previous week and that Superintendent Wise had already visited 12 schools.

NAP – no report.

Staff Reports

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – PREC Director John Culbreth reported that a Deputy Director had been appointed and he was in the process hiring a Chief of Community Relations whose focus would be organizing community based programs in the parks and increasing the volunteer base. He indicated that park based security continued to be primary focus so they continue to increase the use of cameras to go along with over 40 JSO personnel who live onsite in the parks. He spoke to the park system being a deterrent to crime and that a number of park-based after school programs would be starting soon. He then fielded several questions from the group.

JSO – Sgt. Victor reported that the "Apartment Owners/Managers Watch" recently started was in full swing, along with the Apartment Task Force. Through Operation Safe Streets they were working very hard in the University Blvd. and Merrill Road area. He also announced that the Mayor, Sheriff and Jacksonville Chamber would be announcing the start of a \$200,000 Gun Bounty program to get illegal guns off the street. He then fielded a few questions from the group.

DCSB – no report.

PUBLIC WORKS – Marcy Cook reported that the Lone Star Road project had reached substantial completion status and that they were working on a punch list of issues to close it out. She reported that some construction to install 4 traffic signals along Kernan Blvd. would begin soon in advance of the widening project. Bids would be open beginning August 30th for the Beach Blvd. / Atlantic Blvd Interchange. She also indicated that they were anxiously awaiting the formation of the Seeds of Change steering committee for input on various beautification projects, and that Traffic

Engineering was already working on some ITS related projects and some funding is already dedicated for that. She then fielded a few questions from the group.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT – Ed Lukacovic reported that several new planners were being hired and that work had begun on implementing some of the Growth Management Task Force recommendations which would also go to updating the 2010 Comp Plan.

FDOT – Jim Green reported that the Ft. Caroline and Merrill road intersection would be closing later in the week for a few days. As a follow up to previous questions, he reported that JTA would be completing the Southside Connector / Merrill Road project within the next few months which will alleviate the darkness coming off the Dames Point exit. He also indicated that FDOT would have maintenance responsibility for retention ponds created for the Wonderwood 3 project. After a few questions relating to that project, he stressed that it was a JTA project and they would be better suited to address the concerns. Mayor Peyton suggested working closely with JTA to resolve the landscaping/tree mitigation issues. *(The Project Manager for the Wonderwood 3 project will be attending future meetings to address concerns. James Richardson is also currently trying to work with JTA to have a staff person attend CPAC meetings regularly)*

JHRC – no report.

LANDSCAPE/BUILDING CODE ENFORCEMENT – Skip Roszel reported that they were working closely with State and Federal agencies to severely crack down on unlicensed contractors. He stressed again the importance of checking contractors out thoroughly before having any work started. He then fielded a few questions from the group.

NEIGHBORHOODS - PROPERTY SAFETY - Bob Winter reported that a new inspector in the district was in training and that the NEAT teams had completed an initial sweep of the entire Historic Arlington Seeds of Change pilot area.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES – James Richardson reminded everyone again about the Florida Neighborhoods Conference scheduled for October 5th – 7th in Ft. Lauderdale. Persons interested in attending should contact him or visit the website at www.floridaneighborhoods.org. He discussed the Growth Management Task Force recommendation that the Urban Core, Greater Arlington/Beaches and Southeast planning districts complete visioning reports and that he was working with the Planning Department to assemble an advisory group to do so. However, the entire district will have several opportunities for input. He also advised everyone of a Town Meeting hosted by Councilwomen Self and Jenkins on September 7th, 6:30 – 8 pm at the Southside Estates Elementary School. The topic will be speed bumps on Ivey Road. He then fielded questions from the group.

(There are a few tickets remaining for free entry to the Jacksonville Zoo. They expire on September 30th. If interested, please call me at 630-7036)

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR - Tom indicated he had no report.

NEIGHBORHOOD ANNOUNCEMENTS & ISSUES – none.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

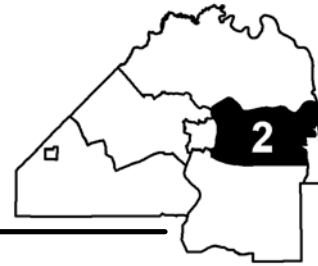
Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday, September 11, 2006 in the Regency Square Branch Library at 6 p.m.

**GREATER ARLINGTON/BEACHES
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee**

Chair: Tom Shouvin

Vice-Chair: Joseph Lek



August 14, 2006

To: Michael Blaylock, Executive Director
Jacksonville Transportation Authority

RE: Wonderwood 3 Project Landscape Plan

Wonder Wood Segment Three runs from Monument road on the east to just east of Southside Boulevard on the west. In this segment of roadway, 23,273 inches of protected trees have been permitted for removal. The current JTA plan is to replace this substantial loss of protected trees with 1,376 inches of new trees. Current JTA plans also indicate the payment of \$819,000.00 dollars into the tree mitigation fund to offset this massive loss of trees.

This corridor runs through one of the most scenic and environmentally sensitive areas in Jacksonville. This is also an area of great historic significance. The Greater Arlington / Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee (GABCPAC) recommend that the current landscape plan for this project be reworked. The new plan should maximize the size and number of replacement trees. Trees replaced should be large native trees such as live oaks, magnolia and cabbage palms. The residents of this area should work with a qualified local landscape architect to come up with a landscape plan that maximizes the quantity of replacement trees and minimizes dollars paid into the tree mitigation fund.

Sincerely,

Tom Shouvin, Chair
Greater/Arlington/Beaches Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

cc: Hon. John Peyton, Mayor
Honorable Jacksonville City Council
John Davis, JTA