

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

**Regency Branch Library – 9900 Regency Square Boulevard  
6:30 p.m. Monday, October 12, 2009**

**Meeting Summary**

**Members and Alternates**

Michael Anania  
Geraldine Atkinson  
Larry Belge  
James Blache  
Al Cherry  
Maria Condaxis  
Gene Crabtree  
Michele Davis  
David Evans

Sandi Hibbard  
Florence Holcomb  
Carroll Huffines  
Helen Ludwig  
Dewey Marshall  
Edward Masted  
Tami Moe  
Eddi Parsons  
Jerry Petoskey

Mary Anne Saadeh  
Patricia Schorr  
Roger Sharp  
Erica Trent

**Members Excused**

Kacy Evans  
Lad Hawkins  
Marcella Lowe

**Guests**

Bill Bishop  
John Crescimbeni  
Robert Davis  
Sally Doherty  
Count Hanes  
Celestine Jones  
Joan Moore  
Tara Outzen  
Roberta Thomas  
Robert Sanders  
Laura Saggua  
Katie Stonum  
Don Redman  
Clay Yarborough

**Staff/Resources**

Quinn Bledsoe, for Kelly Boree, COJ, Mayor's Liaison  
Ed Lukavovic, Planning and Development  
Rosemary Wesolowski, Community Development

### Call to Order

Dewey Marshall called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., established that a quorum was present, the meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

### Chairs Report

Dewey encouraged the members to become active in one of the CPAC subcommittees and assist the subcommittee chairs with their various responsibilities. Dewey also announced that past CPAC Chair Marcella Lowe has been diagnosed with breast cancer and is currently very busy undergoing treatments. In a letter, Marcella stated that she appreciates everyone keeping her in their thoughts and prayers. She plans to be back to CPAC and all of her other civic duties soon.

### Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the September 14, 2009 meeting summary was made. The motion was properly seconded and approved by the group.

### Speakers

**Craig Morris, Park Ranger, Timucuan Preserve**, reminded the group that Arlington has one of the 391 National Parks; the Timucuan Preserve Visitor Center and Fort Caroline National Memorial. This preserve area also includes the Theodore Roosevelt Area. Ranger Morris also informed the group that a fair number of Arlington and Fort Caroline neighborhoods were built over ancient Indian villages, hunting grounds, dumps and burial grounds of the Timucua Indians. The Timucua Indians lived and thrived in this area for thousands of years, but European diseases devastated the population upon the arrival of the French settlers in 1562 on the St. Johns River. In 1562 the French Settlers / Huguenots explored the area and then moved north. The Huguenots returned in 1564 and built a fort with the assistance of the Timucua.

In present day, Fort Caroline was authorized as a National Memorial on September 21, 1950 and established on January 16, 1953. The memorial features a scalded down reconstruction of the fort, based on historic renderings and a visitor center. This memorial was listed on the National register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966.

Ranger Morris also explained 3 types of passes that are available through the National Park System, they are:

*Lands Pass or Annual Pass* - for those individuals that are 62 years old or younger it costs \$80.00 per year and get at any of the national parks.

*Senior Pass* - for those that are 63 years old or older, this pass costs \$10.00 per year.

*Access Passport* - for those that are medically disabled, this pass is free.

For more information, visit the National Park Service at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

### Subcommittee Reports

**PARKS & RECREATION** - Chair Dewey Marshall - no report

**BEAUTIFICATION** - Chair Larry Belge - no report

**LAND USE & ZONING** – Chair Mike Anania – no report because there were no new applications.

**MEMBERSHIP** – Co-Chairs: Jay Olchak and Eddi Parsons – no new members.

**TRANSPORTATION** – Co-Chairs Roger Sharp and Richard Witzel – at times traffic on Atlantic Blvd. moves rather slow, please keep in mind that this is only temporary until the road construction project is completed.

**ENVIRONMENT** – Chair Lad Hawkins – was not present, but the Chair read an Environmental Report on Lads' behalf.

Wonderwood Expressway Landscaping Work from Monument Road to Ft Caroline Road is underway. The project started with irrigation and soil amendment work. After that is completed the plants will be installed. The project is expected to be completed by mid February per contract.

The Arboretum one year anniversary gala will be Saturday November 14th from 10am to 4 pm.

At the proposed Race Trac Station on Merrill near Hartsfield; construction was initiated and the site was cleared of vegetation. This property is located west of the church on the south side of Merrill Road. The site is 100% wetland. CPAC and GACC opposed the rezoning. The Army Corps of Engineers has issued a cease and desist order and turned it over to EPA in Atlanta. They did not have a construction permit from the ACOE and the action was determined to be flagrant. A high chain link fence has been placed around the property and all work has ceased. Stay tuned.

Tree roots of five oak trees at Gerries Park in the northeastern corner of Ft Caroline and Rogero were severely damaged by a sidewalk contractor working for the City. Councilman Crescembini and Clay Yarborough are investigating. Trees are important for more than aesthetics.

Lad also attached a recent FTU article by Larry Figart on the value of trees. If you would like a copy of this article please contact Rosemary and she can email it to you.

**NOMINATION** – James Blache informed the CPAC that the Subcommittee members are Gene Crabtree, Jim Blache, Michele Davis and Helen Ludwig. If you would like to make a nomination, please contact one of the members or Rosemary prior to the election at the November CPAC. All nominees will be contacted prior to the November election/meeting to determine if they will accept the nomination.

**T.R.U.E Commission** – Marcella Lowe – not present

**Craig Airport Advisory Committee** – Dave Evans – no report

**Growth Management Visioning Plan** – Mike Anania – nothing new to report; still waiting on the consultant to complete report.

## **Staff Reports:**

**MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE** – Quinn Bledsoe reported for Kelley Boree that the Fall / Winter Park Guide was out. Quinn also reminded the group about the Art in the Park that will be held on October 17<sup>th</sup> ~ 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**JSO** – no report ~ available for questions.

**DCSB** – Selinda Keyes – informed the group that the new High School has been named; it will be Atlantic Coast High School. Their mascot will be the stingrays and the school colors will be orange/ black / white. Also Duval County School Board is also upgrading their technology; one of the perks will be that parents will have access to their children grades. The new On Course Account will replace the S.N.A.P. Grade System, thus making it possible to access the grades. The Principal for a Day program is available for those that would like to learn more about what happens in the schools and last week Martha Barrett was sworn in to the school board. To learn more about the Duval County School Board visit [www.duvalschools.org](http://www.duvalschools.org)

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT** – Ed Lukacovic – reminded the group that, state law requires the City of Jacksonville to review and evaluate its Comprehensive Plan. This is called the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (**EAR**). The purpose of this planning process is to update / amend the Comprehensive Plan and to assess our progress in implementing the Plan. There will be a number of meetings associated with the amendment adoption; the meeting dates are: October 13<sup>th</sup> ~ City Council Introduction of Ordinances for Land Use Amendment (LUA), October 27<sup>th</sup> ~ City Council's First LUA Adoption Public Hearings 5:00 p.m., October 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Planning Commission's 2<sup>nd</sup> LPA for LUA Adoption Public Hearings 1:00 p.m., November 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ LUZ Committee's LUA Adoption Public Hearings 5:00 p.m., November 10<sup>th</sup> ~ City Council's Final LUA Adoption Public Hearings 5:00 p.m.

**FDOT** – Jim Green – no present

**MUNICIPAL CODE** – not present

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** – Neighborhood Coordinator Rosemary Wesolowski shared with the group that on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> the Norman Studios was open to the public for the first time in many years. Jacksonville Parks Department granted the Norman Studios Silent Film Museum Board of Directors status as "Friends of the Park" for their specialty park, Norman Studios Silent Film Studios. This was a celebration of the City of Jacksonville's preservation of the only know silent film studio remaining intact in the US or abroad. There were members of the Norman family in attendance as well as the citizens and elected officials that made this preservation a reality.

**Councilmember Yarborough** – stated that he attend the community meeting held earlier in the evening for the BJP Roadway improvements for the Fort Caroline/Townsend/Merrill Road project. It was announced that the funding is in place and the project will begin near the end of November. Construction is expected to last 500 days and the construction project will protect in the construction zone.

**Councilmember Redman** – encouraged everyone to take advantage of the Principal for a Day program. This is a very enlightening way to learn about our schools.

**Councilmember Bishop** – no report

**Councilmember Crescimbeni**- no report

**Announcements**

(Announcements and comments are limited to 2 minutes)

Mary Anne Saadeh extended an invitation to everyone to attend a Jacksonville Historical Society program about the first City planner in Jacksonville. The program will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at the Old St. Andrews Church on A. Philip Randolph Blvd.

Gerrie Atkinson asked Councilmember Crescimbeni to speak on the sign usage situation.

Councilmember Crescimbeni declined due to the fact that City Council would vote on that issue tomorrow night (10-13-09).

Roger Sharp requested that at a future meeting we have a presentation/update on the sign ordinance

**Public Comments**

(Comments are limited to 2 minutes)

Roberta Thomas informed the group that on behalf of the Fort Caroline Club Estates and Rogero Town Center she has attend at least 3 CPAC meetings to go through the correct procedures with the LUZ Subcommittee to bring forth their concerns. She felt that the LUZ Subcommittee did not hear her out in regard to her concerns, thus preventing the whole CPAC from hearing all the issues and concerns.

Robert Sanders shared some reproduction movie posters of films that were made at Norman studios.

**Adjournment** - There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 9, 2009, 6:30 pm at the Regency Branch Library – 9900 Regency Square Blvd.**