

District # 3
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Jim Hill

Vice Chair: Debbie Johnson

MEETING SUMMARY

Location: St. Vincent's Southside
Main Hospital, Auditorium C
4201 Belfort Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216
Date: Monday, September 28, 2015

Attendance:

Organizations/Representatives

Members:

Banks, George – Secret Cove Civic Association
Bollinger, George – City Council Appointment – District 4
Cardell, Richard – The Lakewood Community
Dee, David – Lake Mandarin HOA
Giancola, James – Deercreek Owners Association
Heesch-Gilman, Karen – Briarwood Neighborhood Association
Herrin, Donna – Oxford Chase HOA
Hill, James - Greater Hood Road Community Association
Hodges, Ralph – Englewood Full Service School
Howard-Murphy, Abby – Hampton Glen at Deerwood HOA
Johnson, Debbie – The Gables HOA
Laner, Eric- East Hampton HOA
Perera, Kathleen – Alumni Civic Association
Rogers, Henry – Rose Creek Condo Association
Romano, Matthew – James Island Homeowners Association
Rothstein, Marj – Villa San Jose Civic
Stephens, Gloria – Saddlebrook Homeowner Association
Weise, Gary – Secret Cove Civic Association

Excused:

Akers, Jim – Royal Lakes Civic Association
Lyons, Gamal - Tall Cypress Cove Homeowner Association
Wolfe, Elizabeth – Pickwick Park Civic Association

Elected Officials:

Staff:

Green, James - FDOT
Lacayo, Rosario – Planning & Development
Meyerl, Keith - JaxParks
Wesolowski, Rosemary - Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development Division

Guests:

White, Robert
Clapp, Ann – GENA
Rowe, Karen – Mandarin Community Club
Gray, Reion - GENA

Paul Soares – DCPS
Ledew, Chris – JTA
Tiffin, Donovan – COJ

Riddick, Cheryl – JTA
Sanders, Jeneen – COJ City Council Aide, Group 1
Skule, Richard - Englewood

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

- Chair Hill called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

- Chair Hill welcomed the members to the SE CPAC new meeting location at the NEFAR (Northeast Florida Association of Realtors) Office located at 7801 Deercreek Club Road. Chair Hill inquired if everyone had the opportunity to read the meeting summary and if there were any corrections, deletions or additions; there were none. George Banks made a motion to approve the meeting summary and Kathleen Perera seconded the motion. The August 2015 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Staff Reports

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office)** – no representative in attendance
 - **Mayor's Liaison** – no representative in attendance
 - **Duval County Public Schools** – Paul Soares, Duval County Public Schools, Chief Operation Officer, explained the criteria to change the boundary of local school. It was stated that boundary changes are made as a result to a particular school being overcrowded or under attended. Each school submits an enrollment report to the school board after the first 20 days of the new school year. This report focuses on and provides an enrollment count for each school in the district. After the report is analyzed, it is determined if a school over crowded or under enrolled. If DCPS determines an adjustment needs to be made to correct the number of student enrollment in a specific school, the DCPS will hold community meetings to inform the community and start the process to change the boundary for the next school year. To open lines of communication, DCPS will hold a public hearing at a school board meeting, then, the school board will vote on the change recommendation. It was brought to Mr. Soares attention that a number of schools are suffering due to boundary changes. It was stated that on a couple of occasions the boundary changes were not known to the community until it was time to enroll the students for the new school year. Charter schools were another topic of discussion.

Mr. Soares informed the CPAC that the Charter Schools are not controlled by the school board or school district. Due to state legislature, once a school submits the appropriate paperwork and establishes that they meet the established criteria, the school can open anywhere, including an occupied Duval County Public School. The state is responsible for the legislation that the charter schools operate under, not local legislation or the local school board. Mr. Soares stressed that charter schools are a concern for DCPS and the citizens need to reach out to their State Legislators to express their concern in effort to get the current laws changed at the state level. There was also some significant dialogue about the length of time some students are on the bus (to and from school). Mr. Soares stated that DCPS runs 853 routes a day (JTA only runs 180 routes a day) and DCPS has received recognition for their timely transportation schedule and the quality of the buses that transport children in Duval County. It was mentioned that funding for transportation is based on the efficiency of the transportation system (getting the students to school on time). It was acknowledged that students that attend Magnet Schools do have longer commutes. Mr. Soares stated that it is a challenge to move students all over the city so they can attend magnet programs, unfortunately this does extend the time a student is in transit. The only other option would be that the parents would have to arrange transportation to and from school for their children. Currently, DCPS receives \$18 million

from the state for transportation, but the actual cost of transportation in Duval County is \$50 million. The \$32 million difference comes out of the budgets for the classrooms.

- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green – informed the CPAC that all of the projects are continuing and appear to be on schedule. 9B/I-95/US 1 project should be completed next summer. The I-95/Overland Bridge project should be completed in the fall of 2016. The I-95/JTB project should be completed in the winter of 2017. The Southside Boulevard sidewalk should be completed soon. The turn lane project at Southside Blvd, and Deercreek Club Road will be completed soon too; the delays with the turn lanes are due to unexpected utility complications. The I-95 (from Greenland to JTB) repaving project should be completed soon. Paving of Philips Highway (University Blvd. to Overland Bridge) should be completed soon too. Phase 2 of the 295 Express lane project should begin soon. Landscaping on Beach Blvd (St. Johns Bluff Road to the inner-coastal waterway) should begin soon. A concern about the sound walls having gaps in them when they are not near residential areas. I was acknowledged that there is a gap slated for the Twin Lakes Elementary/ Twin Lakes Middle school area. Mr. Green confirmed that FDOT is still in the design/build phase with portions of the project and he would share the concern with the FDOT team. The CPAC members stressed their concern about the noise, pollution (exhaust fumes) and safety of the students. The CPAC members also recognize that these are sound barriers, not crash barriers. With the express lanes coming so close to the school, the CPAC would like FDOT and their design team to look at the overall safety of the students.
- **JTA** – Cheryl Riddick and Chris Ledew – Mr. Ledew informed the CPAC that JTA is looking at 2 mobility corridors in the Southeast District. The first JTA Mobility Works project will be the Beach Blvd. Community Charrette held on October 13, 14, and 15, 2015. The charrette will be held at St. Nicholas Park Church, 3226 Beach Blvd., 32207 and focus on the portion of Beach Blvd. between I-95 and Southside Blvd. The goal of the charrette is to identify issues and attempt to develop solutions. The second JTA Mobility Works will be the Mandarin/Plummer Cove Community Workshop on October 19, 2015 at the Mandarin Community Club, 12447 Mandarin Road, 32233 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The community meeting will focus on discussing bicycle and pedestrian safety, as well as mobility improvement and concerns within the corridor.
- **Planning and Development Department:**
 - **Housing and Community Development Division** – Rosemary Wesolowski – reminded the CPAC that we need to form a membership subcommittee. The SE CPAC is required by our Executive Order/By-Laws to hold our annual Chair and Vice Chair for 2016 by the month of November. The temporary subcommittee needs 3 members. A request for volunteers was made. It was announced that the SE CPAC has a new location to call home for the monthly meetings.
 - **Planning** – Rosario Lacayo – present, but no report.
 - **Environmental Quality Division (Code Compliance)** – Robert Crawford – no representative in attendance
 - **Parks & Recreation** – Keith Meyerl – informed the CPAC that the after school program, Club Rec is up and running. Club Rec is for the students in grades K-5; the hours are 3:30 to 6 p.m., and the program is offered during the school year through May 22. Free, healthy snacks are provided through a Lutheran Social Services program called Kids Café. The program provides homework assistance, indoor and outdoor recreation, physical fitness training, board games and arts and crafts projects -- all conducted under staff supervision. For our older students (grades 6-12) there is Teen Warehouse, an exciting and motivating program for middle and high school student. The activities provided are arts, community outings, games, study time, sports and individualized programs. Special events and outings may require additional activity fees. Teen Warehouse is free of charge, but registration is required and is offered from 2:30 - 6 p.m., M - F (coincides with Duval County Public Schools). Both ClubRec and Teen Warehouse

are offered in the Southeast District at the following Community Centers:

- Balis, 1512 LaSalle St. - 32207; (904) 306-2148
- Cuba Hunter, 3620 Bedford Road - 32208; (904) 858-1366
- Henry T. Jones, 3856 Grant Road - 32207; (904) 399-0615

It was also announced that over the summer, JaxParks re-opened 5 community centers, but unfortunately all of them will be close on October 1st except the Westside Center.

- 4. Presentations – Anna Lopez Brosche, City Council At-Large District 1-** Councilmember Brosche introduced herself to the CPAC. Brosche stated that in the first 90 days, she and the other City Councilmembers have been busy working the Annual City Budget. With 8 returning councilmembers and 11 new councilmembers there have been a number of changes with the various city council committees and projects assignments. Councilmember Brosche stated that she has a degree in accounting and she has been assigned to work on the Finance Committee as well as the Rules Committee, Children's Commission, NFTP and Cultural Council. It was stated that the budget that was presented to City Council this year was much better than in years past, but it still is a very time intensive process to approve the budget. It was announced that enough money has been identified in this year's budget to restore funding for an additional 40 police officers and additional 40 community service officers. There also appears to be enough money to increase the budget of the library system and extend the hours of the public libraries. Funds from a public service grant have been identified to for sidewalk repairs.

City Council is still looking at their options for the Liberty Street collapse. Currently, the old Courthouse parking lot and bordering pieces of Liberty Street and Coastline Drive are closed, and an extension of Coastline Drive, in front of the Hyatt has restricted traffic. That's a result of a massive hole which opened on Liberty earlier this year. The recommended plan currently would demolish and rebuild Coastline Drive in front of the Hyatt, but not replace the portion between Market and Liberty. That portion of the road abuts the parking lot, which would also be demolished and not replaced. Liberty Street would be torn down and rebuilt, extending to the River to compensate for the loss of a portion of Coastline Drive. Finally, the plan includes rerouting the Northbank Riverwalk around the new shoreline and providing streetscape improvements on that route.

Councilmember Brosche conducted a Q&A session with the CPAC. One CPAC member mentioned that they had a deer struck and killed in their neighborhood (on a city street) on a recent weekend. The community reached out to the city for assistance, but Animal Care and Control does not have weekend hours and the neighbors did not know the lawful way to removed and dispose of the deer; especially due to the size of the carcass. Another member mention that on several occasions pets a have been dumped at the 9A/Baymeadows Regional Park on the weekend. It was reiterated that there is no one at Animal Care and Control on the weekends to assist with the abandoned pets. Neighbors have stepped in, captured and cared for the abandoned animals until Animal Care and Control or the Humane Society opened their doors on Monday. It was asked if funding could be put in place so Animal Care and Control could be staffed during the weekend. It was also requested that City Council identify funds for Public Works so the money can be used to clean drainage ditches.

- 5. Chairs report** – Chair Hill inquired how the CPAC members enjoyed the new meeting location. Most of the CPAC members stated they liked the building, but was a bit disappointed with the traffic. Chair Hill thanked Rosemary for finding the new location and requested a microphone to use at future meetings.

6. Elected Officials Reports – no reports

7. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports -

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning) - Jim Hill, Subcommittee Chair

Chair Hill informed the CPAC that we will be getting a spreadsheet with all of the LUZ application listed emailed to use prior to the CPAC meetings.

As a follow up to the LUZ letter for that the SE CPAC sent last month in regard to application E-15-063; the application has been deferred for cycle. At this time more information is needed from St. Johns River Management.

Beautification/Parks/Environment – Dick Cardell, Subcommittee Chair

Mr. Cardell informed the CPAC currently Councilmember Boyer is working to get traffic islands installed on University Blvd. (in the Lakewood Shopping center area) to increase pedestrian safety and help calm traffic.

Economic Development – Gloria Stephens, Subcommittee Chair –

Crowley Maritime Corp., in partnership with United Healthcare and Nicklaus Children's Hospital, recently unveiled a new HealthSpot walk-in telemedicine station to provide employees with convenient access to healthcare. The station is the first its kind in Northeast Florida. The HealthSpot station, located at Crowley's corporate headquarters in Jacksonville, offers real-time, convenient and cost-effective video visits with board-certified clinicians. Appointments are available for adults and children age two and older to seek treatment as well as prescriptions for minor common conditions such as sinus and respiratory infections, fever, cold, ear and eye pain, skin conditions and allergies. The private, eight-foot-by-seven-foot enclosure has two-way, high-definition video screens and features digital medical devices, including a stethoscope, scale, blood pressure cuff, pulse oximeter and thermometer that stream medical information from the patient to the care provider.

Jacksonville's economy continues to show signs of vitality, adding nearly 5 percent growth year-over-year in real GDP growth, according to the annual U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis report. The First Coast can now boast it's more than \$65 billion economy is now the 49th largest in the country. The more than 5 percent increase over 2013 is chiefly due to growth in professional and business services; transportation and utilities; information technology; finance; and educational services. Tampa experienced a more than 4 percent GDP increase, while Miami and Orlando experienced a slightly more than 5 percent GDP increase.

Topgolf has picked Jacksonville for its second location in Florida. The company announced it will begin construction on the 65,000 square foot facility in October. It should be open to the public by the summer of 2016. The Topgolf facility will be located east of the St. Johns Town Center, south of Town Center Parkway. The company is relatively new in Florida. It just opened its first location in the state in Tampa last December, according to a news release from the company. Topgolf calls itself a golf entertainment venue. People can go there to compete in golfing games with friends or work on their game using advanced technology that tracks their shots. The venue also includes spaces for people to relax and watch television and grab something to eat. Topgolf said its expansion to Jacksonville will create about 450 full and part-time jobs.

Anheuser-Busch today announced a \$170 million expansion project at its Metal Container Corporation (MCC) facility in Jacksonville. As part of the company's plan to increase production of the popular Budweiser and Bud Light aluminum bottles, the project will create

approximately 75 new jobs at the facility. Anheuser-Busch first began producing the aluminum bottles in 2013. Jacksonville will be the second MCC facility to produce them. Anheuser-Busch has also operated a brewery in Jacksonville since 1969. The facility expansion is made possible through an incentive program in collaboration with the state of Florida and City of Jacksonville. Metal Container Corporation, a subsidiary of Anheuser-Busch, operates seven facilities in the U.S. The operation also produces cans and lids for major U.S. soft drink companies, including PepsiCo. and Monster Beverage Corporation.

Porsche Cars North America Inc. has selected Jacksonville as its new port of entry for new Porsche vehicles bound for Southeastern dealers, according to a statement. The deal begins in October. The vehicles will be handled by Amports, which also handles the Volkswagen vehicles announced earlier this year.

Education – George Banks, Subcommittee Chair – informed the CPAC that he has inquired about the High School student CPAC member with the DCPS. At this time he does not have an update, but to share information next month.

Government Affairs – Jim Akers, Subcommittee Chair – not in attendance

Membership – Debbie Johnson, Subcommittee Chair informed the CPAC that we have 3 new members and 1 reappointment: Jon Malmind, Andrea Dukes and Richard Kohn. George Bollinger has been reappointed as the representative for City Council District 4. Ms. Johnson also informed the CPAC that the Membership Subcommittee met on September 10th and they are finalizing letters that will be distributed to non-active members and to reach out to neighborhoods that do not have a CPAC representative.

Transportation – Growth Management – Eric Lanier / George Bollinger – no report

Safety – Betty Wolfe, Subcommittee Chair – not in attendance

Ad-Hoc:

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Ralph Hodges- stated the TRUE commission does not have any current audits underway. The Commission is waiting additional appointments.

8. Unfinished Business – None

9. New Business –

Ann Clapp – informed the CPAC that ShAdCo will hold their Annual Safety Fair at the Avenues Mall on October 17, 2015 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Henry Rogers – reminded the CPAC that Citizens can unite and address concerns/issues both here locally and/or travel to Tallahassee. Mr. Rogers stated we as an organized group of citizens need to work together and address issues we are concerned with.

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

George Banks made a motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded by George Bollinger.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 26, 2015 ~ 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: NEFAR (Northeast Florida Association of Realtors) Office

7801 Deercreek Club Road
Jacksonville, FL 32256