

District # 3

Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Jim Hill

Vice Chair: Danny Becton

MEETING SUMMARY

Location: St. Vincent's Southside
Main Hospital, Auditorium C
4201 Belfort Road
Jacksonville, FL 32216
Date: Monday, November 25, 2013

Attendance:

Organizations/Representatives

Members:

Banks, George – Secret Cove Civic Association
Barry, Nancy – Briarwood Neighborhood Association
Becton, Daniel - Deercreek Homeowners Association
Bollinger, George – City Council Appointment – District 4
Cardell, Richard – The Lakewood Community
Cornehl, Ernst – Deerwood Improvement Association
Corrado, Patrick – Mandarin Community Club
Dee, Dave – Lake Mandarin HOA
Hill, James - Greater Hood Road Community Association
Hodges, Ralph – Englewood Full Service School
Johnson, Debbie – The Gables Homeowners Association
Perera, Kathleen – Alumni Civic Association
Ramaglia, Robert - Sweetwater
Rogers, Henry – Rose Creek Condo Association
Rothstein, Marj – Villa San Jose Civic
Shoaei, Taghie – Greater Englewood Neighborhood Association
Stephens, Gloria – Saddlebrook Homeowner Association
Waddell, John – East Hampton Homeowners Association
Weise, Gary – Secret Cove Civic Association
Wolfe, Elizabeth – Pickwick Park Civic Association

Excused:

Akers, Jim – Royal Lakes Civic Association
Heesch-Gilman, Karen - Briarwood Neighborhood Association
Johnson, Kirby – Wyndam Forest Homeowners

Elected Officials:

Boyer, Lori- City Council District 5, Gulliford, Bill – City Council District 13

Staff:

Crosby, C - JSO
Glick, Aaron – Planning & Development Department
Green, James – FDOT
Judge, Lt. Jimmy - JSO
Myers, Tim – Code Compliance
Santiago, Betzy – Mayor's Liaison
Shellhorn, John – Mayor's Representative
Wesolowski, Rosemary - Neighborhoods, Housing & Community Development Division

Guests:

Reion, Gray – GENA

Clapp, Ann - GENA

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

- Chair Hill called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. It was confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

- 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. There was correction to made; the correction is to change Ralph Hodges Stephens to Ralph Hodges on page 2. George Banks made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Henry Rogers seconded the motion. The October 2013 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Staff Reports

- **JSO (Jacksonville Sheriff's Office) – Lt. Callahan**

Lt. Judge stated that the numbers are looking good (in the blue). In the month of December both personal and property crimes both tend to trend up. Lt. Judge reminded the group with the holidays approaching we need to be vigilant about keeping our car doors locked. Don't leave packages and valuables locked in view in your car while shopping; put these items in your locked trunk or somewhere out of sight. A warning to women that put their purses into shopping carts while they walk around and shop. Beware of purse thieves that walk around stores looking for distracted shoppers and snatch their purses out of the shopping cart and keep walking out the store. If you use a shopping cart to hold your purse while shopping, it is recommended that you use the child restraint/seatbelt to tie your purse into the cart. Lt. Judge also mentioned that there has been a slight trend to hit funerals too.

Traffic fatalities are a major problem in Zone 3. This is a big zone with a lot of people, jobs, major roads and shopping. This zone has 18 HFC's (high frequency crash sites) and this zone has had 53 fatalities this year. Lt. Judge stated that in his 25 years with JSO he has never seen it so bad. Speed is one of the biggest causes of the traffic fatalities. JSO is going into the enforcement mode with speeders; tickets will be written instead of warnings. In Zone 3 so far this year there have also been 5716 automobile accidents. The next highest zone with accidents is Zone 5 (Southwest) and they had 4066 accidents.

- **Mayor's Liaison – John Shellhorn**

Mr. Shellhorn America Recycles Day was held on November 15th and in spite of the rain it had a wonderful turn out. There were over 300 cars and shredded over 11,000 lbs of paper. This event also collected a lot of supplies that will be donated to the Teacher depot. The Right Whale Fest and clean-up was last Saturday and it was also a big success. Over 240 individuals volunteered to clean up and all enjoyed the festival. On December 6th through the 8th from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Jacksonville Fair grounds, Animal Care and Control will host another Mega Pet Adoption Clinic. There will be over 1000 animals available for adoption for \$20.00 each. Each animal will be spayed or neutered, be up to date on all their shots and have an identification microchip. Keep Jacksonville Beautiful has awards each year in a variety of categories; schools, businesses, community organizations. The application for nominations will be able online by this Wednesday. If you know a school or organization that is heavily involved in the environment or beautification and you would like to nominate them for an award, please

get an application and have it submitted by January 10, 2014. The Mayor will be hosting the Environmental Luncheon this year on March 6, 2014 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Jacksonville Zoo.

Chair Hill asked Mr. Shellhorn if he knew Betzy Santiago? Chair Hill went on to inform Mr. Shellhorn that he and the other CPAC Chairs met with the Mayor on November 18th and he was informed at that time that Betzy Santiago would be the Mayor's Liaison. Chair Hill stated that he would provide a complete summary of their meeting with the Mayor during the Chairs report.

- **Duval County Public Schools** – not present

- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green
Mr. Green announced that FDOT does not have any road work or construction scheduled over the extended Thanksgiving holidays. There were a couple of public meetings that he would like to announce:
On December 9, 2013 at 5:30 pm at the Jacksonville Urban Office; FDOT will host a meeting for the development of the 5 year work program plan. The 5 years that they are working will be 2015 to 2019. There are some corrections that need to be to the plans that are available online; Mr. Green stated that he would send a link for the corrected plans once they have been corrected. On December 17, 2013, FDOT will host a meeting on the I-95/202 (JTB) operational improvement plan at the Best Western on Salisbury Road. There will be an open house starting at 4:30 pm and the public comment portion will begin at 6:30 pm.

- **Neighborhoods Department:**
 - **Housing and Community Development Division** – Rosemary Wesolowski
Ms. Wesolowski reminded the group that those that have their trash or recycling collected on Thursday (Thanksgiving Day) that their trash or recycling will be collected on the following Saturday. On Saturday, December 7th, Mayor Brown will host the the Annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party, tickets are available. On Friday, December 6th the Mayor and City Council will be hosting a holiday event. Also, through an email vote from the CPAC members it has been decided that the group would like to meet for dinner in lieu of a meeting in December on December 12th. There was a tie between 3 restaurants, by a show of hands the CPAC voted to meet at Enza's and if reservations could not be made there, the group would meet at Carraba's (9A/Baymeadows location). Details will be provided as soon as the reservation is made.

 - **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Tim Myers
Mr. Myers was there on behalf of Bob Crawford. Mr. Myers stated that there were 927 inspections in Zone 3 from October 15th to November 22nd. Citywide the division completed 9711 inspections. There was a request for the total number of 741 (litter) citations written and paid over the last year. Citywide there were 2126 written and 1423 were paid. The rest of them will be sent to the Office of General Counsel for final judgment.

- **Planning & Development** – Aaron Glick informed the group that the Mayor has signed 2013-0415, (the Hen Bill) and it is now a law. There is a pilot program where 300 families will be able to keep hens after they pay their \$25 permit fee. The Planning department is working on a system to keep track of all those permits. As soon as the tracking mechanism is in place, the permits will be available.

o **Parks & Recreation – Sherry Wilson**

Informed the group that construction on the Southside Tennis Courts (San Marco Blvd. & La Salle St.) has just gone out to bid; completion is expected in early summer. JaxParks is also working with Chuck Rogers Park, there are plans to work on the drainage and other field improvements. The maintenance crews are busy working on their winter projects (painting, fence lines, playground inspections). The City is working on Operation Urban Blight and they are starting on the parks in the Northwest District. There have been a number of issues with trees that needed to be trimmed or removed. Sherry can be reached at: SherryW@coj.net or 255-7917.

4. Presentations – Councilmember Gulliford, Council District 13,

Councilmember Gulliford briefly discussed the Police & Fire Pension explained that it is very complicated due to the fact that there is a 30 year agreement that aggregated our rights to collectively bargain the same way other cities can bargain with the unions. We are rapidly working on it because we are quickly approaching a point where our contributions will reach 50% of the ad valorem tax revenue that is generated. Even though the mileage rate was raised it still is not generating enough money to fund the services that the city needs; from this mileage increase a large portion is going to the pension. We still have unfunded liability of \$1.7 billion to the police and fire pension and \$700 million in the general pension. This is a huge liability that we have to work through and there is a task force that is actively working on this.

Councilmember Gulliford stated that when he first took office he had a discussion with Councilmember Boyer and mentioned that we needed a task force to look at consolidated government. Councilmember Boyer has taken the charge, she has been working with the Consolidated Task Force and has really made great strides. From the findings of the task force many issues have been enlightened and we may see changes in the near future. Some of the changes are big enough that we may need to look a legislation changes to make the improvements and changes needed to improve the structure of our government. We want to make our government better, more responsive and more efficient.

In January 2014, Councilmember Gulliford has asked Councilmember Yarborough to chair a Budget Review Committee. The task of this committee will be to look at the various departments and their budgets a little bit deeper to learn what they do and what they need to be funded correctly. They will also look at Public Service grant funding as it has declined over the last several years and how we can address that and try to overcome that loss of funds.

Gulliford stated that he also supports the extension of the localized gasoline tax. JTA has about \$100 million in projects that they can get up and running quickly. Those projects will have a lot of impact on local roads and to stay ahead of some problems. Of the .06 cents of the tax, .01 cents comes back to the City of Jacksonville and Gulliford wants to put that in a fund for maintenance of the streets and the addition bicycle/pedestrian right of ways.

During the budget process many debates occur over many topics including maintenance. We have seen the maintenance budget for roadway resurfacing go from \$14 million 4 or 5 years ago to a proposed \$0 in the most recent budget. City Council was able to restore \$4 million to that budget, but that is borrowed money. We all know that we need to fund maintenance projects and by keeping the gas tax.

Gulliford also asked the CPAC members to think about the composition of the City Council. There are 9 City Council members that have met their term limits. The next City Council will be entering office at a very challenging time. There is a large learning curve when you take

office at the first term. It is important to support anyone that is running and encourage their involvement.

Councilmember Gulliford opened the floor for questions. *Are you supporting the gas tax as it is or are you going to the Oregon plan for mileage tax?* The Oregon Plan is impossible for us to implement. In our area, we are the economic driver (Duval County), but many of those that are employed in Jacksonville live in surrounding counties and take their tax dollars with them. Duval County is able to re-coop some of those dollars from the out of county workers because of them buying gas in the Duval. This also applies to others that are traveling through Duval on our highways.

As an HOA we have financial reserves, why does the City? The City has a different financial structure than HOA's. In the past, some of the spending has caused some of our current problems.

Why does the city often try to cut vital services (police, fire, roads) and keep non-essential services and too many layers of management that should be cut? City Council did correct some of those underfunded essential services. The budget had a lot of holes and City Council tried to fill those holes. Public Safety and Public Works were on top of the board for us.

If the City can't afford public safety how can we afford the multi-million dollar scoreboard at Everbank Stadium? The current video/score boards are 18 years old and with our current agreement they can force us to replace those boards and improvements. Generously, Shad Khan is will to put \$20 million towards this improvement and it is not involving tax payer money. Gulliford also stated that he traveled to England to go to the Jaguars game and he was impressed with Shad Khans representation of Jacksonville and all the introductions that were made with large companies. From these introductions, Gulliford feels that businesses will come to Jacksonville. He also said that he would encourage all the City Council to go to the London game next year. In London there are some unique international hotel chains and Jacksonville was #65 to build a hotel in Jacksonville. After meeting with the hierarchy of the hotel company and talking to them about Jacksonville, (in particular the project that is being developed in Riverside/Brooklyn and its proximity to Florida Blue and Fidelity). The CEO of the hotel group is now coming to Jacksonville in December to look at a site; so Jacksonville was moved up to the top 10 on the list.

5. **Chairs report** – Chair Hill informed the group that Mayor Brown met with all 6 CPAC chairs on November 18th for the first time. Previously the CPAC Chairs meetings with the Mayor were held quarterly and were very informal. This meeting was very formal and the Mayor had a number of staff attend the meeting too. Each chair had the opportunity to speak and express their concerns or thoughts on their districts with the Mayor. The Mayor left the meeting after a half an hour. The Chairs continued the meeting with the Mayor's Staff. It was discussed at the meeting that the Mayor is working on the CPAC Executive Order and By-Laws. It was suggested that one of the changes be to allow CPAC Chairs to serve up to 3 consecutive years.

6. **Elected Officials Reports –
Councilmember Boyer- no report**

7. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports -**

LUZ (Land Use and Zoning)/Governmental Affairs- The subcommittee spoke on 2 applications; Aladdin Acres and 2013-G-00. Application 2013-G-001 is in regard to Edgewood at Sunbeam; the original application (a PUD) stated that the land was to be redeveloped (this is the old land

fill off Sunbeam Road). In 2005 the first residents moved into have condos and in 2006 the developer asked to reduce the size of the golf course (from 18 holes to 9 holes) and allow them to build additional condos. The new condo owners supported this change. In 2007 construction started on the golf course and it was nearly completed in 2008, except for the clubhouse, cart barn, equipment storage and equipment. The golf course was scheduled to open in November 2008, but the bank that was funding the construction of the golf course pulled the financing and the golf course never opened. In 2013, Alsop properties showed interest in acquiring the 34.7 acres of undeveloped land and building 134 single family homes instead of condos; the developers has shown no interest in completing the golf course. The current neighbors are opposed to this development. A motion was made and seconded to send an opposition letter. The CPAC voted unanimously to send the letter.

Beautification/Parks/Environment – Dick Cardell, Subcommittee Chair

No report

Economic Development – Gloria Stephens, Subcommittee Chair

Stated the CEO of the Downtown Investment Authority is currently talking to Tony Sleiman about the Landing. They are discussing re-developing the property as mixed uses. They are taking about hosting a community forum; there is tentative date for the forum of December 9, 2013 from 6-8 pm, but a location was not mentioned.

Education – George Banks/John Waddell, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Mr. Banks stated that he continues to communicate with Ashley Smith Juarez in regard to getting the youth involved in CPAC. Mr. Banks is planning to have a meeting with Ashley Smith Juarez in the new year.

Membership – Open position, Subcommittee Chair

Nomination – Henry Rogers represented the Nomination Subcommittee and presented the slate of officers to be nominated for the 2014 SE CPAC Leadership. There was a nomination for Jim Hill to serve as CPAC Chair and Debbie Johnson serve as Vice Chair. Mr. Rogers made 3 requests for nominations from the floor; none were made. The election was unanimous that Jim Hill will serve as Chair and Debbie Johnson will serve as Vice Chair. Jim Hill thanked Danny Becton for serving as Vice Chair this year.

Transportation – Growth Management -Danny Becton, Subcommittee Chair

Mr. Becton encouraged everyone to attend the FDOT Public Hearing on the I-95 Interchange on December 17, 2014. Also, Mr. Becton again stated that he would like another CPAC member to take over the Transportation-Growth Management Subcommittee.

Safety – Betty Wolfe and Roger Inman, Subcommittee Co-Chairs

No report

Ad-Hoc:

TRUE (Taxation, Revenue, and Utilization of Expenditures) Commission – Danny Becton Reminded the group that he emailed everyone a copy of the latest T.R.U.E. report on the pension. If anyone has any questions, please contact him.

8. **Unfinished Business** – None

9. **New Business** – None

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

George Banks made a motion to adjourn and Ernst Cornehl seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: December 12, 2013 ~ 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Dinner out ~ Location to be determined