

SOUTHEAST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY April 26, 2004

Members and Alternates

Angie Vannatter, Chair
Charles McBurney, Vice-Chair
Ray Aleksic
Teresa Amereihn
Richard Cardell
Ken Charron
Patrick Corrado
Art Costa
Joni Cusic
Christine Fuchs
Jack Hale

Deno Hicks
Jim Hill
Ralph Hodges
David Jaffee
Darline Jones
Mike Lawson
Gamal Lyons
Charles Magee
Karen McCarthy
Jim McKenney
Evette Murrell

Victoria Pennington
Paul Riel
Henry Rogers
Madelyn Rubin
Mari Terbrueggen
Kimberly Whigham
Doug Wochholz
Elizabeth Wolfe
Rose Zurawski

City Staff/Ex-Officio/Guests

Ed Adams, Villa San Jose
Cliff Beaman, Killarney Shores
John Crofts, Mayor's Liaison
Michael Dickey, Consumer Affairs
Wilfredo Gonzalez
Jim Green, FDOT
Billy Hamrick, Property Safety
Stan Jordan, Art Graham's Aide
Elaine Mann, DCSB
Gene Maszy, SS Business Men's Club
Thomas McConnell, Deerwood

Doug McDowell, Planning & Development
Marilyn Miller, Heaven Trees
Brett Pickett, Fire Department
Jeri Ricks, Building Inspection
Carol Saddington
Thomas Saddington
George Tawes, Property Safety
Glynn Thomas, Deerwood
Dawn Wood, Neighborhood Services

Excused

Vickie Breedlove
Joyce Brown

Bill Kintz
Mark Roesser

Gary Ulrich
Nancy Van Pelt

Call to Order

Angie Vannatter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Angie allowed an extra 5 minutes because of the change of location of the meeting.

Subcommittee Breakout Sessions

The subcommittees met from 6:35-7:05 p.m.

Gamal Lyons reported the recommendations for the Children's Commission New Ways Grant awards decided by the subcommittee. The subcommittee members were Gamal Lyons, Kim Whigham, Betty Wolfe, Angie Vannatter, Chris Fuchs and Evette Murrell. He thanked them for their diligent work. The following recommendations were presented:

Mandarin Football League - \$7,000
Pine Forest Athletic Association - \$5,000
St. Joseph's Catholic Church VBS - \$5,000
Renewed Life Corporation Summer Camp - \$3,400
"Journey into Womanhood" by the Power to Succeed Corporation - \$3,350
Community Hospice of Northeast Florida - \$3,300
San Jose Catholic Church VBS - \$2,300
Families First (Ravenwood Apartments) - \$1,570

The subcommittee had an application from the Southside Business Men's Club to provide scholarships to students at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts but voted not to approve the request since the NFL has given \$20,000 to that cause.

One other application (Project SOS) was received just today since it had originally been sent to the Northwest CPAC by mistake. More time will be needed to review this application.

A motion was made by Gamal to approve these recommendations for a total of \$30,920 and seconded by Henry Rogers for discussion.

The amount carried forward from last year's unused funds was \$13,750. Madelyn Rubin asked if more funds were recommended for programs previously funded. Gamal clarified that multiple factors were taken into consideration and that the fact programs had been previously funded was not the reason they were given more.

The motion unanimously carried.

Angie thanked all the subcommittee members.

A motion was made by Paul Riel and seconded by Henry Rogers to grant the subcommittee the autonomy to approve up to \$3,500 for the Project SOS application. The motion unanimously carried.

Speakers

Kitty Ratcliffe, Jacksonville & The Beaches Convention & Visitors Bureau, gave a presentation about the need for a new convention center in Jacksonville. Jacksonville has only 78,000 square feet of convention space. Tampa, a city similar to Jacksonville, has 200,000 square feet of space. Studies have been completed on the need and economic impact that a larger facility would have on Jacksonville.

Jeff Sheffield, First Coast MPO, gave an overview on the MPO and the changes made to it. He reported on the southeast projects recommended and/or funded in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A meeting will be held at the MPO offices, 1022 Prudential Drive on May 5 at 6 p.m.

Chair's Report

- The minutes were unanimously approved with minor changes.
- Angie reminded everyone to sign in.
- New members were recognized – Karen McCarthy and Doug Wochholz of Lake Mandarin Homeowners Association.
- The bus tour went very well with a good turnout.
- The Mayor's town hall meeting was held last Monday (April 19) and was successful. Angie introduced the Mayor at the meeting.
- May 14 is the Mayor's Environmental Luncheon and all are invited. Tickets are \$22 and RSVPs must be received by April 30.
- The Senior Expo will be held Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Prime Osborn Convention Center.
- Sail Jacksonville, free event, will be held June 11-13.
- Jazz Festival is this weekend.
- The Freedom Commerce developer and the Riverkeeper will be at the May meeting of the CPAC. State Representative Dick Kravitz will also be a speaker at the May meeting. **Because of the importance of this issue, members agreed to move the start of the meeting to 6:00 p.m.**

Subcommittee Reports

Economic Development & Transportation –Ken Charron reported that the subcommittee discussed the Beach Boulevard coming construction from FCCJ to San Pablo Road and the issue of an overpass at Baymeadows and Southside Boulevard. Jeff Sheffield gave a copy of his presentation to Ken and it is available for anyone interested.

Environmental – Chris Fuchs reported on the following issues the subcommittee discussed:

- Council 100 water issue – no new information.
- At the JEA meeting on pruning of trees, attendees were informed that there is a penalty clause for all contractors to JEA who “butcher” trees when pruning. JEA will return to the site to clean up the work.
- Update on Pine Forest Heights – Reggie Fullwood is to meet with the association at its next meeting to discuss what can be done in their community.

Land Use & Zoning – Paul Riel reported the following as issues discussed:

- Mr. Ed Adams of the Villa San Jose community gave a presentation of a development proposed to go in his area.
- A restaurant located at 11702 Beach Boulevard has applied for an alcohol exemption and an exception to the minimum site distance between the restaurant and the school located next to it.
- Cliff Beaman reported that the Super Wal Mart on Beach at Southside has allocated 4.15 acres from LDL land as a conservation easement

Neighborhood Outreach/Membership – Jim McKenney reported that he has received calls about membership on the CPAC. Jack Hale and Angie will write a letter to those not attending on a regular basis.

Website – Jim Hill stated that the website is going well.

Staff Reports

- John Crofts, Mayor’s Liaison, reported that:
 - The annual statistical report is available on the Planning Department’s webpage on coj.net.
 - The Land Use and Zoning Committee is now being taped by Comcast.
 - There will be a public hearing on Thursday, April 29 at 1:00 p.m.
- Chief Brett Pickett, Fire and Rescue, reported that:
 - The current Fire Chief will be kept. Chief Barrett was due to retire on the drop program, however, through an ordinance, he will remain Fire Chief.
 - There will be a new fire station at Atlantic and Joeandy Road.
 - JFRD is participating in anti-terrorist training at the airport in May.
 - A five-year plan has been implemented to ensure that 4 firefighters ride on every call. This may have been instrumental in the recent life that was saved.
- Jeri Ricks, Building Inspection Division, reported that her division is continuing to crack down on unlicensed contractors.
- Elaine Mann, DCSB, reported that writing scores were just received for Jacksonville students. Jacksonville students made more progress than any other city of its size in the state of Florida. Reading scores have also improved.
- Jim Green, FDOT, reported that there will be a public workshop on the approved plans for construction along Beach Boulevard. It is scheduled for May 13 at FCCJ south campus from 5-7p.m.
- Dawn Wood, Neighborhood Services Division, reported:
 - Plans are under way for the Florida Neighborhoods Conference. Volunteers are requested.
 - Neighborhood Awards for this year’s Summit portion of the Florida Neighborhoods Conference. Criteria and nomination forms are available.
 - She will be on vacation the rest of this week and at a training conference all next week.
- Buddy Tawes, Property Safety Division reported that they are training new officers.
- Michael Dickey, Consumer Affairs, reported that their current workshops are on auto purchase/spot delivery. He also made available the 2004 Consumer Action Handbook

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING TIME

NEXT MEETING: 6:00 p.m., Monday, May 24, 2004 at Twin Lakes Academy Middle School media center, 8050 Point Meadows Drive.

Directions (from the Southeast Branch library): Take Butler Blvd. EAST to St. Johns Bluff Road/9A SOUTH (right). Exit Baymeadows Road WEST (right). At approximately one-third of a mile, turn NORTH (right) on Point Meadows Drive. One-third of a mile down is the school – 8050 Point Meadows Drive. Follow signs for “Buses and Faculty” (the road just BEFORE the school on your left) and park in the back. Facing the open breezeway, the media center is the right-most building.