

# SOUTHEAST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY September 26, 2005

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## Call to Order

Charles McBurney, **Chair**, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

## Staff Reports

- **Alan Mosley, Mayor's Liaison:** reviewed the challenges for the Better Jacksonville Plan (BJP) that have been in the news lately and informed that the City was still navigating the way through the resolution to adjust the plan. The plan is to have the resolution before City Council within a month.

Mr. Mosley announced that all the branch libraries are open and that the main library grand opening is scheduled for November 12, 2005. The courthouse plans are still under development. As part of consolidation of the BJP there will be an update to the City's drainage system consisting of \$10 million of improvements.

Mr. Mosley also answered questions regarding the development of the Shipyard project on Bay Street. It was clarified that the Landmark Group is working on the plans for the development and is within its 2-year window to get those plans approved.

- **Jeri Ricks, Building Inspection Division:** no report.
- **Jim Green, FDOT:** informed the group about the 9A / JTB developments. Explained that the current land clearing along St. Johns Bluff Road / JTB / 9A is part of the 9A project and will become the area of a large interchange for the roads. This project is expected to take approximately 4 years. At completion, the traffic signals will be removed with some of the road/lane surface being at ground level while others lanes will be elevated. The project will be completed and opened in phases. For more details about this project, visit [www.SR9A.info](http://www.SR9A.info).
- **Guy Parola, Planning & Development:** informed the group that Planning and Development will have a new director, Mike Saylor.
- **Michael Waelde, Property Safety Division:** shared inspection statistics from 8/19/05 to 09/22/05. Property Safety completed 734 inspections; 30 commercial inspections/violations, 246 junk vehicles, 257 nuisance property, 159 residential homes and 42 unsafe structures. Three of the violations went to the Municipal Code Enforcement Board.
- **J. W. Eminisor, JSO:** due to the increase in garage burglaries ("garaging"), as a crime prevention tip it is advised that citizens keep their garages closed when they do not need to be open. Also, vehicle burglaries continue to rise so it is advised that all vehicles be locked to prevent loss of personal property

## Speakers

**Lyssa Ball, Parks Task Force for Mayor's Office and Barbara Goodman, Superintendent of the Timucuan Ecological and Historical Preserve (National Park Service)** presented the Parks Task Force Report Overview. They showed a video that was summarized the recommendations and implementation. The Summary of Recommendations are: 1. Integrate Preservation Project Jacksonville into the city's Parks Department. 2. Recruit visionary leadership (establish a governing board, recreational advisory board and fundraising/volunteer coordination) to take the parks system from the biggest to the best. 3. Create a source of regular funding for park maintenance, improvements, development and staff. 4. Dramatically improve maintenance and assign a "Park Keeper" to each park. 5. The City and JSO need

to work together on improving safety. 6. Develop partnership with National Park Service and Florida Park Service. 7. Develop an outstanding downtown park.

For more information, visit [www.jaxparks.com](http://www.jaxparks.com). Click on task force to get complete summary, feedback and statistics

**Denise Ostertag, Chief, Recreation Activities Division, Department of Parks and Entertainment**

presented the proposed ordinance change. Ordinance 2005-917 will be presented to City Council for approval. If approved this ordinance would adopt rules and regulations for the management, operation, use and control of recreation and park facilities for the city. To review the ordinance and to obtain more information, visit [www.jaxparks.com](http://www.jaxparks.com). There is a link to the ordinance and a link for comments and suggestions.

**Subcommittee Breakout Sessions**

The subcommittees met from 7:35 to 7:55 p.m.

**Chair's Report**

- The minutes were unanimously approved.
- Report on Mayor's Quarterly Meeting with the CPAC Chairs:
  - It was announced that there would be budget cuts throughout the city, no cuts would be made that would affect the safety of the citizens.
  - The reopening of Cecil Field as a military base was discussed. The Mayor feels that the city would benefit due to higher paying jobs that would come with the base reopening. Mayport is struggling and the additional base could turn that situation around. This would guarantee work for the Naval Aviation Depot (NADEP). The Mayor also recognizes that there will be an increase in noise and other minor inconveniences, but feels that the benefits outweigh the problems. Currently, the city is waiting on the BRAC Commission to finalize their decision. If the base is reopened the city would have responsibility to support the base with a \$50 million bond and the state would offer a \$150 million bond and many other items including housing credits.
  - It was brought to the Mayor's attention that CPACs need to have assistance with community awareness of the CPAC program. The Mayor has agreed to offer Public Service Announcements (PSA) and other projects to create awareness of the city's CPACs.
  - The Mayor updated everyone to the fact that Blueprint for Prosperity project has entered into the citizen participation phase.
  - The Clean It Up Jacksonville Day project was discussed. The community cleanups will be held on October 15, 2005. Details will be provided in the near future.
- Requested to meet with the subcommittee chairs after the CPAC meeting to plan the next subcommittee meeting.

**Subcommittee Reports**

**Beautification and Environment – Chairperson: Vickie Breedlove.** Ralph Hodges chaired in Ms. Breedlove's absence. The subcommittee focused on 3 topics: 1. Freedom Commerce – concerned and waiting on the decision of the Federal Government. 2. Algae bloom on the St. Johns River and tributaries not improving 3. Possible redevelopment of a former water treatment area into a park in the Pickwick Park Civic Association area. Currently the land appears abandoned and overgrown. The city is not maintaining this land properly.

**Economic Development & Transportation – Chairperson: Mark Roesser.** Requested that the CPAC chair provide a vision statement/plan for the CPAC members. This would be a reference as to how the CPAC would like to be perceived and how they would like to take a stand on an issue.

**Education – Chairman: Paul Riel.** The education subcommittee has been working with Doug Ayers, Associate Superintendent, Support Operations for Duval County Public Schools, since the August CPAC meeting. Currently the subcommittee is looking at the bus stops in the planning district. Duval County schools provided a detailed listing of over 900 bus stops in the SE District. The subcommittee will review the dangerous intersections and areas of concern then determine how the CPAC can work to address those issues. The subcommittee also discussed the Mayor’s Book Club and the need to get more children involved as well as to increase citizen awareness of the program. Next month the subcommittee will address creative ways to inform their neighbors about the program. In the interim, for additional information or to register for the Mayor’s Book Club, visit [www.jaxkids.org](http://www.jaxkids.org)

**Land Use & Zoning – Chairman: Jim Hill.** No major issues. Continue to check the website <http://groups.firstcoastcommunity.com/secpac> for updates.

**Membership Recruitment – Chairman: Jim McKenney.** Still actively searching for neighborhood associations that are not registered with the city. If any of the CPAC members are aware of any association not involved with CPAC, please contact Jim. Additional research for new neighborhoods continues. Additional reference will be: attendees at Mayor’s Neighborhood Summit, Planning Department, and the developers directly.

***The floor was opened to all in attendance:*** no comments or questions were made.

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

***NEXT MEETING: 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 24, 2005***  
***LOCATION: Mandarin Library, 3330 Kori Road.***