

District 4 Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Dewey Walker
Vice Chair: Kathy Budd

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville Kent Campus
3939 Roosevelt Blvd., Room F-128
June 9, 2014

Attendance

Members:

Acting Chair (Vice Chair) (Council District 10) – Kathy Budd
Acting Vice Chair – (Trinity Ministries) – Bruce Tyson
Charter Member – Don Ingram
Clara White Mission – Abner Davis
Confederate Point Civic – James Nolting
FSCJ Cecil North - Paul McNamara
Hyde Grove Terrace – Shirley Lowry
Hyde Grove Terrace – Peggy Myers
National Society of Colonial Dames – Gina Bradley
Timuquana Manor N. – Alice Turknett
Timuquana Manor N. – Polly Walker
Watermill Master (Acting Parliamentarian) - Thomas Martin
Westside Business Leaders – Jane Miller

Excused:

Chair (Springtree Village) - Dewey Walker
Charter Member – Chuck Mann
Armstrong & Bosh Insurance – Opal Burgstiner
Cedar Hills Estates - Johnny Carter
Gleaners Dispatch - Jim Kelly
Murray Hill Preservation – Len Burroughs
The Village Salon – Steve Shaffer
Westside Area Residents – Charles Kelley

Absent/ Pending Removal:

Crystal Springs – Marilyn Lehman
West Jax Civic – Richard Dill

Note: Three consecutive unexcused absences by the organization's representative will result in the organization's removal as a CPAC member

Elected Officials:

City Council Member District 10 –Honorable Reginald Brown
City Council Member District 14 – Honorable Jim Love

City Council Assistant District 14 – Kevin Kuzel

Staff:

Mayor's Liaison – Angela Spears
City of Jacksonville Parks and Recreation – Keith Meyer
City of Jacksonville Planning and Development - Mary Beth Ridderman
City of Jacksonville Planning and Development – Andy Hetzel
City of Jacksonville Regulatory – Municipal Code Compliance – Dennis Steele
Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – Karen Taulbee
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Lt. Stephen Spates
Public Works – John Jones

Guests:

Shirley Smith	David Yarber – Hyde Grove Terrace	Christine Swanson – Hyde Grove Acres Neighborhood Watch
Linda Crider	Robin Benz - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Nancy Stores - Hyde Grove Acres Neighborhood Watch
Marlin Crider	Richard J. Minchin - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	O.J. Stores - Hyde Grove Acres Neighborhood Watch
Durward Allan	Darrell Barrow – Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Harry Blanton – Hyde Grove Creek Side Neighborhood Watch
Steven Crider	Linda Barrow - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Dean Ledford – Robert E. Lee High School
John Edwards	Dorothy Cole - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Raymond Morkin - ShAdCo
Frank Irvin	Patricia Mincey - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Patricia Neal - ShAdCo
Karen Dahlin	Mary McCool - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Rae Walker – ShAdCo K
Ed Parker	Dorothy Cole - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Remley - Muncie
Gary Dasher	Carla Clemons - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Katelyn Benz – Wiley Road
Wendy Dasher	Carl Clemons - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	Nancy Pierce – Mc Mullin Street
Frank House	David Lowry - Hyde Grove Terrace Neighborhood Watch	
Ollie Jo House	Tony Nasrallah – Murray Hill Theatre	
Gary Nickell	Jimbo Stewart – Hibernia Baptist Church – Hyde Park	

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Acting Chair Kathy Budd called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mary Beth Ridderman verified a quorum. Acting Chair Budd welcomed members and guests. She recognized Council Member Reginald Brown (District10), Council Member Jim Love (District14), and Council Assistant Kevin Kuzel. She thanked them for attending the meeting. She announced Chair Walker's absence is excused. She reminded everyone to sign in and silence all phones or electronic devices. Acting Chair Budd announced there is a large crowd tonight and a lot of information to cover. The meeting is run by Roberts Rules of Order. Ample time will be allowed for public comments after the presentation and during the public comments segment. The agenda will be adjusted to allow time for the presentation and for public comments. She thanked Acting Vice Chair Bruce Tyson and Acting Parliamentarian Tom Martin for their service to the CPAC. She thanked the staff members and subcommittee members who provided printed reports. If, due to time constraints, staff members or subcommittee members are not called on to provide an oral report, please report pressing matters during New Business or Public Comments.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

- A motion to approve the May summary was made by Tom Martin and seconded by Paul McNamara. The vote: all were in favor.

3. Staff Reports: Most staff reports were waived to allow time for the presentation and public comments.

• Mayor's Representative – Angela Spears announced:

- Operation Urban Blight is working to correct blight, citywide.
 - "Don't Trash" Jacksonville fliers are available at the sign-in table.
 - Please get to know your solid waste collection dates.
 - If you have information about a blighted property, such as litter, overgrown grass or illegal dumping, please contact 630-CITY (2489) or 630CITY@coj.net.
- The Mayor's Summer Jobs Program begins soon. The program is accepting new businesses to hire PT employees, under age 21 years. The goal is to keep youth busy, active, and earning cash.
- Mayor Alvin Brown and Congresswoman Corrine Brown will host the 2014 Citywide Job and Resource Fair on June 16 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Prime Osborne Convention Center.
- A Waterproof Jacksonville town hall meeting is scheduled on June 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Dr., 32208. The town hall meeting will provide information and an opportunity for parents to register their children. Mayor Brown, Parks and community partners are involved in Waterproof Jacksonville to provide opportunities for children to learn to swim and safely enjoy Jacksonville's parks and waterways.

• Jacksonville Sheriff's Office – Lt. Spates reported:

- JSO is assisting Parks with the Summer Night Lights Program, which provides safe locations for kids to be involved in planned activities. Information is available on Twitter, Instagram and at www.jaxsheriff.org.
- Crime generally increases during summer months. JSO needs residents' assistance to lock homes, vehicles and report suspicious activities.
- A Riverside resident expressed concern that vacant, bank-owned properties are not being maintained. Some have broken windows. (Please report addresses to 630-CITY.)
- A Riverside resident expressed concern about gang colors being frequently worn/displayed. (Call Lt. Spates at 573-3165 when gang activity/colors are observed.)
- A concern was expressed that JSO communications staff said nothing could be done when three young men were observed "casing" the neighborhood homes. Two days later, five homes were broken into. (JSO instructed residents to request a supervisor if they encounter a staff problem.)
- A lengthy discussion was held regarding a permanent ban for permits needed at certain parks. Parks become overrun with unauthorized numbers of attendees who drink alcohol, play loud music, become unruly and adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods with these issues as well as parking. Because applicants did not admit to over 100 attendees, JSO or JFRD are not required to be present. This is a safety and quality of life issue. (JSO reported that at one 3-day permitted event, JSO was present, but it is impossible for one officer to control large crowds of hundreds of people).
- For more information, call the JSO Zone 4 Office at 513-3165.
- To report suspicious activity, call 630-0500. To report a crime in progress, call 911.

• Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) – Mr. McNamara provided a written report.

• Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) – Karen Taulbee provided a written report.

• Parks & Recreation – Keith Meyers provided fliers with information about summer programs.

- For more information, please contact Keith Meyers 255-7936.

• Planning and Development Department:

- Planning – Andy Hetzel provided a written report.

- Contact Mr. Hetzel at ahetzel@coj.net or 255-7821.

- Housing and Community Development Division - Mary Beth Ridderman provided a written report.

•Regulatory Compliance

- Municipal Code Compliance Division – Dennis Steele was available to answer questions. Ms. Spears had provided an earlier report about Operation Urban Blight.

4. **Presentation:** Villages of Wiley by Shannon Nazworth, Ability Housing

- Ability Housing is a non-profit organization. Its' mission is to provide quality, affordable, community inclusive housing for individuals at risk and families at risk of homelessness. They also provide housing for adults with a disability. Their goal is to end homelessness in Northeast Florida. In Jacksonville, Ability has units in Mayfair Village, Renaissance Village and Oakland Terrace. Ms. Nazworth reported Ability has a strong track record of being good neighbors and reducing crime in neighborhoods. Villages of Wiley:
 - The site was previously zoned for multi-family housing so no notice was required for nearby neighbors.
 - The Planning Department approved the building plan on Wiley Road at the corner of Muncie.
 - 43 one-bedroom apartments with an intentional design, to fit into the neighborhood: each unit has a front porch and separate entrance. Ability's goal is to incorporate sidewalks, trees and lighting.
 - Serving: tenants with disabilities, homeless, some veterans - but not targeted for veterans, persons who cycle through hospitals and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.
 - Most units will be one person or one couple. Some units may house a single parent and child.
 - The number of planned parking spaces meets zoning code requirements.
 - The site will have a club house with barbeque areas in back.
 - Services on site are offered by various community service agencies, such as Career Services, VA, Medicaid, Department of Children and Families, and others.
 - The property will be completed using a forgivable loan from the State of Florida. The loan will be forgiven in 20 years.
 - Tenants pay rent, below market price. Part of the leasing criteria involves the person's ability to pay rent. Most tenants stay for 1- 3 years. Rent increases as income increases – it is checked annually. The rent is based on the area's median income
 - Ability will work with JSO and follow most of JSO' Multi-Family Housing Program (MFHP) requirement, but Ability properties cannot become certified as JSO MFHP because the MFHP lease does not allow tenants with criminal histories. Many of Ability's tenants have criminal histories. A background check is completed on prospective tenants - no registered sex offenders or predators will be housed in Ability properties. Ability has stringent lease enforcement.
 - Gated and fenced community. A security system with cameras will be installed. JSO is not prepared to police "group homes". Ability will assess the need to augment electronic security with paid patrols.
 - The site was chosen because it is a "low income neighborhood and tenants will be compatible".
 - She is not familiar with the area and does not know the location of the nearest bus stop or grocery store.
 - A property management company will manage the property. Managers will not live on the property. Ms. Nazworth said emergency contact numbers will be provided to community leaders.
 - Groundbreaking is scheduled in about two months.
 - Several concerns were expressed including:
 - The Villages of Wiley will negatively impact property values and crime.
 - Security of the community with Villages of Wiley residents walking past and loitering near the park, senior center and schools. (Ms. Nazworth said CPAC attendees have stereotyped tenants, who are just like everyone else in the room. This site is not for persons with deep mental health issues. Prospective tenants are assessed for independent, community living and are referred by community agencies/social workers.)
 - Tenants will allow others to live there. (Ms. Nazworth explained that Ability permits overnight guests, but no long-term guests.)
 - Wiley Road is very narrow for increased traffic. Additional sidewalks will be needed.
 - Tenants will not be screened for substance abuse. (Ms. Nazworth explained that clients are not screened for substance abuse. If the person's record indicates recent drug activity, Ability will not lease. If violations of the lease occur, the tenant will be evicted.)
 - No businesses or jobs in the area, no bus stops nearby. No grocery stores or medical care nearby. Some tenants will own vehicles. (Ability will provide vouchers will be provided for buses and cabs. Tenants must be gainfully employed or working with Career Services/others to find jobs.)
- Council Member Reginald Brown said he has been listening to residents' concerns regarding the Villages of Wiley. He has begun investigating the zoning change date and he has requested a legal opinion. He will arrange a town hall meeting and notify residents of the date, time and location.

5. **Acting Chair's Report: Acting Chair Kathy Budd:**

- Presented new representatives with letters of appointment signed by Mayor Brown. She introduced and welcomed the following representatives:
 - Gina Bradley representing the National Society of Colonial Dames of American in Florida.
 - Abner Davis representing the Clara White Mission.
- Ms. Budd and Ms. Lowry spoke at the Planning Commission meeting and Ms. Myers attended the lengthy meeting in opposition to an application for a liquor/package store on the corner of Hyde Grove Avenue and Lane Avenue. Ms. Budd presented 962 signatures of neighbors who opposed the liquor store. The application was denied. Ms. Budd encouraged residents to get involved in the government process – you can make a difference.

6. Elected Officials' Report:

- Council Member Reginald Brown:
 - Announced the budget process has begun. He suggested residents become involved in the budget - let the City know your interests and concerns.
 - Announced he may be reached at 630-1684. He will be available after the CPAC meeting.
 - A concern was expressed, followed by a lengthy discussion regarding a permanent ban for permits needed at certain parks. Parks become overrun with unauthorized numbers of attendees who drink alcohol, play loud music, become unruly and adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods with these issues as well as parking. Because applicants did not admit to over 100 attendees, JSO or JFRD are not required to be present. This is a safety and quality of life issue. (JSO reported that at one 3-day permitted event, JSO was present, but it is impossible for one officer to control large crowds of hundreds of people). A guest provided a photograph of a large group at a local park. Cameras are needed in all parks, beginning with the parks that report the most incidents.
 - More signage is needed in parks to clearly post the rules.
 - Council Member Brown thanked the guest for the photo and said he will share the photo and concerns and photo with the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Council Member Jim Love:
 - Introduced his assistant, Kevin Kuzel.
 - Announced the pension fund is in still in progress, currently in the third attempt to obtain an agreement.
 - He enjoys working with JSO. To obtain crime stats and other information, please visit JSO's website: <http://www.coj.net/departments/sheriffs-office.aspx>. If JSO does not respond when a resident calls for assistance, please contact Council Member Love.
 - Announced he and Mr. Kuzel attended CPAC to listen and learn. He welcomed questions and said he was available after the meeting. Council Member Love may be contacted at 630-1390.

7. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports** were waived to allow time for the presentation and public comments.

8. **Unfinished Business** – none.

9. **New Business** – Acting Chair Budd asked if any staff of subcommittee members had announcements. None were made.

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

- Hyde Grove Acres Neighborhood Watch Captain Christina Swanson asked for clarification about the Villages of Wiley. (Building permits are in progress. Council Member Brown will schedule a town hall meeting, to be announced.)
- Ms. Budd thanked Council Member Brown for his responsiveness, support and advocacy in District 10.
- Ms. Turknett thanked Council Member Love for his responsiveness, support and advocacy in District 14.
- Both Council Members were thanked for attending the CPAC meeting. Residents applauded.

11. **Adjournment** – A motion to adjourn was made by Alice Turknett and seconded by Gina Bradley. The vote: all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

The SW CPAC will not meet in July.

NEXT MEETING: August 11, 2014 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Florida State College at Jacksonville, Kent Campus
3939 Roosevelt Blvd, Room E-112 F