

PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



Mayor Alvin Brown's Meeting with the CPAC Chairs

City Hall at St. James, Mayor's Conference Room
117 W. Duval St., Jacksonville, FL 32202
Thursday, January 15, 2015

Meeting Summary

- **Welcome and Introductions**

Attendees:

• Mayor Alvin Brown	• Grace Pettus, Mayor's Office
• Kim Pryor, Chair, Dist. 1, Urban Core *	• Michelle Barth, Mayor's Office (Dist. 1 Staff Rep)
• Mike Anania, Chair, Dist. 2, Greater Arlington/Beaches	• Dave Roman, Mayor's Office (Dist. 2 Staff Rep)
• Jim Hill, Chair, Dist. 3, Southeast	• Betzy Santiago, Mayor's Office (Dist. 3 Staff Rep)
• Kathy Budd, Chair, Dist. 4, Southwest	• Angela Spears, Mayor's Office (Dist. 4 Staff Rep)
• Larry Solomon, Chair, Dist. 5, Northwest **	• Taurean Sinclair, Mayor's Office (Dist. 5 Staff Rep)
• Rex Neidlinger, Chair, Dist. 6, North	• Dave DeCamp, Mayor's Office (Dist. 6 Staff Rep)
• Darrell Griffin, City of Jacksonville	•

* Kim Pryor, Urban Core, District 1 (***) *NOTE: attended on behalf of Chair Gloria DeVall (***)*

** Larry Solomon, Northwest, District 5 (***) *NOTE: attended on behalf of Chair John Pittman who had a death in the family. (***)*

- Handouts: CPAC brochures were distributed to each district chairperson (qty. 150 each).
- **Mayor Brown:**
 - Welcome remarks. I promised we would meet regularly. This meeting is an opportunity for you to give us feedback.
- **Chair Anania:**
 - The Greater Arlington/Beaches CPAC would like to thank Mayor Brown for sending Chief of Staff, Chris Hand, to speak at their meeting this past Monday night (Jan. 12, 2015). Mr. Hand did a power point presentation on Pension Reform.
 - Stated he has concerns with the Pension Reform
 - The \$120M that JEA is going to borrow, how will they pay it back? The way he added up the numbers, it came to \$240M.
 - What is the dedicated funding source for repayment?
 - Mr. Anania also wants to reinvest in neighborhoods.

- **Mayor Brown:**
 - The JEA Board of Directors met and approved the proposal
 - We'll get you the fact sheet
 - This reform has been going on for a long time now. I inherited this. The City Council, the Pension Reform Task Force, the Jacksonville Police & Fire Pension Board have been doing a good job
 - I took on this issue before I got sworn in. We refinanced over \$1M in debt; we have millions in reserves. I kept my promise in taking a 20% pay cut. It's a win-win for the City; it's a win-win for the taxpayers.

- **Chair Anania:**
 - It's a heavy draw – it affects funding for CPACs; reinvest back in neighborhoods

- **Mayor Brown:**
 - All of those things are important for quality of life

- **Larry Solomon:**
 - Chair Pittman had a death in the family, which is why I'm here to represent the Northwest CPAC
 - Crime is down for the most part, but it still exists.
 - Infrastructure improvements are needed.
 - Trucks are parking in residential areas.
 - There are environmental issues that need to be addressed:
 - Abatement
 - Industrialization
 - Dredging project
 - The young people seem to be stagnant and need help.

- **Kim Pryor:**
 - The Urban Core has taken on a new direction this year, focusing on subcommittees. They have established the following three subcommittees:
 - Urban Parks Subcommittee: The committee will visit and assess all Urban Core parks. Our parks need amenities, maintenance, and more funding for improvements.
 - Public Safety Subcommittee: Focuses on quality of life. Ms. Pryor is the chair of this subcommittee. Improve by reducing crime, more police support, reduce vagrancy, reducing blight in a positive manner.
 - Government Affairs Subcommittee: Will handle urban planning, waterfront planning, the Jacksonville Landing, old county courthouse, shipyards, DIA planning etc.

- **Chair Hill:**
 - Chris Hand will speak about the Pension Reform at our meeting on the 28th. Can he bring those fact sheets and power point with him?
 - Where are we with CPAC publicity? At our last meeting, we talked about flyers and business cards. What's the status?

- **David DeCamp:**
 - Updated brochures are now available for grassroots distribution.
 - Will reach out to media to talk about community event to kick off.

- **Michelle Barth:**
 - We've met with ITD and set up generic email accounts for each CPAC.
 - The CPAC Coordinators will monitor the emails and forward as necessary.
 - Hopefully, we'll have the business cards ready at the next meeting.

- **Chair Anania:**
 - With regard to the email addresses, can we change it to "Greater Arlington/Beaches"?

- **Michelle Barth:**
 - We tried, but it was too long.

- **Chair Budd:**
 - We have sent letters of opposition to the proposed forty-three (43) unit housing complex being constructed by Ability Housing, that have been ignored. We have 1,124 signatures opposing the proposed build in our neighborhood.
 - The housing complex will be constructed near the corner of Muncie Avenue and Wiley Road in a location that is near five (5) daycare centers and two schools in which kids walk to and from school by themselves.
 - I met with Margo Klosterman, Cleveland Ferguson, John Jackson, Susan (Office of General Counsel), and Councilman Brown. At this time, no more permits are given to Ability Housing.
 - The biggest concern is that kids walk to and from school with homeless people living across the street.

- **Angela Spears:**
 - Teresa Eichner, Councilman Love and I drove by the area and several others in the City

- **Chair Budd:**
 - This facility is not all apartments – it will be housing for the homeless that also provides medical assistance, psychological assistance, job training, etc.
 - They started this project without the permit boxes on site. Once they got the permit box, it was hidden behind a telephone pole. As of this morning the boxes were not there.
 - Our CPAC also opposes Limes Billiards to turn into a nightclub (Lane Ave & Lenox). There is very little parking and only one entrance/exit into the strip mall.
 - There is also a liquor store in the strip mall. They already have license for beer but will eventually get liquor license for hard alcohol.
 - I'm here representing 1,150 people who don't want this.
 - Our JSO zone 4 receives more calls per hour than any other zone.

- **Mayor Brown:**
 - We'll make sure we follow up.

- **Chair Neidlinger:**
 - It's nice that Jacksonville has been noticed as a City for its citizen involvement. We appreciate that.
 - I've talked with other people from other cities like Atlanta and Orlando – other cities are under EPA upgrade orders.
 - What is going on with our environmental code?
 - We need to meet modern EPA code.

- **Chair Neidlinger cont.:**
 - Zoning allows for 40' wide lots for single family housing. However, we are opposed to 40'-44' wide lots for single family housing. We have plenty of land.
 - There are 500+ housing units being built along Pecan Park.
 - Yellow Bluff has two more subdivisions under development.
 - There is a lot of activity for development in the Northside, such as dredging project and JIA
 - Need more CPAC members in the North district.
 - Would like to get involved with afterschool projects.

- **Mayor Brown:**
 - I appreciate all of you and the issues you've raised. You have so much passion. We'll get back with you on all these issues. I'll do everything I can to help. A lot of these issues are on the legal side.

- **Chair Budd:**
 - If Ability Housing was denied in Springfield, they need to be denied in the Westside.

- **Mayor Brown:**
 - I agree with you that it's a public safety concern.

- **Darrell Griffin:**
 - This meeting has been insightful. As the head of all the CPAC Coordinators, please call us anytime. We're here to help and we will be responsive to your needs. We have the tools and assets to assist you.

- **Dave Roman:**
 - Ability Housing was denied in Springfield because it's a designated historic district.

- **Chair Budd:**
 - Please don't be afraid to take on lawsuits.

- **David DeCamp:**
 - We'll follow up
 - We'll work with Darrell on a white paper for the funding source.
 - Charlie Appleby, Matt Carlucci, et al. worked with JEA on the Pension Reform. It's revenue positive. It will save the city between \$110M - \$127M; that's money that can be invested in the city.
 - Provide me your goals and any upcoming events.

- **Michelle Barth:**
 - The MLK Breakfast is tomorrow morning and we have a table for any CPAC members who want to attend.

- **Kim Pryor:**
 - The Urban Core's focus points are code enforcement/lien reduction policy. We've sent a letter back in July and still haven't received a response.

- **Mayor Brown:**
 - We'll get with CM Lumb and find out.

- **Kim Pryor:**
 - We also have blight. We have concerns with the wording of the bill and tearing down historically designated houses.

- **Meeting Adjourned**

Summary prepared by:

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