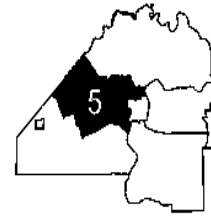


**Northwest District 5
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee
John Pittman, Chair
Larry Solomon, Vice Chair**



**MEETING SUMMARY
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Dr.
Thursday, May 8, 2014**

Committee Members Present

Members	Staff
Chair - Pickettville Civic Association - John Pittman	FDOT - Jim Green
Vice Chair - Carver Manor/Lincoln Estates - Larry Solomon	Jacksonville Public Library - Marshelle Berry
2nd Mile Ministries - Ruth Arnold	JSO - Lt. Michael Mahaffay
Better Living - Bertha Richardson	Parks & Recreation - David Benedict
Carver International - Leroy Kelly	Planning and Development - Mary Beth Ridderman
Cherokee Cove - William Anthony	Planning and Development - Daphne Colbert
Magnolia Gardens North - Gadson Burgess	Public Works - Eric Fuller
Marietta Senior Center - Roxsan Currier	Regulatory Compliance - Daphne Colbert
Marietta Senior Center - Tim Rossetter	
Moncrief Springs - Carlotta McIntosh	Staff Excused
NCNW Reed Ed Campus - Raye Gary	Mayor's Representative - Taurean Sinclair
Pickettville Civic - Robert Ledwick	Planning and Development - Lurise Bannister
Ribault Hills - Oliver Muldrow	
Ribault Hills - Edward Hall	Elected Officials
Riverview - Doretha Tompkins	City Council - Honorable Reginald Brown
Timber Oaks - Velma Rounsville	Duval County School Board - Honorable Paula Wright
Members Excused	Visitors
Cherokee Cove - William Anthony	Alberta Hipps - Hipps Group
North Riverside CDC - Diane Kerr	Lara Hipps - Hipps Group
	Orzola Burgess - Magnolia Gardens
Members Absent	Elaine Billups - Better Living
Carver Pines - Joe Bailey	Ahsanio Mitchell - Candidate District 8
Kinlock Civic - James Gloster	Hilda Sontag - East Trout River Neighborhood Assoc.
Lake Forest - Paulette Turner	Ruby Shaw - Darlington Drive
Lynton Street - Magnolia Earlie	Joan Hussan - Darlington Drive
Old Floradale - Lucille Grant	Stephen Eaves
Robinson's Addition - Erma Cole	Pam Jones - East Trout River Neighborhood Assoc.
Washington Heights - Yvonne Smart	Dean Jones - East Trout River Neighborhood Assoc.
	Donald Strong - East Trout River Neighborhood Assoc.
Members Pending Removal	Diallo-Sekou Seabrooks
Carver Pines - Joe Bailey	Katurah Mann - Ms. Raines High School
Kinlock Civic - James Gloster	Niles Bland - Mr. Ribault High School
Lake Forest - Paulette Turner	Jermaunee Singleton - Miss Ribault High School
Lynton Street - Magnolia Earlie	Ed Robinson - Ribault High School Ribault High School
Old Floradale - Lucille Grant	S. Williams
Robinson's Addition - Erma Cole	Eunice Barnum - Sherwood Forest/Paradise Park/No-FLAC
Washington Heights - Yvonne Smart	David Cronin - Jacksonville Legal Aid
	Thomas Jimenez - Jacksonville Legal Aid
	Barney Roberts
<i>Loss of membership automatically occurs with 3 consecutive unexcused absences</i>	

1. **Call to Order** :

- Chair Pittman called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Chair Pittman opened the meeting with Pledge of Allegiance and he thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Chair Pittman gave a special welcome to Raines and Ribault High School representatives. He recognized Council Member Brown and Ms. Hipps, former City Council President. He thanked them for attending the CPAC meeting.

2. **Verify Quorum:**

Neighborhood Coordinator Mary Beth Ridderman verified a quorum.

3. **Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary:**

Member Currier made a correction to the April summary. Member Currier stated the following ***information regarding Bill 2014-0143 on page 4 is incorrect and should be removed: The subcommittee needs time to learn more about the issues before they make a decision. The bill is deferred until a later date.*** Member Currier said the decision had been made. A motion to accept the corrected April meeting summary was made by Member Currier and seconded by Member Rounsville. The Vote: All were in favor, none opposed.

4. **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office:**

Lt. Michael Mahaffay reported:

- There has been a 3% decrease in property crimes.
- There has been a 17% increase in violent crime. The rise is primarily due to incidents of aggravated battery and robbery car-jacking. JSO is concerned about the increase and has placed extra manpower in Zone 5 to respond to shootings and aggravated battery. JSO is meeting door-to-door with neighbors in areas where violent crime has increased. He asked for residents' assistance and partnership to help solve the problem.
- Chair Pittman thanked Lt. Mahaffay for his report. The CPAC applauded.
- For more information:
 - Assistant Chief Tony Davis - 384-8028 or Tony.Davis@jaxsheriff.org
 - Zone 5 Sub Station - 384-8028 at Superior Street
 - Neighborhood Watch – 630-2160
 - First Coast Crime Stoppers – 1-866-845-TIPS (8477) to report a crime anonymously
 - Police Non-Emergency 630-0500
 - Crime stats: <http://www.coj.net/Departments/Sheriffs-Office/Crime-Statistics-Information-Acceptance.aspx>
 - Offender Watch: <http://www.coj.net/Departments/Sheriffs-Office/Offender-Watch.aspx>

5. **Raines and Ribault High School:**

- Miss Raines reported that she had planned to prepare an Instagram about the CPAC meeting. One is forthcoming.
- Chair Pittman introduced Vice Chair Larry Solomon to the students and staff and said Mr. Solomon is primarily responsible for initiating the CPAC's link to schools.
- Member Rounsville suggested the students report their school and neighborhood concerns.
- A brief discussion was held about how students may become involved, for example, in helping with social media. A suggestion was made that Raines and Ribault Students become full voting members by following the application process.

6. **Presentation:** Housing and Urban Development Training, Empowering Non-Profit Organizations by David Cronin, Jacksonville Legal Aid (JALA)

- Mr. Cronin introduced Thomas Jimenez.
- The training will assist non-profits with understanding how to help their communities.
- The Fair Housing Bus Tour was April 23, 2014. He invited the Raines and Ribault students to attend next year. JALA is discussing arranging a similar tour in St. Augustine.

- Banks often choose no expansion in minority areas. Chase Bank in Julington Creek offered an additional \$200 if money is left in savings for a certain period of time. When JALA issues petitions to bring Chase Bank to the NW, please sign the petition.
 - A concern was expressed that Vystar does not locate in minority areas.
 - Promise Zone Program: Residents are encouraged to apply for the Promise Zone grant. Funds may be used, for example, to reduce violent crime, increase jobs, increase economic activity, increase educational opportunities or reduce violent crime. JALA is working with Housing and Community Development Chief Elaine Spencer, who expressed interest in applying for the program. Mr. Cronin plans to talk with Edward Waters College (EWC) regarding leading the Promise Zone grant application. A concern was expressed that EWC is in the Urban Core and should not take the lead on the North District Promise Zone. Mr. Cronin asked for the community's input on what it wants. He offered to help the community with the application.
 - He discussed "Zombie" foreclosure properties in minority neighborhoods (banks begin the foreclosure, the family moves away and the bank walks away, leaving the abandoned home to deteriorate. HUD is investigating. JALA has a complaint against Wells Fargo regarding lack of property maintenance. \$450,000 will be spent in certain zip codes. Houses will be rehabilitated for families with at risk children. JALA is working with communities and schools to identify children at risk. Rehabilitation/updates will also be made to seniors, for example, wheel chair ramps.
 - A concern was expressed regarding two new group homes in the Harbor View area. Mr. Cronin said JALA would represent the group homes in similar situations. A discussion was held regarding group homes and the numbers of people allowed to reside in each group home.
7. **Elected Officials:** Council Member Reginald Brown led discussions regarding District 10 concerns, plans and progress.
- The proposed gas tax extension. Unfinished Better Jacksonville Projects should be at the top of the priority list for the proposed gas tax extension-funded projects. Overall, the NW has been neglected on this list. The priority list for the proposed gas tax extension-funded projects funds a number of state highway projects but does not fund US1. Funds could be used to fund closing open ditches.
 - Larry Solomon made a motion and Gadson Burgess made a second to provide a letter recommending disapproval of the existing priority list for the proposed gas tax extension-funded projects, because of the list's disparity. The list fails to address the Northwest District's needs. A discussion was held. The vote: all were in favor.
 - A question was raised regarding the release of the Northwest Trust Fund for local projects.
 - A concern was expressed regarding the city's response to reports of large pot holes and road cave-ins. Council Member Brown said he will contact Mr. Robinson in Public Works.

8. **Staff Reports:**

- **Mayor's Representative:** Taurean Sinclair's absence was excused.
- **Duval County Public Schools:** The Honorable Paula Wright reported:
 - The Quality Education for All (QEA) Fund is a large pool of private dollars that will be invested in programs and initiatives designed to attract and retain high-quality teachers and leaders for Duval County Public Schools (DCPS). Philanthropists pledged \$50 million for pay increases to qualified teachers in the lowest performing schools. Teachers must demonstrate data/test scores above the district average to earn pay for performance. This initiative will focus on the 36 lowest performing schools.
 - A visitor expressed her concern that this program, which allows additional pay for teachers, gives a negative image to minority communities. Ms. Wright sees this program as a gift and an opportunity to attract quality teachers and provide quality of education for all children.
 - A question and answer session was held about the QEA program. Council member Brown added that parents also need to help with their children's education.

- Ribault High School offers an early college program. Ninth grade students may participate. Students may earn an Associate of Arts degree before high school graduation.
 - Jackson High School offers an Associate of Arts degree in computer science.
 - Lutheran Services received the Head Start grant. DCPS is partnering with Lutheran Services. Three and four years old children will begin education in school buildings and in the school system. The data is outstanding for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten. Every school was at 75% or above.
 - Saturday, May 17, at Andrew Robinson Elementary School – a safety and community walk with JSO.
 - Children need to have preparation outside of the classroom – to take care of the whole child.
 - DCPS is working with JTA regarding an entrance to A. Philip Randolph.
 - She met with the Jacksonville University (JU) president to discuss the Ribault aviation program, which has been struggling. JU's president agreed to help.
 - DCPS offers extended classroom hours. In addition to Team-Up, a 21st Century grant makes available an after school tutorial service.
- **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Jim Green reported:
 - The North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) is developing a five-year plan.
 - The following projects are underway or planned:
 - Beaver Street and Stockton Street – resurfacing.
 - Edison Avenue Bridge at McCoys Creek will be completed in 2017.
 - Edgewood Avenue at New Kings Road – resurfacing.
 - I -10 and Cassat Avenue - drainage work will be completed in 2017.
 - Kings Road has two projects:
 - Cleveland to Division – update signals to accept the new ITS signals
 - Cleveland to Martin Luther King will be completed in 2016
 - Lane Avenue from Normandy to Beaver Street – resurfacing.
 - Normandy Boulevard has several projects planned. The I-295/Normandy ramp is almost completed.
 - The Lem Turner Bridge is being updated
 - A question and answer session followed.
- **Jacksonville Electric Authority** – no report:
 - To report a JEA problem, call 630-6500.
- **Parks and Recreation** – David Benedict reported:
 - Summer camp will be available at 11 locations. In addition, Parks offers the swimming pool program and Summer Night Lights.
 - He provided copies of JAXPARKS Activities Guide for Spring -Summer 2014.
 - Council Member Brown said there was a 300 reduction of camper availability. He asked residents to call in to advocate for more slots.
- **Planning & Development** –
 - Lurise Bannister's absence was excused.
 - Mary Beth Ridderman reported she sends daily updates via e-mail.
- **Project New Ground** – Marvin Dunbar's absence was excused.
- **Regulatory Compliance** – Municipal Code Compliance:
 - Danny Connell's absence was excused.
 - To report problems, contact 630-CITY (2489).

9. **Chair's Report** Chair Pittman reported:

- The TRUE nomination will be deferred until the October meeting.

10. **Subcommittee/Liaison Reports**

- **Land Use and Zoning (LUZ)** – Roxsan Currier reported:
 - The subcommittee had nothing to report this month.
- **Membership**- He and Member Rounsville will be going to work to recruit new members. He introduced a guest who recently graduated from UNF.
- **Transportation** – Larry Solomon reported:
 - The 2040 Transportation Plan is for 6 counties. FDOT provided a handout. The plan is available on line. For more information, please visit <http://pathforward2040.com/>.
 - Davis Street is receiving an ITS (Intelligent Transportation System) installation. It will be completed in about one year.
 - The North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (NFTPO) will move next year and will coordinate with agencies in six counties.
- **Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE)** – Leroy Kelly reported:
 - The TRUE Commission is involved in the pension discussion. Mayor Brown spoke at the last TRUE meeting. The pension issue needs to be resolved.
 - Many TRUE representatives have reached their term limits and new individuals are being nominated. It is an opportunity to review all legislation. The audit subcommittee looks at programs and offers recommendations. TRUE often invites and receives speakers on specific topics of interest. He enjoys the opportunity to serve on the TRUE Commission.
 - Chair Pittman thanked Mr. Kelly for his service, which requires a big personal commitment.

11. **Unfinished Business** – none.

12. **New Business** – none.

13. **Public Comments/Announcements**

- Paula Wright announced her candidacy for Duval County School Board District 4.
- Council Member Brown announced he is hosting a Family Flashback Day on Memorial Day with train rides for kids, bounce-houses and entertainment in a safe environment. The event will be held at Lonnie Miller Park at 7 p.m.
- Ahsanio Mitchell announced his candidacy for Council District 8.
- Hilda Sontag, from the East Trout River Neighborhood Association, said the group met on Monday with Ms. Hipps regarding the Commercial Diving Academy.
- Alberta Hipps announced her client, Commercial Diving Academy, made sure there is public access under the Main Street Bridge.
- Council Member Brown recognized Alberta Hipps as a former President of the Jacksonville City Council and he thanked her for her service.
- Chair Pittman announced the CPAC has issues with the Task Force on Consolidated Government, which wants to disband the CPACs and instead have Neighborhood Councils.
- Council Member Brown said he does not agree with the recommendations of the Task Force. He encouraged residents to become involved.
- Member Burgess announced the necessity of setting up and putting away tables and chairs. He asked everyone to help put away the tables and chairs. A concern was expressed that someone could be hurt.

14. **Motion to Adjourn**

Member Rounsville made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Member Arnold seconded the motion. All were in favor. Chair Pittman adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

The next NW CPAC meeting will be **Thursday, June 12, 2014**

6 p.m. at the Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Drive

The LUZ Subcommittee will meet on Thursday, June 12, 2014

5:30 p.m. at the Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Drive

Summary prepared by: Mary Beth Ridderman, Neighborhood Coordinator, 255-8260/marybeth@coj.net.