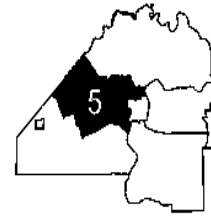


**Northwest District 5
Citizens Planning Advisory Committee
John Pittman, Chair
Larry Solomon, Vice Chair**



**MEETING SUMMARY
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Dr.
Thursday, September 11, 2014**

Committee Members Present

| Members | Staff |
|---|---|
| Chair – Pickettville Civic Association - John Pittman | Mayor’s Representative - Taurean Sinclair |
| Vice Chair - Carver Manor/Lincoln Estates - Larry Solomon | Planning and Development – Calvin Burney |
| Ribault Hills – Oliver Muldrow | FDOT – Jim Green |
| Moncrief Springs – Yvonne Ward | Regulatory Compliance – Ron Taylor |
| Magnolia Gardens North – Gadson Burgess | Public Works - Terry Sandeen |
| Ribault Hills – Edward Hall | Parks & Recreation – David Benedict |
| Marietta Senior Center – Roxsan Currier | Parks & Recreation – Joshua Rhodes |
| Marietta Senior Center – Tim Rossetter | Planning and Development – Stacey K. Burch |
| Moncrief Springs - Carlotta McIntosh | Planning and Development – Lurise Bannister |
| Pickettville Civic – Robert Ledwick | |
| NCNW Reed Ed Campus – Raye Gary | |
| Carver International – Leroy Kelly | Staff Excused |
| Cherokee Cove – William Anthony | none |
| | |
| | Elected Officials |
| | none |
| Members Excused | |
| | |
| Members Absent | Visitors |
| North Riverside CDC – Diane Kerr | Orzola Burgess – Magnolia Gardens |
| College Gardens - Brenda Ford | Elaine Billups – Better Living |
| Washington Heights – Yvonne Smart | Eunice Barnum – Sherwood Forest/Paradise Park |
| Riverview – Doretha Tompkins | Marvin Dunbar – Project New Ground |
| Robinson’s Addition – Erma Cole | Annette Jackson |
| Better Living – Bertha Richardson | Willie Herring |
| Carver Pines – Joe Bailey | Patricia Herring |
| Kinlock Civic – James Gloster | William Ahrens |
| Lake Forest – Paulette Turner | Ann Wiggins |
| Lynton Street – Magnolia Earlie | Taylor LaMendola |
| Old Floradale - Lucille Grant | Natalie Powell |
| 2nd Mile Ministries – Ruth Arnold | Lauren Courtney |
| Magnolia Gardens North –Ella Watson | Sarah Lawrence |
| Timber Oaks - Velma Rounsville | Sissy Giffis |
| Russell Jackson – Walgreens (Soutel Store) | Dayna Cohen |
| | Brooke Whitlock |
| Members Pending Removal | Michelle Agudela |
| Carver Pines – Joe Bailey | Raquel Avellar |
| Kinlock Civic – James Gloster | Ally Miller |
| Lake Forest – Paulette Turner | Sean Virgle |
| Lynton Street – Magnolia Earlie | Stacey Welch |
| Old Floradale - Lucille Grant | Vermalyn Frazier |
| Robinson’s Addition – Erma Cole | Harriett Burch |
| Washington Heights – Yvonne Smart | Enandia Diamond |
| | Johao Stewart |
| | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Loss of membership automatically occurs with 3 consecutive unexcused absences | |
| | |
| | |

1. **Call to Order :**

- Chair Pittman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Chair Pittman opened the meeting with Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

2. **Verify Quorum:**

- Neighborhood Coordinator Stacey K. Burch verified the quorum.

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

- Carlotta McIntosh made a motion to approve the August summary. Gadson Burgess seconded the motion. All were in favor.

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

- Lt. Powers – crime numbers are still about the same. Ninety-five percent of the car burglaries are because the cars are left unlocked. Don't leave your purse or wallet in the car and don't carry your social security card around with you. If you hear or see something unusual at your house in the middle of the night and you are not sure what is going on. Call 911. Do not open the door.

5. **Presentation:**

- Jon Ferguson and Michael Lawson, Southern Genealogist's Exchange at <http://www.sgesjax.org/>
 - Provided a powerpoint presentation on the 136 cemeteries in the greater Jacksonville area.
 - Pictures were provided to show a before and after look of how the cemeteries looked after being cleaned.
 - Cleaning cemeteries have state and federal regulations that have to be followed. Do not enter locked cemeteries. If you must clean a marker do not put anything on the maker that you would not put on your face.
 - Cemeteries have to give you the time you can go clean the burial site around your loved ones. However, the time may be at the convenience of the cemetery.
 - A member of the community asked how can the community clean up the cemetery on 45th Street and Castellano Ave? The answer was to speak with your City Council and form a committee to clean up the cemeteries in your community at least twice a year. In some areas the Boy Scouts have cleaned up the cemeteries.
 - A question was asked about the Restlawn Cemetery, why are people driving and walking over markers to attend funerals? Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Lawson could not answer the question.

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

- Enandi Diamond (Ribault) introduced herself and had nothing to report.

7. **Elected Officials:** No representative

8. **Staff Reports:**

- **Mayor's Representative:** Taurean Sinclair reported
 - Did not have a full overview of the budget. City Council has decided not to fund some of the projects, one being the Capital Improvement Plan for the infrastructure of US-1.
 - Next week is the Council Committee Meetings and the following week the Council will vote on the budget.
 - A couple of new big companies are coming to Jacksonville.
 - Two new Navy ships have arrived in Jacksonville, the USS Iwo Jima & USS Fort McHenry.

- There will be a Park Party on the 20th of September at Clanzel Brown Park and Mallison Park as part of Nickelodeons World Wide Day of Play.
 - AT&T to bring "GigaPower" to Jacksonville. This will increase the internet speed in Jacksonville and allow you to download 25 songs in one second.
 - Continuing to work on the Black Male Achievement Project (Family and Fatherhood, Health and Mental Health, Economics Development and Education).
 - A question was asked about the city pension fund. Mr. Sinclair stated he was not a pension expert and could not answer the questions on pension. Mr. Sinclair did state that he would try to get someone out next month to answer the pension questions.
 - A suggestion was made that if the city was to file for bankruptcy then the city would not have to pay the pension fund? The reply was taxes would have to double and we are nowhere near that stage. The Chair said "before the city can declare bankruptcy, property taxes would have to be doubled. Apparently before a city can declare bankruptcy, it has to exhaust all remedies to raise revenue, raising property taxes to the maximum rate, twice the current rate.
 - Mr. Sinclair encouraged people to make an appointment to see their Council one-on-one and see the Mayor as a group to address their issues.
 - Mr. Solomon stated that he had two people call him about their Council not speaking to them, returning their phone calls and or emails. "You can file an injunction against your Council and have a lien put on their salary because the Council person is not doing their job by not speaking to the citizens of the community." He went on to say it is a little farfetched but you have to do something to get the Council to speak to the citizens in the community.
 - Mr. Solomon also requested through the Chair that the Mayor come out to the Northwest CPAC. Mr. Sinclair stated he would pass along the information.
 - Mr. Calvin Burney added that the community should get out and express to the Council and Mayor the projects that they would like funded. He also explained the CIP in greater detail.
 - Mr. Burney explained to the CPAC that each citizen has six Council members representing them (the Council in your district and the five At Large Council members).
 - All Council Committee meetings are online with the date and time of the meetings in the City Council Chambers.
 - Young Leaders Advisory Council – sixty junior and senior high school students will be on the advisory council to the Mayor, they will meet with the Mayor quarterly and report any issues. The students will see how the local government operates and determine what community project they will work.
 - If you are not receiving the Mayors newsletter send an email to mayorbrown@coj.net to get on the email list.
- **Duval County Public Schools:** no representative
 - **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** – Jim Green reported on the following projects:
 - On Tuesday, September 16, 2014 there will be a series of public service meetings at the downtown library from 5-7 p.m. to discuss concerns for the 2040 and 2060 plan.
 - The DOT is having a public meeting on Thursday, September 25, 2014 at the Regency Hyatt to discuss the City of Jacksonville wanting FDOT to remove the ramp next to the Landing on Main Street Bridge. FDOT has to conduct a traffic study before honoring that request.
 - The Matthew's Bridge was announced as one of the 10 finalist for the engineering work that was completed on the bridge following the accident.
 - **Jacksonville Electric Authority** – no representative. No report.
 - To report a JEA problem, call 630-6500.
 - **Parks and Recreation** – David Benedict (255-7921) reported:

- Mr. Benedict introduced the New District Manager Mr. Joshua Rhodes.
- Boat ramps and a kayak launch are in the design and permit stage for FY 2015 at Charles Reese Park and the North Shore Park.
- Vice Chair Solomon asked if the walking track at Lonnie Miller would be upgraded? Mr. Benedict stated he would have to follow up on the matter.
- The walking track next to MLK Elementary trash can is always overflowing. Mr. Rhodes stated he will look into it. This could be a joint working project with the parks and school to keep the track area clean.
- A question was asked if Carvill Park was being turned over to someone else? Mr. Rhodes stated "No, a request was sent out in a public form to have services at the park. The future plan is to have computers and after school classes at the park. The park is still fully staffed and available for public use."
- **Planning & Development** –
 - Lurise Bannister (Planner) – Nothing to report for Land Use and Zoning.
 - Bettye Scott was wondering why she did not see a rezoning plan for the Lake Park and Edgewood area. The city is building new apartments there. The apartments were approved for rezoning over a year ago. Mrs. Bannister and Mr. Burney stated they will contact Ms. Scott with the rezoning information.
 - Stacey Burch (New Neighborhood Coordinator) –
 - Handouts are available on the table. (Kings Road Coordination, JTA, Walgreens, Seniors Day)
 - October 7, 2014 is National Night Out
 - September is SHadCo Membership Month
 - JSO wanted everyone to know it is Hurricane Season so be prepared.
 - The 4th Saturday of every month Edward Waters College has a food drive that starts at 8:30 a.m. at the Schell-Sweet Center. They are asking for volunteers to come out the Friday before around 3 p.m. and help set up the baskets.
 - On March 7, 2015 the City of Jacksonville will have the 2nd Annual Safety Fair at Lonnie Miller Park.
- **Project New Ground** – Marvin Dunbar was absent.
- **Public Works** –
 - Terry Sandeen (Traffic Engineering) – Nelson Caparas will be the new Division Chief of Traffic Engineering on Monday. There are a lot of factors (speed of the road way, street lighting, cypress etc.) that go into the study to place a stop sign in your area. The City of Jacksonville follows the Federal Highway Administration guidelines.
 - Mr. Solomon was told the city would not buy red paint for his neighborhood to paint the curves near the fire hydrants. Mr. Sandeen state the fire department could come out and place blue reflectors near the fire hydrants to better identify the fire hydrants.
- **Regulatory Compliance** – Municipal Code Compliance, Ron Taylor:
 - Sited 1,592 junk vehicles, 16,000 nuisance cases, boarded up 1,730 houses and condemned 679 houses on the Northwest side of Jacksonville for a total of 24,793 code violations in 2014.
 - A citizen reported that the Trailer Park at the corner of Carvall Ave and Alan Ave had high grass. Ron stated he will take a look at it.
 - A citizen stated that on 33rd Street where the railroad tracks use to be located, the grass is high there and she wanted to know if that was city property? Mr. Taylor stated he would look at the property to see if it was the City of Jacksonville or CSX property.
 - The average time to tear down a house that is not in compliance is about 2-3 years.

8. **Chair's Report**: Nothing to report.

9. Subcommittee/Liaison Reports

- **Land Use and Zoning (LUZ)** – Robert Ledwick nothing to report.
- **Membership**- Larry Solomon encouraged everyone to bring in new members to the CPAC.
- **Transportation** – Larry Solomon stated that he has the draft plans for the year 2040 and 2060 that was presented on September 3rd at the Transportation and Planning Operations (TPO) meeting.
- **Taxation, Revenue and Utilization of Expenditures (TRUE)** – Leroy Kelly thanked everyone from the CPAC for resubmitting his name to remain on the committee. Mr. Kelly was named secretary by the TRUE Commission. He went on to explain how the TRUE Commission is operating. Two key issues that the TRUE commission is looking at in the near future is the 2015 budget and the pension fund. He went on to encourage everyone to be involved in the TRUE Commission.

10. Unfinished Business – none.

11. New Business –

- William “Bill” Ahrens from the University Of North Florida School Of Nursing has students that will be conducting community service work in the Northwest District. They will be working at the City Rescue Mission, Eureka Gardens and the Schell-Sweet Center. He thanked the CPAC for letting his students be a guest at the meeting and thought it was a great idea to let the students see how a CPAC functions.
- Stacey Burch spoke on behalf of the Chair that a nomination committee be created for the 2015 Chair and Vice Chair positions. The Chair nominated Roxsan Currier, Raye Gary and Leroy Kelly.
- Ms. Raye Gary will be the Chair for the Social Committee and Ms. Elaine Billups has offered to help.

12. Public Comments/Announcements – Nothing to report

13. Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Burgess made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Solomon seconded the motion. All were in favor. Chair Pittman adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

The next NW CPAC meeting will be **Thursday, October 9, 2014**
6 p.m. at the Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Drive
The LUZ Subcommittee will meet on Thursday, October 9, 2014
5:30 p.m. at the Legends Center, 5130 Soutel Drive
Summary prepared by: Stacey K, Burch, Neighborhood Coordinator, [255-8236](tel:255-8236) / sburch@coj.net