

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**The Beaver Street Enterprise Center – 1225 W Beaver Street**  
**January 13, 2005**

**Committee Members Present**

Diane Kerr, Chairperson – North Riverside  
 Randy Mallory, Vice Chair, Murray Hill  
 Bertha Richardson, Better Living  
 Tim Butts, Better Living  
 James Gloster, Kinlock  
 Gadson & Orzola Burgess, Magnolia Gardens N  
 Thomas & Alma Hudson, Magnolia Gardens N  
 Sonya Ross, Palm Terrace  
 Joseph Anderson, Pickettville  
 Deborah Merritt, Pickettville  
 Oliver Muldrow, Ribault Hills  
 Edward Hall, Ribault Hills  
 Bettye Scott, Ribault Manor  
 Rev. Anthony Wyche, Ribault & 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance  
 Doretha Tompkins, Riverview  
 Erma Cole, Robinson's Addition  
 Jeff Evans, Pattillo  
 Roberta Wilson, Robinson's Addition  
 Thomas May, Thomas Jefferson  
 Tod Johnson, Willowbranch  
 Janice Kelley, Willowbranch  
 Linda Carson, Lincoln Villa  
 Barney Roberts  
 Danny Thomas, Paxon/Biltmore  
 Daphne Colbert, Aide District 10

**City/Staff/Public/Media**

Devin Reed, Mayor's Liaison, Director of Procurement  
 Elaine Lancaster, Property Safety  
 Marvin Smith, Property Safety  
 Milton Locklear, FDOT  
 Leila Mousa, Region II Superintendent, Duval County Schools  
 Jennifer Kohn, Building Inspector  
 Thelma Jackson, Consumer Affairs  
 Sherry Hall, Water and Sewer Expansion Authority  
 Matt Thompson, Jacksonville Children's Commission  
 Harrison Conyers, Jacksonville Children's Commission  
 Chad Burns, Jacksonville Children's Commission  
 Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhood Services  
 Jackie Perry, Beaver Street Enterprise Center  
 Ruth Arnold, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile  
 Ernestine Shannon, Moncrief Village  
*UNF Nurses*  
 Alicia Behrens  
 Allison Brooks  
 Christine Spires  
 Stacia Diaz  
 Christine Fegracio  
 Melissa Brown  
 Brookes Bert  
 Rebecca Dickey  
 Kristin Lewis  
 Melissa Winters

Excused: Johnny Lammons, Elaine Burnett, JSO – Zone 5, Lara Deittrich,

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Diane Kerr called the meeting to order at 6:09p.m. in the Beaver Street Enterprise Center, 1225 W. Beaver St. and welcomed everyone.

Invocation: Member Gadson Burgess

**Approval of the Meeting Summary**

*A motion to approve the December 9, 2004 summary as written was made by Gadson Burgess and a second by Joseph Anderson. The Vote: All were in favor. None opposed.*

**Guest Speakers**

**WSEA - Sherry Hall** – The Water and Sewer Expansion Authority is the newest authority. They have been working to get the policy and procedures in place. This is a voluntary program that will help homeowners convert their septic tanks and wells to city sewer and water. There are 175,000 septic tanks and 118,000 wells currently in Jacksonville. The program is to assist with financing a long-term loan. The first 500 customers will have some financial assistance. The WSEA is run by an independent board that meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at City Hall. They are not forcing anyone to come off their current system. To participate in a defined area you will need 50% of the homeowners to partake. If you would like to have a cost estimate or more information please call Sherry at 665-4496

**Jacksonville Children's Commission (JCC)** – Matt Thompson is here to say hello and goodbye. For the past 9 years the New Ways Grant (CPAC Grant) has really shown a level of commitment and he has been impressed with how important members take this program. He introduced Harrison Conyers who will be taking his place. Chairperson Kerr thanked and said that Matt was a great friend to the NW CPAC.

**Jacksonville Children's Commission (JCC)** - Harrison Conyers with the New Ways Grants says the essence is still the same with very few changes. Last year the NW CPAC New Ways Grant – had \$30,000 since we had \$5000 left from the previous year and funded:

Grace & Truth Church – FCAT Tutoring	\$5000
Duval County Council of PTA's Eyeglass Fund	\$5000
Wisdom & Knowledge – NW Middle School Tutoring	\$5000
Project Reach – Inter Generational Success - No Stipends	\$5000
Riverview Assn. – Neighborhood Pride with youth -No Stipends	\$2000
Bridegroom Church – Summer Program – No Stipends	\$3500
Pride In Action – Training Wheels Program –Supplies Only	\$1500
Church of Christ – Boy/Girl Scout - Uniforms/Equipment Only	\$2500
Community Uplift – Supplies Only	\$ 500
9 Projects for a Grand Total to be funded	\$ 30,000
\$25,000 = 2004	\$5000 = 2003 left over
	\$ 30,000

The deadline for this years grant is Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> and there will be no late applicants. Once sorted, they will be sent to the CPAC. Last year there were problems with getting the money but this year it will all be done in house and should cut a month off in the process.

You don't have to be 501c3 but need to partner with one to submit the grant for the funding process. If you have received a grant in the past and have not submitted the final form with receipts you will not be eligible this year. There is also the Jacksonville Children's Trust fund for Child Services from \$5000 to \$100,000, travel grants and summer camp \$150 vouchers. They hope to be in the new Children's Commission Office on A. Phillip Randolph at the end of March. For more information you can call Harrison at 630-7266 or [Hconyers@coj.net](mailto:Hconyers@coj.net) Chairperson Kerr appointed Randy Mallory to Chair the Grants Sub Committee. If you would like to participate on this please let Randy know.

**Jacksonville Children's Commission – Rally Jacksonville** – Chad Burns is on a mission is to get people to read to children and prepare Pre-K children for school. The Rally book drive wants to get 1million books in kid's hands. He applauds our support of reading to children. Recommended reading lists – early literacy – web sites for reading lists for both are at [www.jaxkids.org](http://www.jaxkids.org) or you can contact Chad at 630-6447 or [cburns@coj.net](mailto:cburns@coj.net) When reading to children please remember the following:

- Ask questions about what is read – open ended questions that make a child think
- Ask how do you think or feel on something?
- Get a conversation going

For the Children's Literacy Program reading at schools please call Duska Dorschel at 387-8850 [Dorschel@coj.net](mailto:Dorschel@coj.net) or for Senior Citizens Tale Tellers call Sally Robson at 630-0998 or [Srobson@coj.net](mailto:Srobson@coj.net)

**District 10 Councilwoman Jones** - Daphne Colbert had no report but Chairperson Kerr complimented Daphne and Councilwoman Jones saying they are a real force, a great Councilwoman and thanks to both of them.

**Chairperson Kerr** welcomed new NW CPAC Member – Danny Thomas from the Paxon-Biltmore Association. She also acknowledged the UNF Nursing program and appreciates all the projects they have worked on for the Northwest CPAC. She thanked them and Professor Ahrens.

### **Staff Reports**

**Mayor's Liaison** – Devin Reed, Director of Procurement – introduced himself as a native of Jacksonville, growing up in the NW CPAC in "The Bottom" Rowe Avenue and Helena. His mom taught at Whitehouse Elementary and he went to school there. He continued at Northwestern Middle, Raines High, and UF for College and Law School. His dream of affordable housing is starting in his neighborhood with Rev. Wyche and others. He currently is the Director of Procurement with the City and purchases everything that the city needs. Please call on him if you need something. He can be reached at 630-1184 [dreed@coj.net](mailto:dreed@coj.net)

**Duval County School Board** - Leila Mousa, Region II Superintendent Quarterly Update: She works with 30 of the hardest working administrators. She is also working closely with the City and Super Bowl Host Committee on educational components or activities that would enrich the curriculum. There will be no interruptions for schools or the District office. School will be in session. Traffic may be heavy but the school staff will understand if someone is late. On Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> the writing assessment test will begin and the first week in March the FCAT tests will take place. The West Jacksonville Elementary School will undergo renovation and will not close. The Board and District leaders heard the community and heard their commitment to support the school. It will need approx. \$1 million to refurbish it from the kitchen fire. John E. Ford Elementary Magnet is no longer a dedicated school. The neighborhood children will not be leaving their community. The school will have the Montessori Program and the Spanish Emersion grades K-8. They will be combined with RV Daniels. The School Board is looking at the K-8 concept when looking at constructing new schools so as to save money by constructing one building instead of two. School Attendance – the State Attorney's office has been helping parents become more responsible by bringing them in if their children are not in school. The teachers can't teach if the child is not in school. If you see children on the streets please call JSO 630-0500 to report them. There have been some problems with students telling the police that they are home schooled and then they can't pick the child up. They need to be in school. They suggested having ID for all school age children with the hours they attend school so as not to have problem with home schooled children. Members were concerned on this as well as the Taser guns. This Saturday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> Magnet Mania will occur at the Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lots of questions and concerns about Taser guns in schools were asked. However the SRO (School Resource Officers) are under the Sheriff and carry all the equipment that street police do including guns. The Sheriff will be discussing this with the School Board and Administrators. Question from members were asked and answered. There are now 6 Regions – Region 6 is for challenged schools (F grade) under Steve Hite. Thanks so much for the upcoming reading that will take place in our schools. If you have questions please call 693-7938 or [Mousal@educationcentral.org](mailto:Mousal@educationcentral.org)

**FDOT** - Milton Locklear – There will be an open house pre – construction meeting on I-10/I-95 on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at 2250 Irene Street. Project engineers will be there to answer questions that impact the neighborhood such as the pond on Margaret St., landscaping, grass only, trees and shrubbery on McCoy's Creek Blvd and impact on the highway. They are discussing the old Fuller Warren Bridge and are not sure what should be done with it. Questions about McDuff, Forest Street 2-two roadway as an exit for I-95 and other projects such as landscaping were asked. Milton can be reached at 360-5686 or [Milton.Locklear@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Milton.Locklear@dot.state.fl.us)

**Property Safety** - Elaine Lancaster introduced Officer Marvin Smith. There will be a new supervisor for the NW – Del Miley. He will attend next months meeting. The NW CPAC has not had a Municipal Code Board for the last 8months due to a lack of a quorum. There are 200-300 cases that need to be heard. The Office of General Council will hold a Special Master Board if approved. The meeting is open to the public, you have to sign in and announce yourself – no date yet. If you have questions on the Board contact Dan Slater – and ask him 630-1212 or [dslater@coj.net](mailto:dslater@coj.net) Members were very concerned since this keeps the problems in the neighborhoods. They also had concerns with landlords that are not keeping up their property. They have move-outs and the furniture and garbage make a mess for the entire neighborhood. Chairperson Kerr commended Elaine on her job performance. The NW CPAC will be sending a letter of commendation to her supervisors on her superior work. Elaine then answered questions from members. There were also questions about how long can a property be boarded up since this is also another eye sore for the neighborhood.

**Building Inspection** – Code Enforcement - Jennifer Kohn – They have been very busy in preparation for the Super Bowl in removing signs on the city-right-of-way. Citizens can remove them from city owned property but not private property. Members would like to see stricter enforcement laws on the signs that are placed on JEA and street poles. Members were concerned with garbage on the streets. They would like to see garbage cans on the corner of busy intersections and emptied fairly often. Portable basketball goals are also a

problem. This is a JSO issue however – they are supposed to be rolled off the roadway at the end of each day and the children are to move out of the way for the traffic. The goal should be in driveway. Some members stated that if the neighbor or association made enough complaints JSO would get it removed. Members wondered if some other agency can enforce this quicker. Members had questions on animals that go to the bathroom in the neighbors yard or on the city-right-of-way. In order to cite an owner with a ticket the officer has to see it take place to write a ticket. You can fill out a complaint form affidavit and be a witness. There is a leash law for both cats and dogs when not on their private property. Members think there needs to be something done like a scoop-a-poop law.

**Consumer Affairs** – Thelma Jackson – her Division investigates complaints that occur against consumers. It is tax time and the “Tax Anticipation Loans” can charge you 100% to 600%. They are the ones that say come in, buy a car and we’ll do your taxes. This is a loan. There are laws in Florida against this practice but some will have phone numbers out of the country and ways to get around this. The Prosperity Campaign will assist qualified individuals do their taxes for free. Please DO NOT GIVE OUT your Social Security or Credit Card numbers over the phone if someone calls. There are lots of scams. Also be sure to shred this information when placing them in the garbage. When doing business over the Internet be sure the web site is secure – https (S-secure) Thelma can be reached at 630-1212 ext 4090 or 630-2089 and 630-CITY

**Neighborhood Services** - Marilyn Fenton-Harmer made the following announcements:

- Please be sure to sign in at every meeting
- If you have not already filled out your NW CPAC Renewal form please do so and turn it in as soon as possible
- City Wide Cleanup Saturday, Jan. 22, 2005 please see flyer for details
- Host City Huddle – A meeting with the Mayor and key players for the Super Bowl – see flyer for details
- New Magazine with Super Bowl information – if you have a story or event please let me know to try to get it in the Magazine

If you need to contact Marilyn please call 630-7024 or [Mfharmer@coj.net](mailto:Mfharmer@coj.net)

**JSO** – Excused from the meeting

**Planning & Development** – Excused from the meeting

#### Announcements

**Robinson’s Addition** – Ms. Cole was in the current issue of the Neighborhoods Magazine as a local hero. She won an award from Bank of America for a grant of \$5000 for a program to help senior citizens with chores done by local youth ages 15 to 17. The youth will get a \$7 an hour stipend. It is really working out nicely. Members congratulated her for this award.

**Ribault Hills** – Edward Hall - this weekend at FCCJ North Campus a *Raisin In the Sun* the play will be put by his son. The Northside needs to be exposed to the arts more. In the last 4 years he has put on 2 plays a year with the College with grant money. The Company is growing and is helping to develop local talent – tickets are \$15 and \$10 for students and seniors

**Moncrief/2<sup>nd</sup> Chance** – Rev. Anthony Wyche reported that the City Council passed the 45<sup>th</sup> St Neighborhood Action Plan – He is constructing 2 houses that are going up on Helena Street and there will also be a community park.

**Murray Hill** – Randy Mallory – spoke on how they are seeking to get a historical survey of Murray Hill. They are gathering support from our Council members. The survey is not free and will cost \$40,000. *A Motion for a letter of support in writing for Murray Hill to get this grant was made by Anthony Wyche and a second by Joseph Anderson. The Vote: All in favor, none opposed.*

**Mallison Park** – Friday, Jan. 14, 2005 the Mallison Park will partner with the Police Athletic League (PAL) at 11:30am to rededicate the park for this program. The Sheriff, staff, and Council members will be in attendance. The CPAC and North Riverside will have a display table. If anyone is interested to attend please join us at “the park for a fresh start.”

#### Motion to Adjourn

*A Motion to adjourn was made by Joseph Anderson and a second by Thomas May. The Vote: All were in favor, none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm*

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, Feb. 10, 2005**  
at 5pm for READING and 6pm for the MEETING  
Eugene Butler Middle School – 900 Acorn Street