SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 1999

Committee Members Present

Bradley Straley- Chair
Christina Campbell-Vice Chair
Thomas May
Norm Study
Elaine Burnett
Rosa Walker
Diane Kerr
Linda Moore
Erma Cole
Rosa Stephens

City/Staff/Public/Media

Hon. Doyle Carter
Noah Henderson
John Fleming
Carol Miller
Mary A. Study
Patrick Victor
Rea-Silvia Costin
Lori Bilello
Asst. Chief David Gueterman
Mary A. Study
Florestine Meeks
Ada Green
Andy Cummings
E. Lancaster
Dale Smith

Chairman Straley called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM. Rosa Walker gave the invocation.

Staff Comments

John Fleming announced that the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Community Leadership Institute 11th training event will be held at the Jacksonville Omni Hotel on September 17-19, 1999. He also announced that the upcoming Florida Neighborhoods Conference will be held in St. Petersburg, Florida on Oct. 1-2, 1999.

Asst. Chief David Gueterman announced that crime in Zone 5 was down overall as compared to last year this time. He also mentioned that a substation will be established in Zone 5. He asked citizens to call the police if they saw students out of school during the time that they should be in school. Additionally, he discussed the stolen tire scam that is going on and ask that the police be notified if they know of or are suspicious that this illegal activity is taking place.

Elaine Lancaster, Property Safety- Code Enforcement, stated that they had handled some code issues in the Cisco Gardens area. She also mentioned that a mini sweep for code violations was conducted in the Biltmore/Paxon area. In response to an audience question regarding junk cars in the yard behind a fence, she stated that it can be removed but the process does take longer.

Business:

Andy Cummings of Connelly & Wicker Inc. provided the following information on the Murray Hill Drainage Improvements project. The boundaries for this project area is bounded by Murray Drive on the west, Hamilton Street on the east, Crescent Street on the north and Plymouth Street on the south. The proposed improvements, which will replace the existing system that was built in 1950 and is under sized, will include the construction of an 8.0' x 6.0' box culvert along Lamboll Avenue between Tributary 1 of big Fishweir Creek and College Street. This project has been designed to be in compliance as recommended in the City of Jacksonville's Stormwater Management Master Plan . Conflicts with BellSouth and gas lines had to be resolved and water quality issues had to be address because of the limited places to build the needed ponds. The estimated construction cost for this project is $3.5 million dollars- 2,650,000 from the City of Jacksonville, Dept. of Public Works and $850,000 from JEA-Water & Sewer. This project is scheduled for board approval in October and construction is scheduled to take place in the year of 2000. The project is scheduled to be completed 13 months from the starting date of construction . Because this project borders part of the Southwest District which would be effected by this project, it was recommended that the Southwest CPAC be asked if they would like to have this project presented at their CPAC meeting.

Lorri Bilello of the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida made a presentation on the Needle Exchange Proposal. She distributed a recent study (August 1999) entitled " A Citizen Report on Needle Exchange Reduction Strategy for Injection Drug Users in Duval County" done by JCCI for the Health Planning Council of N.E. Florida. She recommended that this study be read so that a reasonable conclusion can be drawn on how a Needle Exchange program can benefit our community. She also distributed and presented information on HIV/AIDS Epidemiology Partnership 4 for Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns Counties. The distribution and presentation explanation included graphs on adult aids cases by race/ethnicity and adult aids cases by sex for each year from 1989-1998. It also included pie charts for adult AIDS cases by race/ethnicity, adult HIV cases by race/ethnicity, adult AIDS cases by sex, adult HIV cases by sex and graph charts on adult AIDS cases by age group and adult HIV cases by age group. This information provided percentages based on 263 AIDS cases and 290 HIV cases reported for the year of 1998. Additionally, pie charts on the adult HIV cases (154 males-136 females) by mode of exposure and sex for 1998 was presented. After several questions and answers, a request was made to get to the members a copy of the anonymous HIV test sites in the area.

Other Business:

Chairman Straley stated that the Mayor's quarterly meeting with the CPAC chairpersons will be held on Monday, September 13th. Those items that he mentioned and those items that were brought up by the committee members for discussion to Mayor Delaney were the contaminated sites, mass transportation and economic incentives for the Northwest area.

Committee Elanie Burnett provided information on the upcoming Northwest CPAC tour. She stated that the tour would be held on Friday October 29 from 1-5 pm and that interested committee members would be meeting soon to finalize the sites and area for the tour.

Chairman Straley mentioned the FDOT report in the handouts on projects in the Northwest CPAC area that was submitted by Suraya Teeple who was unable to be at the meeting.

Announcements:

Chairman Straley discussed a letter from Jerry Spinks, chairman of the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission, regarding the condition of the Pickett/Turner Cemetery located off Lem Turner Road in northwest Jacksonville. He stated that this letter was in reference to the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission contacting various community organizations to seek their interest in becoming involved in the maintenance of this small cemetery.

Committee member Diane Kerr, North Riverside, mentioned that she would be participating in the upcoming southern district Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Community Leadership Institute and the Butterfly and Environmental Garden will be one of the clinic sites for this event.

Committee member Thomas May mentioned that the traffic light at Devoe and Beaver had been reported over a year ago nothing has been done. He also invited everyone to the upcoming Thomas Jefferson Civic Association meeting.

Committee member Erma Cole, Robinsons Addition Improvement Association, stated that their organization had received a $2,500.00 grant from Weed & Seed and it will be used to provide security lights and deadbolt locks for senior citizens homes. She also mentioned that they had received a grant from the city which will be used to provide an entry sign for the neighborhood and crime watch signs throughout the neighborhood. She further mentioned that they are planning on having their annual Come Together Day/ Bar-B-Que around the second or third weekend of October.

Committee Member Rosa Stephens, Royal Terrace Improvement Association, stated that they were finalizing a grant for tree planting and the Duval County Health Department will be having a grand opening of the health clinic which will be located at the Royal Terrace Plaza. She also mentioned that she will be participating in the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Community Institute Training and the Royal Terrace Plaza will be a clinic site that she will be hosting.

Committee member Rosa Walker announced that open house for the new multi service center of the Bridge of Northeast Florida is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14th at 4:30 PM.

Committee member Elaine Burnett announced that the Riverside/Avondale Arts festival will take place on Saturday, September 11th and Sunday, September 12th at the park located at Park, Post and Margaret streets. She also mentioned that demolition work is being done on the RADO house.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.