MEETING SUMMARY
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THOMAS JEFFERSON CIVIC CENTER
JANUARY 13, 2000

Committee Members Present

Brad Straley, chair
Diane Kerr, vice chair
Faye Richardson
Rosa Stephens
Ada Mae Green
Elaine Burnett
John Allen
Norman Study
Thomas May
Mary Study
George Leverett
Rosa Walker
Kelly Johnson
Linda Moore
Carol Miller

City/Staff/Public/Media

Lorrie DeFrank, Neighborhood Services
Ju'Coby Pittman, Unity 2000
Joan Haskell, Unity 2000
Sue Jantz, Clean It Up, Green It Up
Garry Denson, Clean It Up, Green It Up
Ken Avery, Planning Department
Doris Johnson
Bernice Johnson
Melonee Slocum

Chairman Brad Straley called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Thomas Jefferson Civic Center, 8237 Nevada St.

Staff comments

Lorrie DeFrank of the Neighborhood Services Division distributed copies of the executive order establishing the CPACs and asked members to suggest changes and corrections. The City plans to execute an updated version of the order by April.

Ken Avery explained the following requests for zoning exceptions and invited members to a public hearing concerning them in City Hall on Jan. 27:

- E-99-183: Request by Bethel Temple Assembly of God Church at Devoe Street and Mallory Road to add a multi-purpose assembly room. Planning Department has made no recommendation but sees no problem.
- E-99-185: Request to erect a mobile home in a single-family development off Cahoon Road
- E-99-186: Request to establish a day labor pool center (where contractors pick up workers daily) on Beaver Street near McDuff. No staff recommendation.
- E-99-184: Request to erect a mobile home off 20th Street

Ken also informed members that hearings will be coming up concerning a major multi-use development at Commonwealth and Jones. The railroad owns the property, which has been vacant since 1973.

Program

Unity 2000:

Joan Haskell and **Ju'Coby Pittman** from the Human Rights Commission's Unity 2000 committee returned to distribute copies of results of surveys taken at meetings of all six CPACs last year. The committee, which focuses on racial harmony, surveyed CPAC members in an effort to "improve the quality of life in all Jacksonville neighborhoods creating unity for our city." Issues of concern to citizens include: crime, homelessness, race relations, programs for youth, trash, transportation, economic development and recreation. Forty-one percent of respondents citywide believe they receive support or participation from residents in their neighborhoods to make their communities better.

The women also distributed a copy of "A Comprehensive Examination of Race in Jacksonville," an executive summary published by the Human Rights Commission in March 1999. The information is based on a University of North Florida study.

They also talked about for Unity 2000's first proposed project, the renovation of a two-story education building at Long Branch Elementary School in East Jacksonville into a community center. The historic brick building built in 1917 no longer is used for classes, but it is structurally sound and is used for some extra-curricular activities. Proposed uses include a healthcare clinic, recreation area, computer lab, day care center and tutoring area.

Unity 2000 also is working with **Diane Kerr**, vice chair of the Northwest CPAC, to locate a building in the North Riverside area for a community center. Meanwhile, Diane is supporting the Eastside project.

It is Unity 2000's goal to have CPACs help each other with community projects, in an effort to bring people of all walks of life and all parts of the city together.

Keep Jacksonville Beautiful:

Sue Jantz and **Garry Denson** from the City of Jacksonville's Clean It Up, Green It Up division encouraged members to have their neighborhood associations participate in the Keep Jacksonville Beautiful campaign during March and April. The local campaign is part of the Keep America Beautiful initiative. They showed a video featuring the national campaign and beautification projects that other cities have undertaken. People may call 630-3420 for planning assistance. The division will supply bags, gloves, pokers, flyers, etc.

Sue and Garry answered many specific questions about environmental concerns, including how to dispose of tires.

Announcements

Diane Kerr announced a meeting to address pollution concerns in the McCoy's Creek area. The meeting, sponsored by the North Riverside Community Association, will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Jan. 21 at Gateway Services, 555 Stockton St.

John Allen of the Youth Action Council announced that four schools and 18 churches in the area of Paxon High School will participate in a cleanup of the area on Feb. 19. Participants will start the project at 10 a.m. at the school.

Chairman Straley adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting: 6 p.m., Feb. 10, 2000, Thomas Jefferson Civic Center, 8237 Nevada Street; Program: Neighborhood participation in the U.S. Census