MEETING SUMMARY
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BETTER LIVING COMMUNITY – S.P. Livingston Elementary
MAY 11, 2000

Committee Members Present

Brad Straley, chair
Elaine Burnett
George Leverett
Frances Leverett
Thomas May
Betty Griner
John Allen
Joseph Anderson
Rev. Anthony F. Wyche Sr.
Christina Campbell
Rev. Eugene M. Johnson

City/Staff/Public/Media

Ken Manuel, Duval County School Board
Ken Avery, Planning & Development
Charlene Taylor-Hill, Jax. Human Rights Commission
Terry Lindemann, Property Safety
Katie Urban, Property Safety
Officer James M. Fuller, JSO
James Green, Department of Transportation
Jeff Sheffield, First Coast, MPO
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhood Services

Mae M Dinah	Anne Herndon
Coach Dixon	Katherine Walker
Brenda Sugar	Al Pierce
Henry Cue, Jr.	Louise Cobb
Clarissa Genwright	Tim Butts
Sylvia Brown	Bernice Buckley
Lavenia Gilmo	Grace Atkinson
Mary Knighten	Kelly Johnson
Andrea Burke	Rose Wynn
Daniel Wynn	Ada G. White
Barney Roberts	Estelle R. Jones
Luella Mason	Christina Mann
Mary McKnight	Marilyn Ross
Ethel Gainer	Bertha Richardson
Gail Ray	Roberta Goode
Joann Sorrells	Shirely Deen
Edith McLellan	Leigh Dickinson
Pamela Pumphery	Noah Henderson

David W. Narcomey, American Indian Community Assoc.
Alliniece Taylor, Times Union

Chairman Brad Straley called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Media Center at S.P. Livingston Elementary, 1128 Barber Street

Invocation: Mr. George Leverett

Chairman Straley thanked Mr. & Mrs. Leverett, Ms. Dinah and the Better Living Community for hosting the meeting with the best turn out this year. Chairman Straley also went over the rules: to please wait to be acknowledged by the Chairperson before speaking. He also recognized Noah Henderson who has been retired since October 1999 and is a volunteer on every board and is ready to go back to work. Chairman Straley said that we all miss him and to continue to do such a great job.

Staff comments
Judith Truet, Director of Community Services was unable to be in attendance however; she left the Mayor's "Better Jacksonville Plan" in which the Mayor rolled out the plan this past week. We will talk about this later.

Ken Manuel, Duval County School Board, apologized for not being in attendance for the past meetings. The Area 12 School Advisory Council (SAC- Raines Feeder Schools – 17 Schools) concerns have been the staffing of schools in our area. This has been discussed with the Superintendent and Human Resources. We have a commitment in this region to staff the schools with competent teachers', especially targeted schools, by the end

of June. The governance of schools is by SAC. Many parents are not aware what SAC is. The School Advisory Council determines and reviews the school budget. Mr. Manuel encourages your support in joining SAC. June 2nd is the last day of school. Report cards will go home with the Elementary Students but if you have not received your child's report card from the middle or high school 3 days after the close of school, please be sure to call your child's school to see if they have to go to summer school. If the students do not show up the first 2 days they will not be allowed to go. If you need help call 639-7938. A question on how to join SAC was asked? Just call your local school and they will give you the information. You do have to be appointed by a Principal from the community but anyone can attend. We will put you in touch with the closest school, just call 639-7939.

Ken Avery, Planning and Development, has 2 applications for the May 25th hearing at 2p.m.at City Hall the public is invited. The numbers are E 0047 for a Mobile Home and E 0053 for a Daycare Center at 4924 Moncrief Rd. West. If you have any concerns call 630-2386. A question as to why the City advertises in the Florida Daily Record and not the Times Union was asked? Chairmen Straley asked the members if we would like to vote on this we can do so in July. A question was asked if the Daycare was near the Ash Site. There does not appear to be any problem. You can call Diane Kerr on any of the Ash Site concerns.

Officer Jim Fuller, JSO, said they had a good year last year and a rough beginning of the year. They do not think they are doing something wrong. There have been a lot of burglaries in this area from Myrtle Avenue to 20th Street. They intend to open the new sub station on July 1st. It is on McDuff Avenue. Assistant Chief Gueterman has been working very hard to see that it gets completed. It will have everything that the Police Memorial Building has with the exception of the Sheriff. Chairman Straley said we would be having our July, August and September Meeting there. If you have any specific problems please see Officer Fuller privately at 7p.m. There have been problems with trucks parking in residential areas. All the problems last month have been worked on. A question if Home Safety Checks are still done? The police will check on your house for 2 weeks when you are on vacation and they also do environmental design classes. You can contact Community Affairs for this. Call 630-0500 or 630-2191 for any questions or non-emergency problems.

Ms. Julie Hudson, Vice-Principal at S. P. Livingston Elementary, welcomed us to S. P. Livingston Elementary School. We're glad you're here. They are finalists in a Clean Campus Award and to keep the momentum going will be having a planting of 30 Crape Myrtles from Clean It Up Green It Up as well as donated plants from Ace Proctor. We could use volunteers. There will also be a car wash with donations to the Safety Patrol and a Uniform Swap pending the availability of uniforms. We would love to have you visit us at any time and thank you for coming.

Terry Lindmann, Code Enforcement, the New Town sweep went for 7 days with 878 inspections: 226 weed lots, 154 junk cars, and 38 new condemned structures. They gave the list of unsafe structures to the COPS Unit so they can watch them and arrest anyone for trespassing. You should see an improvement in a short period of time. Mr. and Mrs. Leverett were kind to offer water when they were walking the neighborhood. They usually don't get such a warm welcome. Thank you. Mr. John Fleming, the new boss is working out great and is very helpful. If you have any questions call 630-1212 ext 3846.

Jim Green, State Department of Transportation, some time in June there will be an open house for the Beaver Street Viaduct closer to the date when construction will begin. Work planned for I-10 and Stockton ramp will be closed for the new Fuller Warren Bridge lanes to be opened. This will take place on Saturday Night May 13th. With the Legislature over, the Governor's Plan 2000 will start next spring to widen I-95/I-295 North to Nassau County from 4 to 6 Lanes. I-10/I-95 Interchange was scheduled for 2010 will be moved up to 2005 if all plans and permits take place. A question about the Beaver Street Viaduct was asked. It will be upgraded to a modern 4 lane Viaduct. It is currently very old and narrow and very difficult to maintain. More info will be available by June. Any other questions please call 360-5684

Program:

Jeff Sheffield, Transportation Improvement Plan, please feel free to come up and view the map. The Handout is a supplement of the Northwest Planning district but the Plan is for road improvements for 2001-2005 for the Florida Department of Transportation, JTA, JaxPort, Public Works, and the surrounding Counties. We are in the public involvement period if you have any questions please call 630-1911. Mr. Sheffield went through the Northwest projects from the handout. A question about the widening of the road between Ribault and Soutel where they put in tree islands in narrowed the road and is a problem. Jeff will check on this. A question about

College Street to Margaret Street, will it be resurfaced? Yes. Will it be turned over to the City? Not sure especially if the street is going to be turned into a 2 way-street. There has been a 10-year request for reversion. RAP will contact Jeff on this. Is Phase 2 of Soutel and US 1and Lem Turner programmed? Phase 1 is programmed but not Phase 2. What are the criteria for a road to be resurfaced? DOT has its own criteria. You can get his by calling Jeff Sheffield.

Mr. Leverett, Redevelopment Plan for College and Myrtle Avenue, the first advisory meeting was held last week. There were maps with more detail on what they are going to do which was presented. The outline of the request for EWC's expansion as well as Load King was discussed. We hope to have this information at the next CPAC Meeting. A question of whether Load King went bankrupt was asked? No-one knew for sure.

Charlene Taylor-Hill, Executive Director, Jacksonville Human Rights Commission presented "Study Circle" which is a process where citizens of the community come together to talk on race relations. Ms. Taylor-Hill asked a question "Do you think a group of people who did not know each other could come into a room and talk about race relations without yelling and screaming? Is it possible? Some hands went up and some did not. Along with Laura and David, who each presented their own story. Laura led a diversified group for 5 weeks. Everything remains strictly confidential. One may not agree but it is to try to understand each other with respect. David Narcomey passed out flyers on "Nobody's Mascot" and American Indian Sports Teams Mascots, Tokens, Nicknames, Logos and Associated Symbols – Psychological Considerations". The "Study Circle" will help open hearts by listening and communicating with a group of fellow citizens. It is a safe place to talk about race. Members in attendance talked of their concerns and stories of race. We invite you to participate. Applications were passed out or call the Human Rights Office at 630-3430 for further information.

Announcements

Chairman Straley announced that Diane Kerr had a heart attack and Rosa Stephens is our contact. Diane is at home. Please be sure to sign the "Get Well" card. Willie Hickson is in the hospital; please sign his card before you leave. On May 23rd the City Council will vote in a new President. To voice your opinions call 630-1377. Call early and often. City Ordinance 447 on Adult Activities (massage parlors 1000 feet from schools and churches). Call 630-1377 to voice your opinion. When the CPAC's were formed by Mayor Austin, there were fights with builders and developers on land use. We used to receive all notices with the legal stance. The City Council is asking for information to be limited. This is Ordinance 445. It is in the early stages and may be voted on in June or July. It is hard to change it once it has been passed. Last month the Council voted 10 in favor to 8 for Lorrie DeFrank to be the Division Chief for the Neighborhoods Services Division. Chairman Straley talked about the letter he wrote to the Transportation Board about the decision on which corridor would get mass transit. They mentioned Downtown, Westside with Cecil Field and Orange Park, the Beaches corridor but nothing in the Northwest. He was very disappointed in the process. May 2nd was the vote and the Northwest didn't get anything. Councilman Holzendorf agrees with us. Next week Chairman Straley will meet with Councilwoman Yates. To say we were slighted is an understatement. Chairman Straley thanked Mr. and Mrs. Leverett for hosting our meeting at a facility where we can all fit. He has talked with Councilman Fullwood about a bigger Mitchell Center if the City would buy the adjacent property. Our next meeting will be at the Louis Dinah Senior Center on Flag Street. He said that with great pleasure. Community Development hopes that the signs will be up in time and apologizes for the delay. Our June 8th meeting will have Mayor Delaney as our guest speaker. We will be the first CPAC to have him. Almost sure he will be speaking about the "Better Jacksonville Plan". These high-ticket items will only get more expensive over time. We will have the opportunity to hear the Plan and vote either way.

Marilyn Fenton-Harmer would like to thank all the neighborhood organizations for being so gracious and accepting. Please be sure to sign in and get all the flyers with the current City information.

Census. As of May 64.7% mailed in their forms. In 1990 at this time only 59% responded. We only get this chance once every ten years. Please tell your neighbors to answer their doors to the Census takers.

Chairman Straley adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting: 6 p.m., June 8, 2000, Louis Dinah Senior Center Hosted by the Better Living Community at 1805 Flag Street (South off Kings Road 1.3 miles West of Myrtle Avenue)