MEETING SUMMARY
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BETTER LIVING COMMUNITY – MITCHELL CENTER
APRIL 13, 2000

Committee Members Present

Brad Straley, chair
Diane Kerr, vice chair
Rosa Stephens
Ada Mae Green
George Leverett
Frances Leverett
Carrie Washington
Elaine Burnett
Thomas May
Laura M. Lee
Norman Study
Rev. Anthony F. Wyche Sr
Erma L. Cole
Mary McDowell
Darrell Brock
L. J. Solomon
Jean A. Lewis
Faye Richardson
Joseph Anderson

City/Staff/Public/Media

Lorrie DeFrank, Acting Chief Neighborhood Services
Ken Manuel, Duval County School Board
Judith A. Truet, Community Services
Ken Avery, Planning & Development
Jennifer Hewett, Planning & Development
Helena Atalla, Planning & Development
Terry Lindemann, Property Safety
Elaine Lancaster, Property Safety
Katie Urban, Property Safety
Officer James M. Fuller, JSO
James Green, Department of Transportation
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhood Services
Mae M Dinah
Lillian Jackson
Anne Herndon
Coach Dixon
Brenda Sugar
Henry Cue, Jr.
Clarissa Genwright
Mary Study
Tracy Williams
Tim Williams
Lavenia Gilmo
Grace Atkinson
Ruby Bardwell
Pastor Carl Odom, Jr.
Dora Ford
Mercedes Harris
Rita Nesbit
Katherine Walker
Al Pierce
Louise Cobb
Tim Butts
Sylvia Brown
Bernice Buckley
Elsie Grace Walker
Selina R. Agnew
Mary Knighten
Joanna L. Johnson
Ehgin Foreman, Jr.
Barbara Woodson, Times Union

Chairman Brad Straley called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Mitchell Center, 1010 Acorn Street

Invocation: Rev. Anthony Wyche, Sr.

Chairman Straley thanked Mr. & Mrs. Leverett, Ms. Dinah and the Better Living Community for hosting the meeting with the best turn out this year.

Staff comments
Judith Truet, Director of Community Services spoke about the JCCI (Jacksonville Community Council Inc) new study " Sex Trade Report." Rosa Stephens, a committee member and source for the study to happen, explained that prostitution was a big concern for the Royal Terrace area. Some of the myths that were addressed were 1. It's not only women but also men and children 2. Sex traders were not spreading diseases as rampantly as thought. 3. Sex traders are and have been victims since childhood. 4. It is very hard to find employment after being arrested for prostitution. 5. We need the support of the community to help this situation. The JCCI study was passed out and if more copies are needed call Judy Truet at 630-3632. The Mayor's Office is aggressively preserving land throughout Jacksonville. The new edition of the Neighborhood Magazine's cover story is about preservation. The Mayor also wants to continue to plant trees for clean air and to see nature in the wild. Don't forget to fill out your 2000 Census!

Lorrie DeFrank, Acting Chief of Neighborhood Services, reminded us of the free Crape Myrtle giveaway with 6 locations. This year you can get 4 trees. It starts at 7a.m. If a neighborhood would like to reserve 30 trees they can call ahead to 630-3420 however; they will not hold them. It is a first come first serve basis. The Mayor's next Town Meeting will be in the Southwest Planning District at Lake Shore Middle School at 6p.m. on May 1, 2000. They are held 6 times a year.

Officer Jim Fuller, JSO, talked about the new sub station. They hope that it will be fully operational in mid June. They will then have the Grand Opening 30 – 45 days later. They will have the nicest facility, once it is complete. They are using inmate labor to save tax dollars. Please call 630-2191 with Zone 5 problems. The Sheriff's office needs your help. Zone 5 is the largest area and we can't do it without citizens helping the police. We are currently having trouble with auto thefts. The majority of the car doors are unlocked and left open at convenience stores. Questions arose about 18 wheel cabs being parked on a residential street. They can get a ticket. The same with school buses. Call the non-emergency number 630-0500 to report this. The Cops Station Sign at 1061 Line Street is still not in place. When will this happen? If a RV is on private property you can call zoning 630-4957. If it's on the right of way call 630-0500 police non-emergency number. The Paxon Neighborhood Watch will be walking the Paxon/Biltmore Neighborhood this Saturday from 9:30am until 12:30pm

Chairman Straley introduced Ms. Dinah, the wife of the late Mr. Louis Dinah, of the Better Living Community and thanked her for her continued hard work.

Terry Lindemann, Elaine Lancaster and Katie Urban, Code Enforcement, in North Riverside they had 25 weeds, 7 min. housing, 11 vehicles for a total of 45 tickets. In the Northside Smart Community 12 weeds and 6 vehicles. The sweep in Newtown is still not complete. The 4-day totals are 404 inspections: 244 weeds, 104 vehicles, 9-min. housing and 19 new unsafe structures for a total of 47 unsafe structures. If you have problems please write them down and bring them to the meeting and Code Enforcement will have an update at the next meeting on the status of the complaint. Problems at 1852/54 Broadway Avenue the roof is caving in and children are jumping from house to house. North Riverside has submitted 80 papers with various problems. Ms. Kerr would like the status on these.

Jim Green, State Department of Transportation, questions on JTA bus stop trashcans came up. Call Dave Martin 630-3147 for a trash can or trash removal at bus stops. On Normandy, trucks are parking on the right of way. Beaver Street will be discussed at the next meeting. Resurfacing of I-95 continues but are waiting for a night with a temperature of at least 60 degrees all night for the final layer. This summer resurfacing from Lem Turner to I-295 will take place. Question on how to get neighborhood roads resurfaced? Call Sam Mousa. The JTA Transportation recommendation will take place on 4/18/00 at 6pm at the Irene Street Transportation Building. The JTA transportation recommendation that will then be presented to the Mayor. If you want the Northwest to go first go to the meeting and voice your concerns or write your Councilman.

PROGRAM

Helen Attala, presented the 1999-2004 Capitol Improvement Plan with the years on the cover being incorrect. It should read 2000-2005. There are 760 projects planned over the next 5 years over $25,000. On 4/27/00 there will be a public hearing on this plan. If you have any suggestions call Helena at 630-4921 or Hattala @coj.net. From the hearing it will then go before the Mayor's budget review and then before City Council.

Ken Avery and Jennifer Hewett, Planning and Development, One Zoning exception for a mobile home off 20th Street at Old Kings Road. There are no concerns with this from staff. The \hearing date is set for 4/27/00. They also presented the Neighborhood **Redevelopment Plan for College and Myrtle Avenue.** Councilwoman Yates wanted to see this Area developed. This is the first presentation into the community for input. An Advisory Committee of residents needs to be set up. George Leverett wants to be a member. This presentation will be continued next month. Questions on a systematic approach for planning redevelopment was asked - the initiative started in Springfield and Councilperson Fullwood and Yates are doing this in District 8/9. Concerns: The encroachment of commercial entities taking over the neighborhood. If you have any questions call Ken at 630-2386 and Jennifer at 630-1606.

Jessie Wiles apologized for having another meeting. He went over the Redevelopment Plan. Councilman Yates and Fullwood have concerns that families not be displaced but the neighborhood be improved.

Lorrie DeFrank presented the Mayor's Matching Grant Program. Last year 87 groups submitted applications and 47 organizations received them. It is very competitive but not difficult. Be sure to fill out the form as requested. Blue note sheets were passed out to assist with the application. Groups have to be established for the past 6 months. Be creative. The deadline is June 30th. This year they have added the planting of 10 trees per $1000 awarded. Ms. DeFrank went over the application. Any questions please call Greg Owens at 630-7041. **Good Luck!**

Announcements
Chairman Straley wanted to acknowledge that **John Allen of the Paxon Youth Council** was honored at the Volunteer Jacksonville Awards event and aired on Channel 12. He was the first place winner for Kids Who Care 2000. Faye Richardson of Cisco Gardens, Rosa Stephens and Ada Mae Green of Royal Terrace, were featured in our Neighborhood Magazine.

Vice Chairperson Kerr announced changes at City Hall that included: John Kersey going to Animal Control, John Fleming going to Code Enforcement and Lorrie DeFrank to Acting Chief**.** *A motion from NW CPAC to support the appointment of Lorrie DeFrank for the position of Chief was made and seconded.* The vote: All were in favor with no objections. *A Motion to write a letter in support for the Mayor's appointment of DeFrank needs to read that "we enthusiastically support her" was made and* ***seconded.*** She has been most helpful and knowledgeable. The vote: All were in favor with no objections.

Elaine Burnett wanted everyone to be sure they were receiving a copy of the Neighborhood Magazine. Ms. Stephens and Ms. Green are pictured this month.

Chairman Straley restated the importance of completing the **Census.** As of 4/18 workers will be coming door to door to get your numbers. They are making $11.50 and hour of our tax dollars. Please be sure to be counted. This only happens once every ten years. Please be sure to remind your neighborhood organizations to fill out their forms. As of 4/11 Jacksonville had 59% return mailed in. Next month we will have the continuation of Ken and Jennifer's presentation, Jeff Sheffield, Transportation Plan for 10 minutes and a surprise speaker that will be outstanding. Please invite your neighbors and you will receive a notification letter.

Chairman Straley adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Next meeting: 6 p.m., May 8, 2000, Better Living Community Association at Mitchell Community Center, 1010 Acorn Street (unless notified otherwise)