MEETING SUMMARY
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Saint Clair Evans Academy Elementary School – 5443 Moncrief Road
January 11, 2001

Committee Members Present
Diane Kerr, Chairperson
George Leverett, Vice Chair
Brad Straley
Thomas May
Rosa Stephens
Rev. Anthony Wyche
Rosa Walker
Gloriden Norris
Norman Study
Carrie Washington
Faye Richardson
Laura M. Lee
Elaine Burnett
Reeda Harris
Alton Yates
Joan Barney

City/Staff/Public/Media
Joe R. Miller, Director, Public Works
Lorrie DeFrank, Chief, Neighborhood Services
Ken Manual, Duval County School Board
Ida Denson, Planning Department
Valerie Williams, JEDC
Mike Miller, JEDC
Jim Green, Transportation Planner, FDOT
Marilyn Fenton-Harmer, Neighborhood Coordinator
Joni Foster, LISC
Luella Mason
Edward Young
Rita Nesbit
Robert T. Walker
Rev. David Shakespeare
Henry Cue
Grace Atkinson
Mary McKnight
Debbie Aluko
Deborah Wyche

Chairman Kerr called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. at Saint Clair Academy Elementary School at 5443 Moncrief Road and asked that everyone please sign-in.

Invocation: Rev. David Shakespeare

Guest Speakers:
Jim Green, Transportation Planner, FDOT, Presented the FDOT Tentative Work Program for 2001/2002 – 2005-/2006 with a handout of projects in the Northwest. The projects included Capacity, Enhancement and Landscaping, Bridge, Paving, Railroad Crossing, Traffic Signals and Intersection and other projects.

Joni Foster, Program Director, Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) gave a PowerPoint Presentation on LISC. They are a National Not for Profit Organization started in 1979. In 1999 they came to Jacksonville, since then they have raised $1.3 million along with matching funds. They have a local advisory board with 5 CDC, $300, 000 in grants and $600,000 in low cost loans. They work only with non-profits with 501.3C. They help to revitalize neighborhoods with the real estate base. When they show an impact they can engage residents. What does it take? It takes leadership and opportunity for results towards goals that are feasible and manageable. Their motto is "Building the capacity of local organizations to take back their community". Educate, Advocate and taking action are what they do.
If you would like to contact LISC or Joni call 353-1300. They have training and technical assistance available.

Staff Comments:
Joe Miller, Director, Public Works, gave an update on the Better Jacksonville Plan. On December 10th there was a meeting at the Prime Osborne with the Mayor and Sam Mousa. It had local and national attention with 650 people attending. They went over the Plan. They had a PowerPoint presentation that detailed the expected dates and jobs that will be needed. They will be working closely with the FDOT, JTA and JEA to have a cohesive and coherent plan. The timelines are the Ballpark/2002, Main Library and Arena/2003 and the Courthouse/2005. Coordination will be a great challenge. They are meeting with Councilman going over work for each district. There will be an impact on the neighborhoods with drainage projects and road resurfacing. We will need your patience when projects come to your neighborhood.

Lorrie DeFrank, Division Chief, Neighborhood Services, Happy New Year! Thank you to each CPAC member and in order to have a smooth meeting presented the gavel to the NW CPAC.

Lt. Fuller, JSO, The final statistics for 2000 are not officially out but the figures are almost the same as 1999. The numbers were the same in violent crimes but burglaries are up. The current indictments hurt with the loss of trust form the community. The Sheriff is in support of the investigation and appreciates your support during this time. The police sub station at 210 S. McDuff is open Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and you can call 384-8028 for assistance. They can do the same services that are done downtown at the Police Memorial Building. A question on why the stop station was closed at Lincoln Villas when there is trouble in that area with seniors being bothered was brought up. It was stated

that this question came up at almost all forums. There were 100 COPS positions now only 50. They need to get caught up with the manpower. They are staffed at 80%. Also a question why Chief Bennett has a sub station in Riverside? A question if CPAC should write a letter to the Sheriff was made. Discussion will be under new business.

Ken Manual, Duval County School Board, Had to leave fro an emergency. He will give us an update at the next meeting.

Ida Denson, Planning Department, There are 2 hearings: January 19th and 25th for manufactured homes. The homes in the area are primarily single family. The staff will vote to approve this. Please register to get the notices from the Planning Department. Kimmons Recycling wants to have a trash transfer in North Riverside. They are aware of the residents concerns and will bring more information at the next meeting. They are owned by Waste Management and will have to file for exceptions and Certificate of Need. The date for the hearing on Royal Terrace is still pending.

Valerie Williams, JEDC, They are going through a restructuring and Roslyn Phillips in now the Director of the NW Business Development. There are 6 different offices: Enterprise Zone, JEDCO, Small Business & Minorities, JRAC, Jax. Airport and Northwest Trust Fund. There will be 3 public hearings on the Trust Fund in 30-60 days for public comments. There will be a Trust Fund Advisory Meeting on January 22nd at 220 E Bay Street, 14th Floor at 4 p.m.

Mike Miller, JEDC, is working to have a closer link to the neighborhoods not only big corporations. We want to focus on mom and pop stores and to rehab and develop new business partners. He can be reached at 630-2398. Questions as to what plans are there to reach the public? They are currently in the planning stages. They will have newspaper and radio as well as meeting in the neighborhoods. A question on how do you find local businesses was asked? They get referrals from the Chamber, African Chamber, Small Business Center at Gateway and other businesses. They are creating speaker's bureau to get the work out. Last year they had 2500 calls with a team of 3 assisting theses calls or referring them to various organizations. Are there any statistics to help the NW? They have tracked the number of jobs created and have changed to the number of new businesses this year (anticipates 12).

Old Business

- Waiver on 45th Street still pending.

New Business

- *A Motion to consider writing a letter to Nat Glover, Sheriff, for an urgent need for extra police presence at Lincoln Villas was made and seconded. The Vote: All in favor, none opposed.*
- North Riverside has made an application against Kimmons Recycling which is due to Tallahassee by tomorrow. They will be asking City Council for their support. This is a very large trash/transfer plant to serve Georgia to Tallahassee. North Riverside has had problems with 2423 Edison Avenue, Gas Station. They attended the Code Board and they gave them another 6 months to fix up the property.
- Please be sure to register with the Code Enforcement Board as well as the Planning Department to be notified as what is happening in your neighborhood.
- Would like to commend Marilyn Fenton-Harmer for doing a great job and going the extra mile for CPAC and the neighborhoods.

Announcements

- Elaine Burnett is pleased to say that the first project on rehab homes on Post and James was sold last week. They came very close to the asking price. It was lots of hard work and they learned a lot. Congratulations.
- Rosa Stephens wanted to thank Code Enforcement that the houses on Brooklyn Road have been demolished.
- Please be sure to send in your Neighborhood Registration Form to keep us updated on your new leaders and meetings.
- Rev. Anthony Wyche had his cleanup and continues to have positive meetings and will pray for all of us.
- Laura Lee wanted to say that the aesthetics of the Northwest looks bad. How can we leave things the way they are? A suggestion to get Jax Pride to go over procedures and how to beautify the neighborhood was made.
- Alton Yates state that we need economic development that will be viable, attractive and that will benefit the NW. We can be an attractive neighborhood. We all need to work together. We do have resources but we need a visioning.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.