

North District Citizens Planning Advisory Committee

Chair: Bobby Taylor

Vice Chair: Rex Neidlinger

MEETING SUMMARY

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus

4501 Capper Rd. Building C-136

May 14, 2014

Attendance:

Members:

Chair – Bobby Taylor
Vice Chair – Rex Neidlinger
Charter Member - David Spruill
Amelia View – Gay Septon
Blue Grass Northwood – Pastor Mark Bivins
Blue Grass Northwood – Sharon Bivins
Copper Hill – Joseph Tate
Council Appointee District 11 – Tommy Ruffin
Eagle Bend – Mike Getchell
Edwards Creek – Danny Ferreira
Northlake Homeowners Association – Josephine Fiveash Porter
National Park Service – Shauna Allen
The Cape Association – Delores Spruill

Excused:

Charter Member – Richard Berry
Charter Member – Dot Mathias
Ashford Wood - Evelyn "Kathy" Myers
Betz Realty, Inc. - William Baker
Black Hammock Island Civic Association - Mary Thompson
Copper Hill - Bessie Williams
Duval County PTS/PTA – Vicki Drake
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Gerie Leigh
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Fran Beach
Highlands- Jack Stuart
Johnson Community Civic Association – James Shronce
Northside Lions – Harry Wagner
San Mateo – Roland Biederer
ShAdCo Q – Jenny Bray
Tasti D'Lite – Nancy Burnett

Absent:

Removed:

Northside Business Leaders – Patrick Bennett (2)

Three consecutive unexcused absences will result in removal from CPAC membership.

Please contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or marybeth@coj.net if members will be absent.

Elected Officials: none present

Staff:

Mayor's Liaison – Mike Sweat
Jacksonville Electric Authority – Wanyonyi Kendrick
Jacksonville Public Library, Highlands Branch – Ann Fridl
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office – Assistant Chief T.C. Davis
Parks & Recreation – Shaniqua Simmons
Planning & Development, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman
Planning & Development, Planning – Marvin Echols
Regulatory Compliance, Municipal Code Compliance – Bruce Chauncey
Regulatory Compliance and Planning – Daphne Colbert

Staff Excused:

Mayor's Representative – David DeCamp
Jacksonville Transportation Authority – Cheryl Riddick

Guests:

Alberta Hipps – Hipps Group Chernelle Benjamin
Ed May - HDCC Robert Philips, Candidate David Cronin, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid

1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum

Chair Bobby Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was verified by Neighborhood Coordinator Mary Beth Ridderman. Chair Taylor reminded everyone to silence cell phones and sign-in. Charter Member Richard Berry's absence is excused.

2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary

A motion to approve the April summary was made by Tommy Ruffin and seconded by Mike Getchell. The vote: All in favor.

3. Staff Reports

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** – Assistant Chief T.C. Davis reported:
 - He rarely gets to attend the CPAC because of conflicting meetings.
 - Crime is down in North Jacksonville.
 - JSO assisted with cleaning up homeless camps in the Pirates Cove area.
 - The ShAdCo Safety Fair is May 17 at River City Market Place. The Catty Shack will be on site.
 - He provided fliers about "iWATCH", a community program to help neighborhoods stay safe from terrorist activities. A single report can make a difference. Contact 888-908-5368 or iWATCHJAX.com to report suspicious activity. Please provide as many details as possible. Information remains confidential.
 - Call 911 to report emergency situations.
 - Call 630-0500, the non-emergency line, for other concerns.
 - Chair Taylor thanked Chief Davis for attending the CPAC and for his report.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Agriculture Extension Office Director, Mike Sweat reported:
 - The Extension Office is busy with gardening classes, programs, canning classes, food preservation classes, and bee-keeping classes.
 - Saturday, the Fresh Start Program assists with opening a new checking account. Banks open conditional accounts. Seventy five people are registered. A second class is in two weeks.
 - The Cattlemen's Association is having a fund-raising barbeque on Saturday.
 - He thanked Ms. Ridderman for distributing Extension Office and class information.
 - A concern was expressed about the boiler at the Duval Extension Office canning center. Mr. Sweat explained replacement parts are currently available. A residents requested COJ support for the boiler repair or replacement.
 - For information about Extension Office classes, please call the Extension Office at 255-7450.
- **Mayor's Representative** – David De Camp's absence was excused
- **Duval County Public Schools** – no representative.
- **Planning & Development (formerly Neighborhoods)**
 - **Planning** – Marvin Echols was present at the CPAC meeting to answer residents' questions. Please contact Mr. Echols at 255-7823 or MEchols@coj.net.
 - **Housing and Community Development Division** – Mary Beth Ridderman reported:
 - The neighborhood coordinator's position remains vacant. An ad was posted but there were no positive results.
 - She staffed two CPAC meetings this week. She plans to take some leave time tomorrow through Monday.
- **Regulatory Compliance ((formerly Neighborhoods)**
 - **Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Bruce Chauncey reported:
 - Two officers were hired and three left. Seven positions are open. Two part time officers were hired and are still in training to work with snipe signs. Previously there were 42 officers – now there 20 in the field. Please call 630-CITY (2489) to report and track CARE concerns.
- **Parks & Recreation** – Shaniqua Simmons reported:
 - All Cecil summer camp sessions are filled. Other slots are available.
 - Renovations are underway at Bert Maxwell Park: a new pavilion, 6 tables, grill and gate are being installed. The project is scheduled for completion in July, 2014.
 - Oceanway tennis courts are being refurbished. The fence is being replaced. The project is scheduled for completion in July, 2014. A discussion was held regarding the park and its needs. Chair Taylor requested an artist's rendering and update at the June meeting.
 - Chair Taylor requested an update on the kiosk at Huguenot Park.

- o Please contact Ms. Simmons at ShaniquaS@coj.net.
- **National Park Service** – Shauna Allen reported:
 - o Cedar Point Boat Ramp users should be aware of auto burglaries in the area. Leave valuables at home or lock them in the trunk. Please leave no valuables in sight.
 - o For information about National Parks, visit <http://www.nps.gov/state/fl/index.htm?program=all>
- **Jacksonville Electric Authority** – Wanyonyi Kendrick reported:
 - o JEA customers will receive a \$35 rebate on fuels charges. The rebate may appear on the June or July bill.
 - o JEA offers services to assist with managing utility bills: E-Billing, Budget Billing and Pre-paid Billing.
 - o A question was raised and a discussion was held regarding rebates. JEA has a one year limitation of rebate requests.
 - o For more information, please visit the JEA website <https://www.jea.com/> or contact Ms. Kendrick at kendwj@jea.com or 665-7217.
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green’s absence was excused.
 - o Chair Taylor asked Ms. Ridderman to contact FDOT to request a representative.
 - o Accident and related Florida Highway Patrol information: www.fhp.state.fl.us
 - o Regional traffic information: www.northfloridaroads.com
 - o 511 websites: www.jax511.com and www.fl511.com

4. **Presentation:** none scheduled.

5. **Chair’s Report** – Chair Taylor reported:

- The North CPAC needs a TRUE Commission liaison. Chair Taylor commended Danny Ferreira for agreeing to serve. A motion was made by Tommy Ruffin and seconded by Shauna Allen to nominate Mr. Ferreira to the TRUE Commission. A brief discussion was held. Ms. Hipps commented on the important work done by the TRUE Commission. The vote: All in favor. Mr. Ferreira said he is honored and will do his best. Ms. Ridderman will provide the letter’s format and Mr. Neidlinger will prepare the letter for the Chair’s signature. The letter and CPAC summary will be submitted to TRUE for their consideration.
- FDOT presented a very interesting and informative presentation about the Sister’s Creek project. It is a \$44 million, two year project with a two-lane bridge, bike lane and emergency lane. The old bridge will become a fishing bridge. He expressed his concern about the safety, stability and maintenance of the future fishing bridge. He requests FDOT be sure the old bridge is stable before the bridge is deeded to the City. Heckscher Drive will not be 4-laned in the foreseeable future because of saltwater mitigation issues. He asked Ms. Ridderman to invite FDOT James Bennett to provide the Sisters Creek presentation at an upcoming CPAC meeting.
- The CPACs are having continuing issues with the Task Force for Consolidated Government. A contingency wants to disband CPACs. The Chairs expressed a need for CPAC financial support and staff. A discussion was held regarding the Task Force recommendations. Vice Chair Neidlinger reported the Task Force met today and they will revise their recommendations.
- Membership was discussed: the need for more participation within the CPAC and the need for new members.
- When the Chairs met with Mayor Brown they discussed the CPACs’ needs for staff, financial support, promotion through PSAs and other media, business cards. They asked the COJ to facilitate the hiring process to fill the neighborhood coordinator’s vacant position. The Mayor, staff and CPAC Chairs discussed the new Executive Order and CPAC By-Laws, which are in process.

6. **Elected Officials Reports** –no representation.

7. Subcommittee Reports

- **Governmental Affairs –**

The following items were discussed or voted upon:

2014-0261	Deny	An ordinance rezoning approximately 11.52± acres located in Council District 11 at 0 Pecan Park Road between I-95 and US Highway 17 (N. Main street) from commercial community/general-1 (CCG-1) to commercial community/general-2 (CCG-2). (Love's Truck Stop presented by Brenda Ezell, agent.)
2014-0271	Approve	An ordinance appropriating \$200,000 from the Jacksonville Transportation Authority to the Mayport Ferry Contractual Services Account for operation of the St. Johns River Ferry.
2014-0274	Approve	An ordinance appropriating \$450,000.00 from the Florida Department of Transportation Federal Lands Access Program to the Mayport Ferry Contractual Services and fleet part/oil/gas accounts for operation of the St. Johns River Ferry.
2014-0279	Deny	An ordinance amending Chapter 656 (Zoning Code), Part 3, Ordinance Code, regarding residential zoning districts, to include a new residential low density-40 (rld-40) zoning district and to set forth development standards for same.
2014-0281	No position	An ordinance authorizing the Mayor or his designee, and Corporation Secretary to execute a grant of a construction and maintenance easement located at the southerly side of Oceanway Avenue between Magnolia Avenue and Palmetto Street.

The following concerns were expressed:

- 2014-0261: possible pollution caused by trucks idling overnight without pollution control devices.
- 2014-0261: a traffic study is needed to address additional lanes and signalization. Pecan Park Road cannot efficiently handle existing traffic.
- 2014-0279: Increased density caused by narrow lot widths may increase crime.
- 2014-0279: Inadequate infrastructure in the area – existing roads cannot handle existing traffic.

The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee was commended for doing a great job.

The next Governmental Affairs meeting is June 5, 4 p.m. at FSCJ North Campus, Room C-136.

- **Membership** – Reverend and Mrs. Bivins reported:
 - They have been recruiting members in the Sierra neighborhood, on Garden Street.
 - They need help and ideas from members.
 - A discussion was held regarding the CPAC's need for promotion and funding.
- **Transportation** – Richard Berry's absence was excused.

8. **Unfinished Business:** none.

9. **New Business:** none

10. **Public Comments:** none

11. **Motion to Adjourn** – Shauna Allen made a motion to adjourn. Tom Ruffin seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: June 11, 2014 at 4 p.m.

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus
4501 Capper Rd. Building C – 136 Conference Room
The next Governmental Affairs Meeting is June 5, 2014, 4 p.m.
FSCJ North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd., Building C-136 Conference Room

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