

# **MEETING SUMMARY**

Florida State College at Jacksonville North Campus  
4501 Capper Rd. Building C-136  
August 12, 2015

## **Attendance:**

### **Members:**

Chair – Rex Neidlinger  
Vice Chair – Joseph Tate  
Amelia View – Gay Septon  
Blue Grass Northwood – Sharon Bivins  
Blue Grass Northwood – Pastor Mark Bivins  
Copper Hill - Bessie Williams  
Edwards Creek – Danny Ferreira  
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Fran Beach  
Johnson Community Civic Association – James Shronce  
Main Street Farms Civic Association - Tom Byrnes

### **Excused:**

Charter Member – Richard Berry  
Charter Member – Dot Mathias  
Charter Member - David Spruill  
Council Appointee - Tommy Ruffin  
Ashford Wood - Evelyn "Kathy" Myers  
Betz Realty – T Baker  
Duval County PTS/PTA – Vicki Drake  
Florida Open Beaches – Bobby Taylor  
Heckscher Drive Community Club – Gerie Leigh  
Highlands- Jack Stuart  
National Park Service – Shauna Allen  
Northside Lions – Harry Wagner  
San Mateo Neighborhood – Roland Biederer  
The Cape Association – Delores Spruill

### **Absent:**

Black Hammock Island Civic Association - Mary Thompson  
Eagle Bend – Mike Getchell  
Northlake Homeowners Association – Josephine Fiveash Porter

***Three consecutive unexcused absences will result in removal from CPAC membership.  
Please contact Mary Beth Ridderman at 255-8260 or [marybeth@coj.net](mailto:marybeth@coj.net) if members will be absent.***

### **Elected Officials:**

Council Member Al Ferraro, District 2  
Council Member Reggie Gaffney, District 7  
Council Assistant Connie Holt, District 2  
Council Assistant Sirretta Williams, District 7

### **Staff:**

Mayor's Liaison – Melanie Thomas for Mike Sweat  
Florida Department of Transportation – Jim Green  
JSO – Lt. Allen Eason  
JTA – Cheryl Riddick  
Planning & Development, Housing & Community Development - Mary Beth Ridderman  
Planning & Development, Planning, Marvin Echols  
Regulatory Compliance, Municipal Code Compliance – Timothy Myers

### **Staff Absent:**

Joshua Rhodes – Parks, Recreation & Community Services

**Guests:**

Patty Richters – JTA  
Connie Holt, Council Assistant D-2  
Sirretta Williams, Council Assistant D-7  
Carol Miller, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid  
Allison Albert, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid  
Paul Fenning, Wingate Estates

Michael Wozniak, Lydia Estates Nominee  
Shelley Wozniak, Lydia Estates Nominee  
Nan Clegg, San Mateo  
John Castillo, Brandon Chase HOA  
Kristellys Zolondek, Kingsmill  
Leah Walker, DMPH

**1. Call to Order/Verify Quorum**

Chair Rex Neidlinger called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting at 5:30 p.m. He welcomed all guests and introduced Council Member Al Ferraro, Council Assistant Connie Holt, Council Member Reggie Gaffney and Council Assistant Sirretta Williams. He thanked everyone for attending the North CPAC Meeting, especially on a stormy afternoon. The heavy rain, standing water and an I-95 traffic accident caused traffic issues that may impact attendance. Mary Beth Ridderman verified a quorum.

- Council Member Ferraro reported:
  - His office is attempting to obtain funding for repaving Yellow Bluff Road between Starratt and New Berlin and Yellow Bluff from Starratt to Boney Road.
  - He has spoken with the Governor's Office. A local bridge will be repaired with COJ insurance funds and billed to the State of Florida, whose contractor caused the damage.
  - He works with Parks and the department tries to plan an event each month. July was fishing. August is a remote control airplane event. September is an event at Dunns Creek Fish Camp. Events will be listed on the Mayor's website and on the City Council District 2 website. He is open to ideas for Parks.
  - He hopes to attend the North CPAC meeting often.
- Council Member Gaffney reported:
  - He thanked CPAC Members for their hard work.
  - He previously attended the North CPAC meeting and found it almost as intense as a City Council Meeting. The District 7 priorities are to increase the number of jobs and decrease crime.
  - The number one priority in District 7 is increasing jobs.
  - Mayor Curry's proposed budget proposes funding for the Jacksonville Journey, which will help reduce crime.
  - Mayor Curry and CM Gaffney support JSO's budget, which will increase the number of officers and community service officers.
  - Mayor Curry proposed \$1.2 million for road repairs and improvements.
  - FDOT has proposed funding for four projects in District 7.
  - Several companies are looking at Jacksonville for relocation.
- Chair Neidlinger welcomed the Council Members and their assistants. He invited them to attend future CPAC meetings.
- Mary Beth Ridderman announced the Executive Order allows Council Members to nominate a primary and alternate representative for each CPAC in their districts.

**2. Approval of the Previous Meeting Summary**

A motion to approve the June summary was made by Fran Beach and seconded by Danny Ferreira. The vote: All were in favor.

**3. Staff Reports**

- **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) – Lt. Allen Eason:**
  - In Zone 6, there were no abduction or kidnapping cases, 1 sexual battery with some questions surrounding the case, 2 robberies to individuals, 7 aggravated batteries with 5 arrests, 1 robbery to business at the Quality Inn, 1351 Airport Road, 1 home invasion, and 1 car-jacking with questions surrounding that case. Reports increased of burglaries to residences, - this number traditionally increases during school summer vacation and decreases when school is in session. Reports of burglaries to businesses are down.
  - Of 42 auto thefts, 35 vehicles had been left unlocked. Often, residents leave the vehicle running while they go into a convenience store. Others leave extra sets of keys to a second car

- inside the first car that is burglarized – and the thieves either take the second car at the same time or return another day to take the second car.
  - o A concern was expressed about increased crime on Harts Road, including incidents at the apartments and motels on Harts Road. JSO explained that armed security guards are assigned at the Hart's Road pool. Security officers and JSO officers were assigned to Summer Night Lights programs.
  - o More officers are needed in Zone 6. ShAdCo Sector P, West of I-95, has only 3 officers on each shift. ShAdCo Q, East of I-95, has only 3 officers per shift.
  - o Chair Neidlinger thanked Lt. Eason for his report.
- **Mayor's Liaison** – Melanie Thomas, Family and Consumer Science Agent, reported for Agriculture Extension Office Director Mike Sweat:
  - o The Extension Office is located at the corner of McDuff and Commonwealth Avenue. The City partners with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences to provide an array of services in areas of expertise including agriculture, horticulture, Master Gardeners, Urban Forestry, 4-H, parenting, bee-keeping, financial management, energy conservation and the canning center.
  - o The canning center has been staffed entirely by volunteers since 2007, when funding was lost for the program. Volunteers undergo a rigorous training course to earn certification to teach classes in food preservation and assist non-profit organizations and individuals with canning. In 2014, volunteers donated over \$710,000 in time.
  - o The Jacksonville Poultry Ordinance passed and requires those who want to raise backyard hens to complete an educational component and apply for a permit. The next class is September 10 and 55 people are registered.
  - o Fliers were distributed advertising Backyard Poultry Seminars.
  - o The electronic Extension Connection monthly newsletter was provided.
  - o For more information, please call 255-7450
  - o Chair Neidlinger and CPAC members thanked Ms. Thomas for her interesting report and recognized the Duval Extension Office for outstanding service to the community.
- **Mayor's Representative** – no representative has been assigned. Council Member Gaffney said he will follow up with the Mayor's Office.
- **Planning & Development**
  - o **Planning** – Marvin Echols was present to answer questions.
    - Mr. Echols may be contacted at 255-7823 or [MEchols@coj.net](mailto:MEchols@coj.net).
  - o **Housing and Community Development Division** – Mary Beth Ridderman reported:
    - The Housing and Community Development Division partnered with Parks and Recreation and community organization volunteers to provide Summer Night Lights enrichment activities in a pilot project at Mary Lena Gibbs Community Center. Ms. Ridderman co-facilitated activities during 8 nights. Staff and kids seemed to appreciate the different activities and Ms. Ridderman was asked about recruiting community groups for Club Rec, Parks and Recreation's after school program.
- **Parks, Recreation and Community Services** - Joshua Rhodes' absence was excused.
  - o A concern was expressed: benches at Bert Maxwell Park were removed months ago. Benches are needed. A request was made for an update on the status of bench purchase and installation.
- **Regulatory Compliance - Municipal Code Compliance Division** – Tim Myers reported:
  - o Summer is the busiest time of year.
  - o Zone 6 officers completed 4,340 inspections this month. City wide, officers conducted 25,400 inspections.
  - o Zone 6 participated in an inspection at Panama Park, in the Urban Core. A total of 240 new cases and 500 violations were written.
  - o The following concerns were expressed and discussions were held:
    - Blight is created by donation bins – they overflow and contents are strewn into parking lots and roadsides. Some bins are located near interstates - visitors to our city see the blight, which does not present a positive image of Jacksonville. CM Gaffney and Municipal Code Compliance explained an ordinance was passed that makes donation bins illegal, but the enforcement process is on hold at this time due to a legal issue. Donation bins may be reported as a nuisance property and the property owner is responsible for the clean-up

- at this time. Report donation bin addresses, nuisance property and litter to 630-CITY.
  - Portable basketball games played in city streets attract a criminal element. A shooting/murder recently occurred in Jacksonville's Westside where basketball was being played in a city street. Portable basketball goals and basketball games played in city streets provide cover for criminals to break into cars/homes then quickly return to play basketball as an alibi.
  - The behavior of people around collection bins is inappropriate. In public view, individuals undress and try on clothing from the bins. Please call JSO at 630-0500 to report public nudity.
  - Portable basketball goals and basketball games played in the city right of way create safety hazards for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. Players do not stop playing to allow traffic to pass and players have no heed for the safety of adult or child pedestrians/bicyclists in the roadway or sidewalk.
  - An ordinance is needed to allow enforcement of portable basketball goals placed in or near the street and playing basketball in the street. Other cities have enacted legislation that supports the community.
  - Council Member Crescimbeni and Jeff Clements, although not present at the meeting, were acknowledged and thanked for their assistance to the North CPAC and for their research on legislation regarding portable basketball goals and basketball games played in or near the right-of-way.
  - Please call 630-CITY (2489) to report and track CARE concerns.
  - Chair Neidlinger thanked Officer Myers for his report and for the officers' hard work.
- **National Park Service** – Shauna Allen's absence was excused.
  - For information about National Parks, visit <http://www.nps.gov/state/fl/index.htm?program=all>
- **FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation)** – Jim Green reported:
  - Project completed on Busch Drive from Biscayne to Main Street.
  - Bridge replacement project will begin over the West Branch on West Road. Construction is expected to be completed in six months. A detour will be necessary to Bassett Road.
  - A question was raised about a concern expressed at the June meeting: vegetation under power lines near I-95 and Pecan Park Road appears to have been ineffectively sprayed. Part of the vegetation is brown but part of the vegetation is still growing. Mr. Green said he will follow up.
  - Regional traffic information: [www.northfloridaroads.com](http://www.northfloridaroads.com)
  - 511 websites: [www.jax511.com](http://www.jax511.com) and [www.fl511.com](http://www.fl511.com)
- **JTA – Cheryl Riddick reported:**
  - Community meetings are being held to introduce the First Coast Flyer Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). An open house will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Gateway Town Center Meeting Area, 5000 Norwood Ave. The route extends from Rosa Parks Transit Station through Lem Turner. Maps were distributed of the Proposed Route 102 – First Coast Flier BRT. A printed Power Point was distributed introducing the First Coast Flyer, a limited stop, 57 mile service connecting four corridors through downtown. Fliers will be forwarded to Ms. Ridderman to be electronically distributed.
  - A map of the Proposed Northern Service Area was distributed.

#### 4. Presentation:

- Vacant Property Registry by Allison Albert, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid
  - In 2009, at the beginning of the foreclosure crisis, a Vacant Property Registry was created to deal with vacant properties which cause neighborhood blight, increase crime and erode the tax base. Banks and or other mortgage holders are required by ordinance to register properties when they file Notices of Lis Penden (foreclosure). Signs with contact information are posted on each property. Usually, maintenance companies are contracted by banks to provide lawn maintenance and other services. Fees are proposed to be used to foreclosure prevention counseling, rehabilitation vacant properties to CDCs, and for education/outreach.
  - Zombie properties occur when homeowners stop maintaining a home, possibly following a foreclosure notice or when homeowners abandon the home following a foreclosure notice, yet the bank fails to follow through on foreclosure. The homeowner remains liable for the property, but often does not know the foreclosure was voluntarily dismissed by the bank.

Brochures were distributed.

- o Housing discrimination sometimes occurs, particularly in minority neighborhoods. Brochures were distributed.
- o For more information, contact Allison Albert at 904-356-8371 extension 164.
- o Report abandoned properties to 630-CITY (2489).

**5. Chair's Report** – Chair Rex Neidlinger reported:

- Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair are needed. He requested volunteers to serve on the Nomination Subcommittee. A brief discussion was held.
  - o Vice Chair duties include chairing the Governmental Affairs (GA) Subcommittee, arranging GA speakers, preparing agendas, chairing the GA portion of the CPAC meeting preparing GA meeting summaries, and preparing letters of recommendation.
  - o Members who volunteer to serve on the Nomination Subcommittee will contact members to assess their willingness to serve as officers. Meeting notices will be prepared and posted by Mary Beth Ridderman. The Nomination Subcommittee will select a Nomination Subcommittee Chair. The Nomination Subcommittee Chair will announce the slate of officers at the October meeting, prepare a ballot, officiate over the elections portion of the November meeting and, with the subcommittee tally votes. The Nomination Subcommittee Chair will introduce the new officers at the November meeting. Nomination Subcommittee members may be nominated or may nominate himself/herself to serve as officers.
  - o A discussion was held about increasing membership by promoting CPACs through free advertisements and by sharing CPAC brochures at public events, churches and shopping malls.

**6. Subcommittee Reports**

- **Governmental Affairs** – Rex Neidlinger chaired the Governmental Affairs portion of the meeting. The following items were discussed or voted upon:

2015-0418	Approve	An Ordinance Approving The Waiver Of Minimum Road Frontage Application WRF-15-07 Located In Council District 11 At 14971 Yellow Bluff Road Between Yellow Bluff Road And Starratt Road (R.E. No. 106166-0300)
2015-0437	Approve	An Ordinance Adopting A Small-Scale Amendment To The Future Land Use Map Series Of The 2030 Comprehensive Plan By Changing The Future Land Use Designation From LDR To CGC
2015-0438	Approve	An Ordinance Rezoning Approximately 1.20± Acres Located In Council District 11 At 15137 Main Street North Between Bird Road And Kirk Road.
2015-0491	Approve	An Ordinance Adopting A Small-Scale Amendment To The Future Land Use Map Series Of The 2030 Comprehensive Plan By Changing The Future Land Use Designation From MDR to CGC on approximately 2.49± Acres Of Land Located In Council District 7 At 4105 Dunn Avenue Between Interstate 295 And Lem Turner Road
2015-0492	Approve	An Ordinance Rezoning Approximately 2.49± Acres Of Land Located In Council District 7 At 4105 Dunn Avenue Between Interstate 295 And Lem Turner Road (R.E. No(S). 020003-0000, From Residential Medium Density-A (RMD-A) District To Commercial Community/General-1 District.
2015-0499	Approve	An Ordinance Adopting A Small-Scale Amendment To The Future Land Use Map Series Of The 2030 Comprehensive Plan By Changing The Future Land Use Designation From Light Industrial (Li) To Community/General Commercial (CGC).
2015-0510	Approve	This Bill Appropriates \$185,382.09 From The Florida Department Of Transportation (FDOT) To Provide Additional Funding For Additional Design And Construction Costs For The Timucuan National Preserve Bicycle Trail; Provides A Carryover Of Funds To FY2015-2016.
E-15-46	No Action	This is an exception to an existing PUD to allow for a Burger King in close proximity to the 7-11 on Lem Turner Road.
2015-563	Introduction	Agent introduced bill to CPAC. ORD-Q Rezoning Property on Dunn Ave bet North Campus Blvd & Wingate Rd (1.41± Acres) - CN to CCG-1. Bill will be heard by the Planning Commission and will come before the CPAC soon.

- o The next Governmental Affairs meeting is August 6, 2015, 5:30 p.m. at FSCJ North Campus, C-136.
- **Membership** – Pastor Bivins and Sharon Bivins were present. They had to leave the meeting before their report time.
  - o A discussion was held about CPAC and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee meeting times. The

- item was tabled until the next meeting to allow input by all members.
- A guest raised the issue of the extended length of the meetings – she suggested attendance would increase if meetings were shorter.
- **Transportation** – Richard Berry's absence was excused.
- **TRUE** – Danny Ferreira reported:
  - The TRUE Commission discussed but took no action on several budget-related bills:
    - 2015-505 – 2016-20 CIP program
    - 2015-506 – annual Banking Fund borrowing authorization and project list
    - 2015-507 – Information Technology Division's 5-year ITECH capital plan
  - Discussions were held on the following subjects: expenditures of stormwater fees; JEA.
  - No recommendations were made on 2015-505 – 2016-20 CIP program
  - No recommendations were made on Ordinance 2015-544, economic development incentives for Deutsche Bank.
  - No recommendations were made on Ordinance 2015-519, an amendment to increase the threshold value of surplus property the City may donate without a competitive bidding procedure to organizations that will use them for affordable housing purposes.
  - Chair Neidlinger thanked Mr. Ferreira for his service to the North as the TRUE Commission representative. The job requires a huge commitment of time.

**7. Unfinished Business:** none.

**8. New Business:** none.

**9. Public Comments:** none

**10. Motion to Adjourn** – Danny Ferreira made a motion to adjourn. Fran Beach seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

The next meeting is September 9 at 5:30 p.m. – FSCJ North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd. Building C-136.  
The Governmental Affairs Subcommittee will meet on Sept. 3, 5:30 p.m.  
FSCJ North Campus, 4501 Capper Rd. Building C-136.